

# SHORTWAVE BULLETIN

Issue no. 1698 July 25, 2010.

Deadline e-mail next issue: 0900 SNT, Aug 8, 2010.

Vädret ser ut att övergå till mer normala temperaturer men det är fortfarande inget regn i sikte här i nordvästra Skåne.

Vi var iväg på den årliga Skånerundan i veckan, där vi körde rätt över Söderåsen och hamnade på Bosjökloster. Detta ställe kan verkligen rekommenderas. Bruno Liljefors utställning i slottet och en fantastisk trädgård med hur mycket olika rosenbuskar som helst. Dagen avslutades i Ystad på Hotel Saltsjöbadens restaurang med en riktigt god middag. Är det nån som känner för ett spa av rang så åk dit.

En hel del bidrag har letat sig fram trots att kondsen inte varit på allra bästa humör. Men, den tappre ger aldrig upp. Snart är semestern också över och i augusti-september brukar MV komma igång. AHK har redan påmint oss på sin blog att det börjar snurra på en del frekvenser.

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](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.

**Giampiero Bernardini.** Ciao Thomas, here in Milano it is really hot in these days. Here few tips, look if you can find some of interesting for you. Have nice days.

**Christer Brunström: Radio Prague 9740 kHz** kort, schema och öglasunderlägg.  
**Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation 11905 QSL**-kort som svar på en rapport på den nya sändningen till Indien kl 1530-1630 UTC på 11905 kHz. Ofta bra mottagning och trevlig musik. Dessutom tycks man svara bra; tidigare var de stört omöjliga.

**Dan Olsson:** Hej allesammans i sommarvärmen! Jag skickar in ett litet bidrag innan jag imorgon (lördag) drar iväg på semester till Blekinge. Frun, hunden och radion får också följa med. Annars inte så mycket lyssning förutom en FM-pedition till Kullaberg med Jan Thörnblom. Förutom att lyssna på radio lyckades vi laga en bil där också (inte min).  
**QSL: 6330 R Musicmaker** e-brev och kort samt 6400 R Underground e-brev och foto.

**Arne Nilsson:** Det har blivit något sporadiskt med lyssnandet under den senaste tiden och då jag väl varit på plats, så har konditionerna varit så sådär. Men lite har det blivit! Kvällen/natten mot den 19:e bjöd på konstiga konditioner: Brassar o annat hördes med måttliga styrkor men mot ca 00.00 dök en del Peruaner upp. Många av de som brukar höras kom inte alls fram, däremot ett par nya för mig: R San Antonio och R Suciani. Dom hördes i ca 45 min, sedan dog dom ut. Natten mot 22:a och 23:e däremot gick en mängd PRU/BOL in, de flesta med måttliga styrkor men några få med bra signal! Det resulterade också i några OID stn's, bl.a. 4890,85 OID LA, 4814,97 Brasse eller EQU El Buen Pastor? och 4835,46 där R Maranon PRU loggats.  
I övrigt så väntar jag på jämförelser mellan Perseus och Excalibur. En del har ju dykt upp på Bjarne Mjeldes blog.  
Det var det, tillbaka till fönsterbyte (både hemma och i sommarstugan!) och fuktskada.....

### Preliminary Review: The Winradio G31DDC Excalibur

I have uploaded a pdf with my initial impressions of the Excalibur SDR. It hasn't yet been tested in real DX situations, so it's bit early to be conclusive. However, it is indeed an interesting receiver and should be a good choice if you want to buy an SDR. Or if you want to buy another SDR...



Download the whole story at

<http://dl.dropbox.com/u/7379789/WinradioExcaliburtest.pdf>

“**Conclusion:** The Winradio G31DDC Excalibur is an excellent SDR. My main concern is the lack of scheduled RF (or DDC) recordings, and high CPU load. That said, it is already better equipped than the Perseus was in its initial stage. It remains to be seen if the software will evolve enough to make life easy for the dedicated DX-er.”  
(Bjarne Mjelde in <http://arcticdx.blogspot.com/>)

A very nice test review as usual by Bjarne, actually the first I have seen for this new receiver.

For those interesting in the Excalibur keep up watching Bjarne's blog as the testing is not finished yet. New information seems to come every week.

Thanks a lot for taking the time to write down your initial impressions and share with us. /Thomas

## Loggen

(UTC)

3310	17.7	2330	<b>R. Mosoj Chaski</b> , Cochabamba TBV
3310	23.7	0010	<b>PRU R Mosoj Chaski</b> with YL announcer. 2 (AN)
3347,97	20.7	2005	<b>RRI Ternate</b> also with mx. Rather weak. TN
3365	20.7	1955	<b>tent R Milne Bay</b> with mx. Rather weak. TN
3901,5	24.7	0030	Dutch pirate, called themselves " <b>Delta Radio</b> " and claimed to be from East Holland. S9+20dB (AN)
3905,0	20.7	1950	<b>tent R New Ireland</b> on exact frequency with very weak signal. Look up for a Dutch pirate 30-40 Hz on low side. This pirate is not active all days. TN
3912	24.7	0030	<b>UNID.</b> Another Dutch pirate, this one S9+10dB. Played some country mx. Played mx non-stop while I was trying to get an ID, so I decided to look for something more interesting! (AN)
4700	19.7	0030	<b>BOL R Eco</b> just made it through the noise. (AN)
4747	17.7	0045	<b>OAX5B R. Huanta 2000</b> , Huanta TBV
4826,51	19.7	0020	<b>PRU R Sicuani</b> weak but still audible! That's a new one (as is R San Antonio)! (AN)
4857	17.7	2330	<b>OAZ7A R. La Hora</b> , Cusco – sport TBV
4857,44	22.7	2320	<b>PRU R La Hora</b> with talk. 1 (AN)
4940	23.7	0000	<b>PRU R San Antonio</b> talk px. Fairly weak. (AN)
4955	24.7	2330	<b>PRU R Cult. Amauta.</b> 1-2 (AN)
4974,78	19.7	0000	<b>R Nossa Voz</b> , one of the Brazilian stations with a fair signal this night. (AN)
4986,9	23.7	2320	<b>tent. R Manantial</b> QRM from R Brasil Central. Didn't hear or see them after 24.00 (AN)
4986,93	24.7	2305	<b>tent R Manantial</b> weak signal. Local noise masking the signal was possible to remove by swtching the flag antenna 90 degrees to a more southern position. TN
5120,52	23.7	0025	<b>PRU Ondas del Suroriente</b> with music px. 1-2 (AN)
5486	17.7		<b>Unid</b> Peru-stasjon med s/off TBV
		<u>0005</u>	<i>Acc. to LA SW Logs those two Peruvian stations have been heard near this frequency: 5485.45v <b>R Reina de la Selva</b>, Chachapoyas, Feb10. 5485.6v <b>R Frecuencia Popular</b>, Olmos [-0202*] Jun10 "R Frecuencia Popular, el poder musical de la radio!". <i>Reina de la Selva</i> heard by Robert Wilkner, see below. /Thomas</i>
5910	18.7	2345	<b>CLM Marfil Estereo.</b> Guess what: Music px!! Not as strong as usual. (AN)
5921,27	18.7	2345	<b>PRU R Bethel</b> , weak but still... Rel px as expected (AN).
5954,16	18.7	2345	<b>ELCOR/R Republica.</b> VY QRM. No trace of Em Pio XII close by. (AN)
5990	12.7	2153	<b>Rádio Senado</b> med musik. 2 CB
5995	12.7	2250	<b>Radio Malì</b> , Bamako, Afro music, good (Bernardini)
6035	17.7	0030	<b>HJOY LV del Guaviare</b> , San José de Guaviare TBV
6035	24.7	2355	<b>CLM LV Guaviare</b> played LA music. 1-2 (AN)
6047,2	23.7	2330	<b>PRU R Santa Rosa</b> weak with guitar mx. (AN)
6134,8	13.7	0000	<b>R. Santa Cruz</b> , Bolivia, commercials, songs, fair (better in LSB) (Bernardini)
6150	17.7		<b>ZYE950 R. Record</b> , Sao Pulo – fotball TBV
6170	17.7	1700	<b>R Hami.</b> Vy BCQRM at this time. Domestic and foreign nx + weather report. Best using USB. On 18.7 the channel was clear and the signal was S9+!! practically all day from at least 10.00 when I tuned in. (AN)
6170	16.7	2025	<b>R Hami</b> slutade dagens sändningar med att spela Material Girl med Madonna. DO
6303	18.7	0745	<b>Old Timer Radio</b> spelade gammal god musik som The Kinks och Haddaway. DO
6375	17.7	2230	<b>R Black Bandi</b> spelade Dolly Parton bland alla holländska låtar. DO
9370	12.7	2354	<b>WTJC</b> , USA, religious songs, good (Bernardini)
9480	12.7	2350	<b>WTWW</b> , USA, religious program, good (Bernardini)
9490	12.7	2345	<b>Radio Republica</b> , clandestine to Cuba, politics, fair (Bernardini)
11780	12.7	2309	<b>Radio Nacional da Amazonia</b> , Brazil, talks, fair (Bernardini)
11815	12.7	2300	<b>Brasil Central</b> , Brazil, ids, fair/good (Bernardini)
11930	12.7	2314	<b>Radio Marti</b> , via USA, talks about sport, fair (Bernardini)
12133,5	12.7	2317	<b>AFN</b> , USA, via Key West. Talks, USB, fair (Bernardini)
13730	12.7	2323	<b>Radio New Zealand Int.</b> talks & songs, weak/fair fading (Bernardini)
14670	12.7	2326	<b>CHU</b> , Canada, usual pips and ids, weak but clear (Bernardini)
15250	12.7	2328	<b>Radio Nacional de Venezuela</b> , via Cuba, reports, weak (Bernardini)
15344	12.7	2025	<b>RAE</b> började sändningen på franska 25 för sent pga av strömbrott i studion. 3-4 CB

## 16/17 July Florida logs, Band Scan 2330 to 0010

4787.78 **Radioemisora Balliván** [Wilkner]  
4795.1 **Radio Lipez**, Uyuni 2359 [Wilkner]  
4835.397 **Radio Marañón** Jaen [Wilkner]

## 24 July Florida Logs

2310 **VL8A** Alice Springs NT 1000 weakest of the three, 22 July [Wilkner]  
2325 **VL8T** Tennant Creek NT 1000 some audio, 22 July [Wilkner]  
2485 **VL8K** Katherine NT 1000 strongest of the three, 22 July [Wilkner]  
2379.9v **[tentative] Radio Educadora**, Limeira, 7 and 20 July, 1000 to 1020, easy to mix with harmonic ?  
[Wilkner]  
3250 **Radio Luz y Vida**, San Luis silent for the last three weeks? [Wilkner]  
3290 **Guyana, GBC** 0940 om with mix of music "He Aint Heavy He's My Brother" 20 July, 0925  
"exclusively only...come out and support the cause. 0935 "Lord Jesus Christ...." protestant minister. 22  
July [Wilkner]  
3309.98 **Radio Mosoj Chaski**, Cochabamba yl under t storms hash 1000 on 23 July [Wilkner]  
3329.53 **Ondas del Huallaga**, Huánuco regular every day reception 1000 and 0000 with IF notch for CHU  
[Wilkner]  
3340 **HRMI Radio Misiones Internacionales**, Comayagüela seems irregular lately, reduced schedule. 1109  
on 15 July. [Wilkner]  
3375.451 **Radio Municipal São Gabriel da Cachoeira**, 1000 to 1020 excellent signal with Brasil music, om and  
yl, 22 July [Wilkner]  
3380 **UNID** at 0215 on 20 July [Wilkner]  
3390.01 **Radio Emisoras Camargo**, Camargo seems irregular 2330 to 0030 [Wilkner]  
4409.8 **Radio Eco**, Reyes 0000 on 21 July [Wilkner]  
4451.2 **Radio Santa Ana**, Santa Ana de Yacuma 2350 on 21 July [Wilkner]  
4700 **Radio San Miguel**, Riberalta 1000 and 0000 every day! [Wilkner]  
4716.19 **Radio Yura**, Yura 1000 and 0000 every day [Wilkner]  
4746.94 **Radio Huanta 2000** Huanta Ayacucho 1030 on 20 July [Wilkner]  
4774.9 **Radio Tarma**. Tarma regular reception 1000 and 2330 every day! [Wilkner]  
4780 **Unid** on Guatemala Radio Cultural Coatán fqy 1000 to 1105 in June over three day period, religious  
programme en espanol. Nothing heard since. [Wilkner]  
4814.95 **Radio El Buen Pastor**, Saraguro Loma Loja 1000 and 2330 every day [Wilkner]  
4824.49 **La Voz de la Selva**, Iquitos 0000 on 23 July [Wilkner]  
4826.5 **Radio Sicuani**, Sicuani, Cusco 0000 23 July [Wilkner]  
4835 **Alice Springs**, NT 0735 on 19 July, nothing on 4910 [Wilkner]  
4835.42 **Radio Marañón** Jaen 1040 to 1050, narrow filer to avoid 4940 slop. 22 July [Wilkner]  
4857.4 **Radio La Hora**, Cusco 2340 on 16 July [Wilkner]  
4875.5 **R dif Roraima**, Boa Vista RR seems silent again [Wilkner]  
4894.91. **Radio Novo Tempo**, Campo Grande PR 1000 on 22 July [Wilkner]  
4985 **Radio Brasil Central**, Goainia Excellent signal 2300 to 0000 on 20 July. [Wilkner]  
4986.833 **Radio Manantial**, Huancayo 0015 on July 23 [Wilkner]  
5019.90 **Solomon Islands, SIBC** 1000 hammered by Havana each morning. [Wilkner]  
5039.21 **Radio Libertad** Junin 1044 to 1055 on July 19th, No RHC, om "cinco en la manana .." Buenas Dias  
[Wilkner]  
5120.38 **Ondas del Suroriente**, Quillabamba music Peruana 1050 on 22 July. [Wilkner]  
5485.45 **Radio Reina de la Selva**, Chachapoyas 1040 to 1100 on 22 July with musica y om but no ID [Wilkner]  
5921.35 **Radio Bethel** 1050 on 22 July, per Dave Valko Tip. 0015 23 July. [Wilkner]  
5952 **Pio XII**, Siglo Veinte silent ? 21,22,23 July [Wilkner]  
6047.16 **Radio Santa Rosa**, Lima 0000 to 0020 weak and deep fades 23 July., 1030 choral music 23 July  
[Wilkner]  
6230u **Australia, VMW** ID by om at 1008 after wx update. 21 July [Wilkner]

## Stationsnyheter

**ECUADOR, 4899.94, La Voz del Saquisilí y Libertador**, (pres) 2335-2359 Noted flute music at tune in. Can hear chatter by persons in French mixing with the music continues. Music continues until 2345 and beyond. Music stops at 2357 and believe is followed with a national anthem type music, station still on the air after the hour with more music. (Chuck Bolland, July 20, 2010 via HCDX).

**INDONESIA. 4604.90 RRI Serui**, 1233, July 22. Non-stop EZL songs in English; "Top of the World" by Carpenters, "The Ballad of High Noon", etc.; 1300-1310: song of the Coconut Isles and Jakarta news relay followed by choral National Anthem (Indonesia Raya); checked again at 1330 to find them off the air. Thanks to Atsunori Ishida's blog for the alert that they had returned and also DXLD 10-29. Atsunori noted them today with 1326\*. Was as strong as RRI Palangkaraya on 3325 (Ron Howard, Asilomar State Beach, CA, Etón E1, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

**PERU 4988v R. Manantial**, Huancayo reactivated here. Hrd by DXer Rogildo F. Aragao in Bolivia on 4988v , on Jul 9 at 0055 with SS rlg pgm, ads ment Huancayo. Confirmed and measured by DXer Rafael Rodriguez, in Bogotá, Colombia. ID: "... Radio Manantial llevando informaciones de la salvacion a todas la naciones del mundo..." QRMed by 4785 Radio Brasil Central. (Aragao-Bolivia, Rodriguez, Colombia, in Radioescutas, Play DX YGs, Jul 9, Jul 11, translated by Horacio Nigro, Uruguay via DXPlorer)



**PERU 4987 R Manantial**, Huancayo, in reply to Rafael Rodriguez reception report, Pastor Leoncio Paco kindly sent back some photos of the xmtr site. (source: Rafael Rodriguez, Colombia, in Condig and Play DX YG's, translated by Nigro-Uruguay, Jul 12 (73 Horacio Nigro Uruguay via DXPlorer))

**PERU**. Re 10-27: Here's a recent report from DXer Rogildo Fontenelle Aragão in Bolivia via "Radioescutas" YG. There is a logging dated Jun 30 as UNID and also a link to a pdf with the facsimile of the Government official resolution (RESOLUCIÓN VICEMINISTERIAL \_ 276-2010-MTC/03) issued in Lima on Mar 29, 2010, which autorizes Señor Abilio Ephrain González Ludeña to operate on 4850 with call OAW-5E (Radiodifusión Sonora en Oct.) and 1 KW nominal power (Horacio Nigro via DXPlorer, via SW Bulletin July 11 via DXLD)

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We already had this info in DXLD; not including the `` (Radiodifusión Sonora en Oct.) `` bit, which SWB put in bold italix as if important. Because that is NOT the name of the station, lest anyone be misled: just means classification of the station as ``sound broadcasting on tropical shortwave``! (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

**PERU 5323.6 UNID** heard today from 1106 a 1200 with folk mx, low sigs. Program "Vaso de Leche" (Glass of Milk) (food program from the Peruvian Govnmt). They made reference to the city of Acobamba. Acc. to a list compiled by Henrik Klemetz I find that LV de Anta operated this fq in 1998 from that city; so I think this may be a reactivation or maybe this is a new stn. (Rafael Rodriguez R., Bogota DC - Colombia, in Play DX, Radioescutas and Condig YGs, Jul 11, translated by Horacio Nigro, Uruguay via DXPlorer)

**URUGUAY** ---Latest info from Uruguay **6045U CXA61 R. Sarandí**, Montevideo. Acc. to Fernando Gopar, stn's technician, they are on the air, but without the amplifier because of an exhausted tube. They are waiting for a spare one, and will keep me informed on the ongoing status. As a reminder they were operating with 300 W on USB, feeding an Inverted Vee, 24H sked. Currently unheard at my QTH due to a high QRN level at mi Listening Post. (Horacio Nigro - Uruguay, Jul 21 via DXPlorer).

## Övriga radionyheter

### After 70 years monitoring the airwaves, BBC listening post could be cut off

The Independent, By Cahal Milmo, Chief Reporter, 13 July 2010

**BBC Monitoring, a little-known section of the corporation** which listens in on 3,000 media sources from around the world, is facing swingeing budget cuts as a result of a drop in its government funding which could lead to its closure.

For nearly 70 years, workers at the former stately home in Caversham, near Reading, have monitored publicly available material in more than 100 languages to provide a running digest of global journalism for senior civil servants, ministers and commercial clients.

It uses a "United Nations" of 400 staff based in a Victorian mansion in Berkshire, and the organisation's work has given it a front-row seat at a series of global events, including providing the translation of an obscure radio broadcast by Nikita Khrushchev which ended the Cuban missile crisis when it was rushed to the White House. It also broke the news to British audiences of the death of President John F Kennedy.

But BBC Monitoring now faces an uncertain future after it emerged that the £25m annual government grant from the Cabinet Office, which provides the vast majority of the unit's funding, is set to be slashed in this autumn's spending review, potentially tipping it into insolvency unless it makes extensive cuts in its services.

At a briefing to all staff last week, Chris Westcott, the director of BBC Monitoring, told employees that the "situation is

grim" and confirmed that failure to accommodate the government's cuts could lead to closure. Managers are likely to be asked to find savings of £3.2m during the next two years, making the trimming of key services inevitable, according to managers.

The monitoring operation, which does not receive any licence-fee funding, has been the subject of a financial squeeze for the best part of a decade, making efficiency savings of 7 per cent a year since 2001. Last year, it made a profit of £2.5m on its total income of £28.8m, supplemented by deals with commercial customers and foreign governments.

A BBC insider said: "We have got two options: either we cut some of the core operational services and devalue the business, or we try to stick together and look for a way through this. But we are already cut to the bone and if we have to cut more, we are in deep trouble. There is a risk of closure if the cuts go too far. The situation is quite dire."

The current five-year funding settlement for BBC Monitoring is due to come to an end this year and with its main customers - the Cabinet Office, the Foreign Office and the Ministry of Defence - facing 25 per cent cuts in their budgets, the prospects of maintaining funding at its current level are understood to be negligible.

The role of the unit is also being considered as part of the Strategic Defence Review. Part of the work undertaken by Caversham, whose regional units include a central-Asian listening station in Uzbekistan, is transcribing broadcasts by Afghan radio stations sympathetic to the Taliban, offering an insight into the thinking of the militant Islamists.

It was a similar need to gain insight into the mindset of implacable enemies and uncertain allies which led to the founding of the BBC's monitoring operations during the Second World War. A colourful team of sound engineers and linguists, including the Austrian-born art historian Ernst Gombrich, was assembled in camouflaged huts in the ground of a stately home in Worcestershire to listen to German, French, Italian and Russian radio broadcasts.

Gombrich later recalled that the rudimentary wax cylinder recording technology made it difficult to discern whether the reedy, faint voice of a foreign broadcaster was saying "send reinforcements, am going to advance" or "send three and four pence, am going to a dance".

The operation moved to Caversham Park, the one-time home of Elizabeth I's treasurer, in 1942 with a remit dedicating its staff to "reporting foreign news media comprehensively and accurately, without bias or comment".

It is a global burden shared with the Foreign Broadcast Information Service, which was once part of the CIA, but is now transferred to the US government's Open Source Center. It keeps a number of staff in the slightly idiosyncratic surroundings of Caversham Park, where gardens partly landscaped by Capability Brown host a dozen satellite dishes. The staff canteen is housed in the old orangery.

Over the years, BBC Monitoring's staff - currently standing at about 450 worldwide and recruited from diverse backgrounds, ranging from university graduates to former asylum seekers - has maintained a constant vigil, listening at any one time to 37 television stations and 100 radio services. Since the 1990s, it has also sifted through newspapers and websites, with the internet now accounting for about a third of its activities.

Such is BBC Monitoring's reputation for absolute accuracy, President Kennedy accepted at face value a translation of a radio address by Khrushchev in 1962 to a domestic audience announcing the withdrawal of Soviet vessels carrying nuclear missiles to Cuba. Without waiting for confirmation from US intelligence sources, Kennedy responded to the Kremlin's overtures immediately.

The Cabinet Office, which oversees government funding of BBC Monitoring, said: "We are involved in regular discussions with the BBC over expenditure in this area and nothing has been put to ministers to decide. No decision has been taken [on future funding]."

In a statement, the BBC said it would be approaching the funding discussions with "vigour and confidence" but added it was "acutely aware that the prevailing economic climate will bring huge challenges and tough choices".

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/media/tv-radio/after-70-years-monitoring-the-airwaves-bbc-listening-post-could-be-cut-off-2025090.html>

(Mike Terry via DXLD)

## **BBC Monitoring Service och tiggarebrev till stationerna**

**Det meddelas att BBC Monitoring Service, sedan 70 år** en institution inom världsradion, riskerar nedläggning. Läget är prekärt och tillgängliga medel är otillräckliga. Som observatör vid konflikter och genom monitoring av stationer i områden, där tillgången till information genom normala kanaler är begränsad eller obefintlig, har BBC Monitoring Service spelat en mycket viktig roll genom åren. Det vore olyckligt om den måste läggas ner.

En helt annan sak: Jag följer varje veckohelg programmet "Letters to Editor" från Radio Belarus, där Larisa Suarez (som blivit min personliga vän) läser upp lyssnarebrev. Det är en ständig irritation att höra henne - lugnt och tålmodigt - läsa upp inkomna tiggarebrev, de flesta från Indien och Pakistan. Oblygt begär dessa "DX-are" vimplar, böcker, frimärken, foton o.s.v. och detta i regel utan att de sänt någon lyssnarrapport. De påstår sig behöva materialet för utställningar, tro't den som vill.

Jag tror att de här tiggarna i DX-ares skepnad är ett lika stort hot för dem som samlar QSL som en viss herre i Italien (Är han alltjämt aktiv, förresten?). Fiffarna bidrar säkert till att förstöra för alla ärliga DX-are. Själv har jag i stort sett slutat att samla QSL inom rundradio, mina rapporter till sändareamatörer behandlas och besvaras i regel mycket positivt, trots att

bedrägerier förekommer också från lyssnare inom det området. Jag upplever det som extra positivt då jag sänt en e-postrapport och får QSL direkt från en amatör, något som hänt otaliga gånger.

Ni som besökt radiostationer och kunnat titta på inkomna rapporter (vilket jag kunde göra i Ankara för ett antal år sen) har sett den enorma spännvidden mellan närmast perfekt rapportering och motsatsen.

Det är inte underligt om en del stationer vänder dx-arna ryggen, då alltför många icke seriösa aktörer är i farten.

(Hälsningar, Ullmar i Norrköping via NORDX)

## **Numbers Stations: Mystery Over The Airwaves**

by NPR Staff, July 17, 2010

**Numbers stations are unlicensed, which makes it hard** to figure out where they're broadcasting from.

In the shadowy corners of the shortwave radio spectrum, you can often find mysterious mechanical voices counting off endless strings of numbers - in English, Czech, Russian and German . even Morse code. But who's listening?

The voices are coming from what are known as "numbers stations," and they've long been thought to be part of international espionage operations. In fact, the Russian spies recently captured here in the U.P.S. may have been getting orders from Moscow via a shortwave numbers station.

Mark Stout is the official historian at the International Spy Museum. He tells NPR's Guy Raz that the stations are unlicensed, which makes it hard to figure out where they're broadcasting from. And the mystery only deepens: No government has ever officially admitted to using numbers stations. No one's really sure when the stations began broadcasting, though they're most likely a Cold War-era invention.

And, Stout says, no matter how advanced modern computer cryptography is, good old shortwave is often the best option for getting messages to spies in the field.

"Because [a message] can be broadcast over such an enormous area, you can be transmitting to an agent who may be thousands of miles away," he says. And, he adds, computer communications almost always leave traces.

"It's really hard to erase data out of your hard drive or off a memory stick," he says. "But all you need here is a shortwave radio and pencil and paper."

Thousands of enthusiasts all over the world track numbers station broadcasts, but no one's been able to crack them yet. Stout says that's because the transmissions use an unbreakable encryption system called a one-time pad: encryption key is completely random and changes with every message.

"You really truly cryptanalytically have no traction getting into a one-time pad system," Stout says. "None at all."

But if you still want to have a go at it, get a shortwave radio and start listening. Stout says there are plenty of websites that list the stations that may be on the air right now.

Listen to the story [4 min 58 sec]

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(Mike Terry via DXLD)