

SHORTWAVE BULLETIN

Issue no. 1694 May 30, 2010.

Deadline e-mail next issue: 0900 SNT, June 13, 2010.

Dags igen för ännu ett nummer av SWB. En del kul grejor har hänt den senaste tiden på KV. Två nya stationer har dykt upp, 4900 Familia FM som sänder från Guinea och 5960 R Fly från Papua.

Familia har redan hörts hos oss med 5960 kommer att bli svår här då frekvensen är upptagen av starka signaler.

Men ändå kul att det kommer några nya när så många försvinner.

Också riktigt spännande att AN nu kommit igång med antennuppsättning. Vi får nog anledning att följa hans förehavanden mer framledes.

Jag håller på att sammanställa en sida med mina erfarenheter av uppsättning av Flag-antennerna här samt bygget av styrenheten för reverseringen. Det återstår lite arbete på denna för att kunna få det helafärdigt.

Och så väntar vi naturligtvis med spänning på den nya Excalibur!

Keep on

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SWB-info

SWB online på HCDX: <http://www.hard-core-dx.com/swb>
SWB member information: <http://www.hard-core-dx.com/swb/member.htm>
SWB anniversary issue: http://www.hard-core-dx.com/swb/SWB_history.pdf
Dateline Bogotá 1993-1998: <http://www.hard-core-dx.com/swb/Dateline.htm>
SWB latest issue: <http://hem.ektv.nu/~ekt035221/password.htm>
Solar cycle progression: <http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/SolarCycle/>

QSL, kommentarer, mm.

Christer Brunström: KBS World 3955 kort, schema, praktiskt resesyetui som pris i en tävling. **Radio Kuwait 15540** brev, kort, schema och CD med info om Kuwait. Enligt schemat framgår att man använder 15540 för engelska till Europa; i programmen annonseras fortfarande gamla 11990 kHz.

Arne Nilsson: Jag fortsätter med mina antennbestyr! Min E/W Flag är klar med baluner och avslutningsmotstånd i båda ändorna men jag har ännu inte dragit kabel för att byta riktning. Jag har också två lämpliga trån för att sätta upp en N/S Flag och nu pågår mest införskaffning av kabel och lämpligt material för att göra hållbara och UV beständiga upphängningsanordningar.

Förutom Flagantennen har jag också nu satt upp en loop-antenn i samma form som Flaggan (12x4m) men matad mitt på den nedre horisontella ledaren och ansluten med en likadan balun som i Flag (950/50 ohm). Jag har ännu inte gjort större jämförelser, men man kan konstatera att Flaggen är något tystare. Men trots allt har jag loggat ex Northern Territory SW Sc med den, så helt värdelös är den inte!

Vad jag också har noterat under den senaste tiden är att faktiskt många mottagare klarar av att ta in dom där "fina" stationerna, det är inte oftast mottagarens prestanda som begränsar vad man hör, utan snarare antennen! Just nu håller jag på att testa mina gamla "boat anchors", bl.a. Collins 51J3, Plessey 1551, Hammarlund HQ-129 m.fl för att börja sälja dem, och de tar faktiskt in det jag hör med min Icom IC R-71. Skillnaden mot de nya mottagarna typ Perseus et all är att man med dem verkligen kan gräva fram signalerna ur alla QRM och den digitala signalbehandlingen är naturligtvis överlägsen en gammal rörbestyckad AM detektor!

Så det blir nog en SDR radio före hösten! Någon som vill sälja sin Perseus??

Konditionerna har väl gått upp och ner, mest ner, men några enstaka kvällar har väl varit rätt OK. Min roligaste loggning har nog varit Radio Nikolas Dinamitis i Grekland, se mitt bidrag i Loggen!

Dan Olsson: Tipsen denna gång är från vårens sista lyssnarnatt i Saxtorp.

Denna gång var vi faktiskt mycket folk därute. Vi var hela 4 personer där ute och lyssnade nämligen jag, Jan Thörnblom, Hans Kronkvist och Per Eriksson. För Per var det första gången han var därute och lyssnade. Per var DX-are på 70- och i början av 80-talet och ett tag var han huvudredaktör för EA. Han har nu gjort comeback efter ett långt uppehåll på nästan 20 år. Dessutom kom RÅ och en polare och besökte oss. Dessutom fick vi besök av tre stycken som skulle på en grekisk fest men de hade kommit till fel scoutstuga!!

QSL har jag också fått: **6400 R Underground** e-brev o foto, **9480 WWTW Lebanon TN** e-brev.

Avslutningsvis en liten önskan från er redaktör: Använd inte mellanslagstangenten för att göra avstånd. Använd istället tabulatorläget, precis som om ni använder en skrivmaskin! Jag får sitta och manuellt plocka bort vartenda mellanslag vid redigeringen, vilket känns ganska onödigt. Vet ni ej hur det funkar i ordbehandlingsprogrammet – läs i hjälpen (=F1)!!

3905	22.5	1930	R Underground flyttade hit ifrån 6400. Ny för mig. DO
3910	22.5	2230	R Festivum med e-postadressen och popmusik DO
3920	22.5	1930	R Oscar Zulu spelade Bon Jovi och Raiders in the Storm DO
3932	22.5	2000	R Jan van Gent med countrymusik DO
4410	25.5	2300	R Eco , BOL, weak at this hour. Much stronger at 02.30. (AN)
A4854,7	17.5	2210	UnID station with mostly music. Did not succeed to identify the language. Heard on May 4,14,17 and 19. Henrik Klementz and his network in Italy and Greece has id:ed it as: Radio Nikolas Dinamitis in Greece, location not known, one suggestion was Tyrnavos in the Larissa district. They transmit on MW, A1618,2 kHz so my logging was on the 3 rd harmonic!! (AN)
A4940	26.5	0025	UnID Spanish speaking stn. A religious progr was ongoing, led by a woman. Closed abruptly after a prayer at 00.35 Signal: 1-2 (AN)
4974,778	17.5	2141	tent R A Nossa Voz (= R Iguatemi) rather weak with music. TN <i>Good evening, Thomas! If you ask me if it's regular up here in Lisboa, well, no, but then conditions here are terrible - very little DX. To give you just a tiny example, the first B stn to fade in is typically R. Club do Pará 4885 (then R.Daqui on 4915); back in Feb'10, QRO=3 at around 2030 (earlier than that during Winter). Their strong signal on the south translates to a poor signal up here in the capital At my SW coast place, where I have other antennae, the situation is a lot different, but I wouldn't say R. A Nossa Voz is a regular one; a handful of B stns simply aren't heard more often because they're off on occasions, and they belong to this category. My latest observation of R. A Nossa Voz (our voice) 4974.8 was on 02 May, 2147-2155, 24331, adj. QRM de UGA 4976, this time with good modulation. I seem to remember that their signal is never strong. 73, Carlos Goncalves</i>
5010	22.5	1955	R Nac. Malgasy , MDG. Music. Best on USB. 2 Also logged on 3288 kHz. (AN)
5025	23.5	0100	R Rebelde med ID. Hördes med Q 4 DO
5040	23.5	0105	R Havana med internationella nyheter på det spanska språket DO
5954.5	23.5	0115	ELCO R i Costa Rica med prat på spanska och lugn musik. Q 2-3. DO
5990	21.5	2130	R Senado , B. Signed off at 22.01. Very good signal. (AN)
6005	22.5	1430	R 700 spelade ABBA och Boney M DO
6200	23.5	0745	Level 48 spelade den gamla hiten "Open at your eyes" DO
6215	23.5	0750	King Shortwave med popmusik DO
6260	22.5	1630	Christian Voice med religiöst till Q 4 DO
6290	22.5	1615	R Rainbow med ID på tyska, engelska, franska o spanska så ingen kunde missa det DO
6290	23.5	0735	R Altrex spelade Pata Pata med Miriam Makeba DO
6300	22.5	1345	R Black Power med Backman Turner Overdrive på repertoaren DO
6300	23.5	0810	R Brandaris blev den sist loggade stationen för mig DO
6305	23.5	0620	R Black Power spelade Something stupid med Frank & Nancy Sinatra DO
6310	22.5	1755	Level 48 med ID och popmusik DO
6323	22.5	1710	Level 48 spelade lite nyare musik än 6310 DO
6330	22.5	1530	Musicmaker spelade en gammal Hart låt i övrigt okänd musik DO
6400	22.5	2030	R Underground annonserade sin adress för oss lyssnare DO
7125	22.5	2005	R Conakry med program på franska om demokrati DO
7165	22.5	1635	R Ethiopia med program på engelska om ett möte mellan Saudiarabien och Etiopien DO
9675	19.5	2200	R Cancao Nova Cachoeira Paulista SP med stort ID 4 TN <i>While the signals from the other 31 m band Brazilian stns were ranging from vy. poor to useless due to a number of factors, R. Canção Nova, Cachoeira Paulista SP, was found with an usually strong signal, and now with splendid modulation. Y/day's obs.: 2138-2153, rlg. propag. prgr No Coração da Igreja after which the stn asked for donations since no advs. are aired; the natl. news magazine A Voz do Brasil came at 2200; 45444. Today, 19th, they were airing the rosary until a few mins. ago. There other //fqs were inaudible. Their signal used to be distorted &/or overmodulated and spreading over a number of adj. chs. Maybed the so called holy ghost blessed the tx... 73, Carlos Gonçalves</i>
11620	22.5	1420	AIR/Dehli pratade om den ryska kulturskolan i Dehli DO

BRAZIL

4775	R.Congonhas , Congonhas MG, 2228-2242, 21 May'10, A Voz do Brasil part 2; 24332, bad audio.
4875	R.Dif , Boa Vista RR, 2222-2238, 21 May'10, chatter, songs; 25332. This stn airs A Voz do Brasil at 2300-2400.
5035	R.Aparecida , Aparecida SP, 2210-2227, 21 May'10, A Voz do Brasil natl. news magazine; 35443, \ 6135 (fair, QRM), 9630 (vy. weak), 11855 (weak, QRM).
6135	R.Aparecida , 2208-2226, 21 May'10, A Voz do Brasil; \ 5035, 9630, 11855; 44433, adj. QRM de CHN 6130.

GUINEA-Conakry

4900 **Familia FM**, Conakry, 1937-2226, 21 May'10, Vernacular, Afr. songs,..., tradit. music, talks, interviews running at 2200, no news at 2210; 15332, better at 2200+, with a strgr. QSA. it was found much better the next day, 22nd May, at around 2200.

7125 **R.Guinée**, Sonfonya, 2133-2152, 21 May'10, Vernacular, talks; 35444. Sole audible BC stn 7100-7200.

All items via Carlos Gonçalves, Portugal

Stationsnyheter

AUSTRALIA: Radio Symban is returning to SW. I'm informed that come mid June the station will move its SW TX site from Marrickville to a site in Sydney's South West. This will be the station's third SW site in just over two years as it attempts to find a suitable broadcast site. Apparently interference problems to a local recording studio could not be satisfactorily resolved at the Marrickville location hence the need to have the station move tx site again.

More news as it happens, but I understand that the SW antenna is still insitu at Marrickville at the present time.

(73's, Ian Baxter via DXLD)

COSTA RICA 5954.18 unidentified ELCOR transmitter, Guápiles. 2334-0115 May 17-18, 2010. EL having problems tonight. Tune-in to the usual loop music, but gone at 2356 recheck and still not there at 0020 check. But back on at 0109 check, but abruptly off 0115. Didn't make any further checks.

(Terry L Krueger USA via DXplorer)

GUINEA: Some additional info about **4900 Familia**, from station director Colette Baudais:

*Hello Jari, Our station **Familia SW** just began broadcasting intermittently at the end of March. We had some equipment challenges and we have them repaired a week ago and now we can now have nightly stable broadcasting. We are using what is called Low Power Short Wave. We use a 1000Watt transmitter built by HCJB Radio in the US. As far as I know there are only 3 stations like this in the world. The specs say that our strongest signal would reach a 400 kilometre circumference around the antenna at midnight. We are using an antenna that is 40 meters X 60 meters - most being buried in the ground and reflecting upwards. It is a unique design.*

Our goal is to broadcast in the languages of the country we originate in. That would be French, Pular and Maninka for the beginning. We are beginning from 6pm to midnight during our beginning period. There is no electricity where we are located so we are using solar and wind generators. Having enough energy for our transmitter and air-conditioner is proving one of our larger challenges. Thank you for letting us know we are being heard "out there".

Mme Baudais, Directrice Générale Familia FM

(Jari Savolainen via DXplorer)

Many thanks for all the tips re. this new tiny WAfr stn. No point dropping them a line now since you've got all the data we needed, including the [rough] description of the antenna.

À propos the antenna, viz. "40 x 60 m", whose meaning I don't quite understand the, I suppose it's some sort of NVIS type for your correspondent, Mrs Baudais, mentions a 400 km radius coverage, so they're almost surely wanting to avoid skip effect with little power. If so, then it explains the sort of QSB I get from their signal.

As to being another rlg's project, well, it seems rlg's stns grow like mushrooms while official, gov. owned ones often struggle for funds in order to stay alive. I refrain from other sort of comments, but this is enough to conclude they aren't exactly my cup of tea, hi!

(73, Carlos Goncalves, Portugal)

I got recently some more info about **Radio Familia 4900**. The sw transmitter is located some 400 km inland from the capital, Conakry. They stream the audio from Conakry online to Canada and from there up to satellite and the audio is picked up at the tx site. SW is scheduled 1800-0000 but if solar/wind power lacks, they may sign off earlier. Plans are to add more wind generators and extend broadcast hours 1800-0300.

(Jari Savolainen via DXplorer)

MADAGASCAR. 6134.9v, RTV Malagasy, 1328-1359, May 17. Fair to poor reception, about the best ever heard here! Pop song in English; long segment of talking; Hi-Li music; // 5010 (USB + carrier mode), which was fair. Covered at 1359 by the open carrier of Shiokaze's Yamata (Japan) transmitter on 6135.0. Another day of good propagation.

(Ron Howard, Asilomar Beach, CA via CumbreDX)

INDONESIA. 4789.8, RRI Fak Fak, 1209, May 18. Jakarta news relay; 1225: Anthem (choral); into their own music program. News relay and Anthem clearly // 3325 (RRI Palangkaraya) and 9680 (RRI Jakarta).

Tentatively // 3344.96 (RRI Ternate) and 4869.93 (RRI Wamena), both very weak. CODAR QRM. At 1400 noted Love Ambon; still heard at 1414, but lost to CODAR and fading out, so I missed whenever they signed off.

(Ron Howard via DXLD)

ISRAEL: May 21 at 1947 noted **Galei Tzahal on 6821 USB**. 5104 where they had been for a few days was empty at that moment. 6821 was a lot stronger than parallel 6973.
(Jari Savolainen, Kuusankoski, Finland via DXLD)

LIBERIA. Wanted to let you know that **Star Radio is conducting tests on 4025 kHz**. The transmitter I built is small, 2,500 watts, but I tried to make up for it with antenna gain, as they had specific areas they wanted to cover. I didn't have to go to Monrovia, because the whole transmission system was designed as a "kit". They all came to the factory and I took them step-by-step thru the transmitter install, tower erection, and tuning the antenna system. Here are the details of the system. The transmitter is a Solid State Class E modulated via a Pulse Width Modulator. Power out is continuously adjustable from 0 to 2,500 watts. The antenna is a "Bow-Tie" dipole, fed with Open-Wire Line, and a Link-Coupled Antenna Tuning Unit. Antenna height is approximately 50 feet. It was to be oriented broadside East / West. I don't know the exact Geo coordinates. I'm going to get on the site and look for reports on Star Radio. Please tell everyone I said Hi, and thank them for the reports. Talk to you later (Jamie Labadia, May 23, DXLD)

MALAYSIA. 6174.4v, Voice of Malaysia via RTM, 1256, May 20. Expected to hear the usual VOM IDs before ToH, instead heard them give an address: "Wisma Radio Angkasapuri, [a P.O. Box number], Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia"; noted several other references to "Radio Angkasapuri". The RTM Kuala Lumpur broadcasting center is called "Angkasapuri", so it is not an actual station/program. This is the first time I have ever heard this particular reference. After the news at 1308 heard the regular V.O.M. singing jingle; mentioned Bahasa Indonesia, which I assume was the language in use at the time. CNR-1 on 6175.0 continues to be off-the-air (Ron Howard, Asilomar Beach, CA, dxldyg via DXLD)

MYANMAR. 7200.0, Myanma Radio, ex: 7185.75v, 1322, May 25. In vernacular; at 1330 became // 5915 and the start of lectures provided by the Minorities and Distance Learning Services. Much better audio than former frequency, as this only had one audio feed, instead of two different audio feeds at the same time, which I assume was due to former frequency being from Yangon and 7200 being from Naypyidaw; fair, but pre-1300 Korea dominates. I know Myanmar operates this frequency during other time periods, but this is the first time I have heard them here! May 24 was the first day that 7185.75v was missing (Ron Howard, Asilomar Beach, CA, dxldyg via DXLD)

PERU: 5921,27 Bethel Radio. The ID is positive per audio submitted by Arne Nilsson where you hear their usual canned ID, with a female voice, "Bethel, frecuencia celestial".
(Henrik Klemetz via DXplorer)

SOUTH AFRICA: Surprised to find **Channel Africa** on unscheduled **4880 kHz** last night at 2230 UT in Swahili (I think) followed by French at 2300-2355 and English from 0000 UT (i.e. the same sequence of languages they carry in their scheduled broadcasts). Couldn't stay awake to check further into the night! Fair strength signal on a clear frequency with moderate fading here - SIO 353.

Channel Africa is not scheduled on their own or Sentech's website at this late hour. Meyerton does use 4880 of course for SW Radio Africa but earlier in the evening.

Wondered if this was just a test or maybe Channel Africa is extending broadcasts with the World Cup in South Africa approaching in June?

(Alan Pennington, Caversham, UK via DXLD)

PAPUA NEW GUINEA As for May 24, Many JapaneseDXer watched 5960 kHz. I received **Radio Fly on 5960kHz** at +0845 to 1058 (B/out) UT on 5960kHz. The Pops DJ program title is "Super Hit program" by male, Station jingle and ID as "103.8 FM Radio Fly". It seems that community FM of Radio Fly started SW newly. 1st noted on May18 at 0920 UT. Audio file: at 0958UT on May 24 by Noda http://nodatec.air-nifty.com/blog/files/100523_1858_5960.mp3
(S.Hasegawa NDXC via DXLD)

Reply from David Sharp (NSW Australia): So, it is a community broadcaster! Good work on the ID, as "Radio Fly" and "Karai" can sound similar (at least to my ears). More info from the Radio Fly website:

Radio Fly and OTV

Radio Fly is a community radio station which is funded and operated by Ok Tedi Mining Limited. It provides a vital community information service to isolated areas of the North Fly region, parts of West Sepik, the rest of Western Province and some areas along the border of West Papua. It broadcasts in English and Tok Pisin. The isolated location of Western Province means that access to mainstream media is very limited, but Radio Fly fills that void.

The station is vital for the Community Mine Continuation process, informing villages of visits from community relations officers, and keeping them apprised of the environmental conditions and mine activity. A large chunk of the programming is focused on health and education messages as well as sustainable development, which is a topic very close to the listeners' hearts.



As well as playing a wide range of music and entertainment, Radio Fly serves as a medium for dissemination of relevant information. The Tok Save (announcement) service is widely used by people all over the province, to announce social and business gatherings such as government visits, sports meets, women's training sessions, weddings, funerals, and workshops.

Legal, health, farming and business-oriented programs are widely heard, and children's and religious shows are very popular with regular listeners. Volunteers with a particular interest often come into the studio to present their own programs, and there is a three-times-daily news bulletin, which covers local, national and international stories. The Fly Weekly Top 10 Hit Parade is a compilation of the most popular requests and dedications of the week, as made by listeners.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA Radio Fly, a community FM broadcaster funded and operated by Ok Tedi Mining Limited in Papua New Guinea is now being heard here on 2 shortwave frequencies - 3915 and 5960kHz. Japanese DXers first reported the latter frequency on 18 May.

Noted here in the evening at 0800 UTC. Both frequencies provide poor to fair reception, not helped by above average atmospheric static levels. The 75 metre band frequency additionally suffers from radio amateur QRM at times.

I have also heard Radio Fly 5960 at 2000 UTC, through co-channel China Radio International.

I received a quick email QSL from evening announcer Jobby Paiva. He is on the air between 6pm and 10pm PNG time (0800-1200 UTC) and he says he will provide updates on Radio Fly via his blog (easily located by a Google search).

(Bryan Clark, Mangawhai, Northland, New Zealand via DXPlorer)

One source at Radio Fly told me some time ago that these shortwave transmissions started early May. He said there are two transmitters on sw, one at Tabubil and one at Kiunga. He didn't specify which site is on 5960 and which on 3915. I wonder what output power these transmitters are?

(Jari Savolainen via DXPlorer)

Radio Fly on Shortwave, Tabubil, Papua New Guinea

Listeners in countries such as Japan and New Zealand have been reporting reception of new shortwave broadcaster Radio Fly in recent days.

Radio Fly is a community radio station operated by the Ok Tedi Mine management in the isolated Western Province of Papua New Guinea, about 800km west of the capital Port Moresby.

According to Jobby Paiva, who hosts the evening show on Radio Fly, the station operates from two FM transmitters [95.3 at the port town of Kiunga and 103.8 in the main company town of Tabubil about 90km inland] and recently started shortwave relays on 3915kHz and 5960kHz.

English news is scheduled 7am-7.30am Tue-Sat and again at 7.30pm-7.45pm Mon-Fri [local times] and the 6am-10pm [2000-1200 UTC] broadcast day is divided into the Breakfast Shift 6am-10am, Mid Morning/Mid Afternoon Shift 10am-2pm, Afternoon Drive 2pm-6pm and the Night Shift 6pm-10pm closedown.

He tells us that the transmitter power details for the SW outlets will be available shortly and they're delighted to be getting emails in from a growing number of listeners around the world.

Station details will be included in the 2011 WRTH: Radio Fly studios are on Dakon Street, Tabubil. Mailing address: PO Box 1, Tabubil, Western Province, Papua New Guinea. Team Leader: Michael Miise. Telephone: +675 649 3924. Fax: +675 6493023. Email: jobby.paiva@oktedi.com.

Jobby has previously been a broadcaster with Nau FM and other commercial stations in Papua New Guinea and maintains a regular blog where updates about Radio Fly can be found: www.jobbyswalk-about.blogspot.com.

Tabubil is the site of one of the world's largest copper mines [previously gold mining] about 20km from the border with Indonesia and just over 300km from Jayapura. Annual rainfall is around 315 inches [8 meters] and the township is located in extremely dense jungle.

A road links Tabubil with a port at Kiunga where the copper slurry is taken by pipeline, and the port mainly exists to service Tabubil. Both Kiunga and Tabubil are in the highly mountainous North Fly District of Western Province.

Radio Fly serves a combined Tabubil/Kiunga urban population of about 25,000 [estimated] and began broadcasting on FM in 2004. For more information about Radio Fly and the Ok Tedi mining operations see: www.oktedi.com.

From Pacific Radio News, Radio Heritage Foundation, www.radioheritage.net

(David Ricquish, RHF, May 27, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

TAJIKISTAN 7245.016 Voice of Tajik, 1100+ Hindi with talk by a woman and fantastic Central Asian music. Brief silence at 1200 and into Arabic. General comments by a man, some music, then talk by a woman from 1210-1220 (news?). Fair at 1100 but fading up nicely for 1200 program. Again, lots of fantastic local music. Sadly, absolutely KO'ed by CNR-2 at 1300, HOWEVER, I could hear snippets of English during quiet periods of CNR's program. Prior to 1300, this was about S9+20 (S9+30 on peaks), so it would get out if China wasn't co-channel. With fewer stations on the air, I'm amazed at how many train-wrecks we still see on HF, many of them the result (in my opinion) of poor frequency planning by Chinese (and other) broadcasters. 24 May. (David Sharp, NSW Australia. Via DXLD)

Övriga radionyheter

I Costa Rica vill man prata om DXing

Jag har blivit inbjuden att i en live-sändning svara på frågor om DXing från studenter på ett universitet i Costa Rica i morgon natt (= fredag den 28/5). Trots att datum varit spikat sedan länge görs de tekniska förberedelserna i sista momangen, så medan Mauno skickade Ullmar den libanesiska filen satt jag uppbinden av costaricanerna för att testa systemet. Troligen blir det inte Skype eller någon av Messenger-systemen som används utan ett annat som Cisco står som fadder för, www.webex.com

(Henrik Klemetz via NORDX)

En riktigt kul grej, så kunde inte låta bli att nämna det här i SWB! /red

VOG on the internet should be fixed. By [Stabroek staff](#) | May 21, 2010 in Letters

Dear Editor,

In previous correspondence to this newspaper last year, I had mentioned that Guyana radio is being mismanaged and the programmes left much to be desired. I also mentioned that the current management of the state media cares very little, if at all, about the preservation and upliftment of Guyana radio.

The merger of the Guyana Broadcasting Corporation (GBC) and Guyana Television Network (GTV) surely had its positives and negatives about it. But radio has played a very significant role in many people's lives, especially those of our older folk, and the ones who performed the merger I am sure had to take that into consideration.

Radio has been around for quite some time and has a distinct edge and advantage over many other forms of media, although today we'd like to believe that television has overpowered all of them.

Radio today exists only under Voice of Guyana and 98.1 FM. Radio Roraima is no longer available to Berbicians, and the online feed has not been on either. Shortwave has been under test over the past couple of weeks. Could anyone say if our interior locations are receiving the Voice of Guyana? Radio legislation will not happen until after the next elections, so don't hold your breath. So, we have got to pretty much like what is on VOG and 98.1 FM for the years ahead.

My mom and dad have grown up loving oldies. It's their kind of music. I found myself loving the thing too. Ever since I was small, I heard my dad playing his golden oldies, from the stacks of TDK cassettes in his wardrobe. Those songs have a special meaning for him – and mom too. They resonate well with our older folk. I love oldies today as well.

As I told mom the oldies will always remind me of them when they would have left this world. I love to listen to them on Guyana radio which plays oldies almost every day. 'A Better World,' 'A Sunday Kind of Love,' 'Party Time,' 'Breakfast Show,' 'Banks Sunday Moods' (great job last Sunday Michella), 'Triple M Show' (I missed this show for over a month since VOG online has been down, and I just imagine the vintage songs Mr Langhorne serenades his listeners with every Tuesday evening), 'Feed-back,' 'Music to Remember,' 'Ron's Rendezvous' and 'Basil P Special' (Basil, where do you dig up these oldies from each Sunday bro?), you make my parents sing their hearts out from 8-10 each week.

But I do not know what the heck 98.1 FM plays on Saturdays. There is a series of dub and very unappealing songs (at least to the ear) that are played almost all morning and all day. Maybe a revision is needed there. Moderation in everything is the key.

Listeners don't want to hear one genre of music all day, every day. Sundays are exactly the opposite on 98.1 FM, so pleasing and soothing. The music takes you back on a nostalgic journey from 6am-midnight, with Basil Persaud ending the broadcast day.

Mr Oswald Singh has a great voice for morning radio – great to wake up the nation. Messrs Ron Robinson, Franklin Langhorne, Basil Persaud, Oswald Singh, Frederick Rampersaud, are among the great men of Guyana radio. The ladies include Misses Michella Abraham-Ali, Wanita Huburn and Andrea Joseph. Forgive me if I missed out any names. But those are the ones whom I regularly listen to.

Now, the internet has been a zone where radio has evolved through the click of a button. NCN has been providing real-time streams for 98.1 FM and VOG for the past couple of months. Only 98.1 FM streams have been stable and reliable. I can't say the same for VOG, which has been off for over a month now. Please, whoever is at fault (GT&T or NCN or whoever), fix VOG on the internet. My pocket radio does not pick up VOG clearly, as the transmission is being affected by electronic equipment interference, static, etc. Please, once again, fix the internet radio for good. Don't let me write about it another time.

Yours faithfully,

Leon Jameson Suseran

(Copied from Stabroek News Saturday, May 22, 2010 via tip from Arnaldo Slaen, DXPlorer)