

SHORTWAVE BULLETIN

Issue no. 2045, Jan 7, 2023

Deadline e-mail next issue: 1000 UTC, Jan 21, 2024

Well, we have just passed 2023 and now it is already a new year, 2024.

It is not easy to be optimistic for this year with war in Ukraine and in Palestine.

Above that there is a president election in the United States with two old men fighting Wildly for power and glory but for one it seems that democracy is forgotten.

It is much easier to keep to our radio hobby. Unfortunately the usual broadcast stations decrease in number year by year, but the Volmet and Utility stations seem to be there in unchanged numbers.

In SWB we have a special log section and it would be nice if we can see a few more DX-ers working this kind of stations.

Finally during 2024 I hope that we can hear from more of you with interesting information.

I know that many are interested in SWB but it is not enough just to be a reader. At least not for the editor.

Keep on

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SWB-info

SWB info: <http://www.thomasn.sverige.net/>
Dateline Bogotá 1993-1998: <http://www.hard-core-dx.com/swb/Dateline.htm>
SWB latest issue/archive: <http://www.hard-core-dx.com/swb/archive.htm>

QSL, comments, etc.

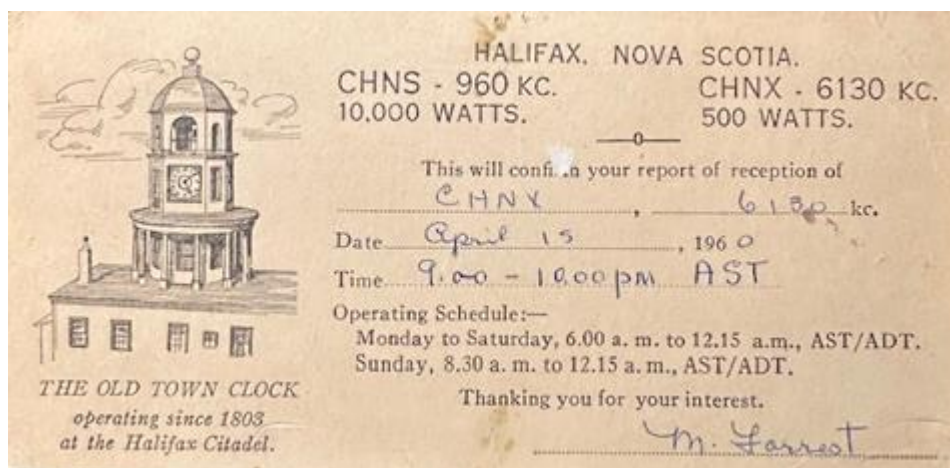
Christer Brunström: Radio Delta 12030 eQSL. They also played my musical request on a show just before Christmas.

Anker Petersen. With a Happy New Year to you all, I send you my loggings from Skovlunde heard on my AOR AR7030+ with a 28 metres of longwire. First the very last transmission from DR Kalundborg with an unusual announcement by our beloved Queen Margrethe II, who as the first Danish sovereign in 900 years on January 14 2024 will abdicate to her son Crown Prince Frederik after being Queen in 52 years.

Glenn Hauser. I was invited to write a page about myself for the WRTH 2024. It appears on pages 8-9, and here: https://www.w4uvh.net/GlennHauser_WRTH2024.pdf That and other articles by or about me can be found atop this page: <http://worldofradio.com/ghwrites.html> And abottom this page: <http://worldofradio.com/audiomid.html>

(At page 8 in WRTH the Finnish DX-er Joakin Weckström is also presented. His presentation can also be seen in the above pdf file.)

Robert Wilkner. "I received this verification while in secondary school. Enjoyed logging Canadian shortwave stations, now gone. Was using a Hallicrafters S38 E. My grandfather and father helped with antennas. Good memories at Christmas time."



CHNS was Nova Scotia's first radio station, signing on the air on May 12, 1926, originally on 930 AM. In 1930, it switched to 910 but switched back to 930 four years later. In 1941, it switched to 960.

It was the host of Canadian National Railway radio "phantom station" CNRH until that network was disbanded.

CHNX came to air on shortwave in 1930, four years after it started transmitting on the broadcast band as CHNS. The station left shortwave in 2001.

GLENN HAUSER LOG ROUNDUPS. Please note and spread the word - for those not on a list where my almost-daily all-band but mainly SW log reports appear -- or for those who are but find this a more convenient archive, weekly merged roundups of all these reports in their original form are posted early every Thursday via WOR: <http://www.worldofradio.com/Hauserlogs.html>

The latest ones direct: https://www.w4uvh.net/ghlogs_2023_1228_2024_0104.txt

Previous issue: https://www.w4uvh.net/ghlogs_2023_1221_1227.txt

Useful log links:

WOR: <https://groups.io/g/WOR>

WDXC Top News: <https://www.wdxc.de/topnews.shtml>

DXplorer: <https://groups.io/g/DXplorer/messages>

SWLDXBulgaria News: <https://groups.io/g/WOR/messages>

DX Fanzine: www.dxfanzine.com (also pirate stations)

Liangas: <https://zliangaslogs.wordpress.com/2022/> (mostly using KIWI's around the world)

Pirates: <https://shortwavedx.blogspot.com/> <https://betajbk.blogspot.com/>

<https://ukdxe.wixsite.com/my-vxw-site-di06oi>

Here are some pirate tips links that might be worth spreading. /Per Eriksson, Sweden:

Achim Bruckner: <https://www.achimbrueckner.de/>

Lars Jeppesen, active pirate listener: <http://lhu-dx-log.blogspot.com/>

Rick, Finland: <http://pirateradiolog.blogspot.com/>

Irish Paul: <https://irishpaulsradioblog.blogspot.com/>

Log

(UTC)

| | | | |
|--------|-------|------|--|
| 3310 | Jan3 | 2350 | Radio Mosoj Chaski, Cochabamba, Quechua and later music. Poor to fair signal. (Wilkner) |
| 3320 | Jan4 | 2237 | Pyongyang BC Stn, Pyongyang. Tks, songs. Occ. uty. QRM. 1 (CG) |
| 3900 | Jan3 | 2220 | Hulun Buir PBS, Hailar. Tks. 1 (CG) |
| 3945 | Jan6 | 0610 | R. Vanuatu (ex: 9960, with 0658*). Only a carrier heard; later (0713-0750), unusual segment with only non-stop Island music (no announcers); better reception than yesterday. (Ron Howard, Asilomar State Beach, Calif.) |
| 3975 | Jan3 | 2218 | Shortwave Gold, Winsen. Pops. 3 (CG) |
| 3985 | Dec31 | 2240 | UnID via Shortwave Service, Kall-Krekel. Pops. QRM de KOR. 3 (CG) |
| 3990 | Dec23 | 1736 | Xingjiang PBS, Urumqi. Uighur, songs. 2 (CG) |
| 3990 | Jan3 | 2232 | Gannan PBS, Tianshui. Tks. 1 (CG) |
| 4750 | Dec26 | 2238 | Voice Of China, Hailar. Mand, tks. // 4800 Golmud. 2 (CG) |
| 4750 | Dec30 | 1838 | Bangladesh Betar, Shavar. Hindustani songs, tks. 2 (CG) |
| 4775 | Jan3 | 2345 | Radio Tarma. Tarma, good signal (Wilkner) |
| 4810 | Jan3 | 2345 | Unid Spanish station, possibly Peru. (Wilkner) |
| 4885 | Jan6 | 0604 | Radio Clube do Para, Belém, Radio Clube is back on the air after several days out, but at the moment it seems to be on with less power than usual. Relaying Radio Bandeirantes news. Very weak. (Méndez) + (Glenn Hauser, OK, WOR) |
| 4940 | Jan5 | 0601 | Estación 4940, religious songs and comments 2. (Méndez) |
| 5025 | | | Rebelde continues to be silent through Jan 6. Permanently gone? (Ron Howard, Asilomar State Beach, Calif.) |
| 5910 | Jan5 | 0606 | Alcaraván Radio, Puerto Lleras, Colombian songs. 2. (Méndez) |
| 5920 | Jan1 | 0950 | HCJB Weenermoor German hymns by choir to organ 3 // 3995 (AP-DNK) |
| 5930 | Jan1 | 1710 | World Music R, Bramming. Mx & songs. 2 (CG) + (AP-DNK) |
| 5940.2 | Jan4 | 2233 | R.Voz Missionária, Camboriú SC. Natl. nx magazine A Voz do Brasil. // 11750.031 vy. poor, // 9665.030 good. 3 (CG) |
| 5952L | Jan3 | 2350 | Pio XII, Siglo Veinte noted with strong carrier, thanks LOB suggestion (Wilkner) |
| 5970 | Jan1 | 1005 | R 208, Hvidovre, pop songs, English ID: "Radio 2-0-8" 4 (AP-DNK) |
| 5985 | Jan6 | 1528 | Myanmar Radio, 1528+. Significant QRM from Turkey on frequency, but it faded out by 1545; the usual English segment from 1530+; some adjacent light QRM. My audio of COVID-19 PSA and interesting "Public notice for the elimination of violence" is attached. The county is currently experiencing a lot of unrest. Noticed in the news today, that a rebel military group has taken control of a city - https://news.yahoo.com/myanmar-confirms-key-northeastern-city-073727747.html . (Ron Howard, Asilomar State Beach, Calif.) |

| | | | |
|---------|-------|--------|---|
| 6010 | Jan6 | 0623 | Radio Inconfidencia, Belo Horizonte, Brazilian songs. (Méndez) |
| 6050 | Jan5 | 0605 | ELWA Radio, Monrovia, English, religious comments. 2. (Méndez) |
| 6070 | Jan5 | 0641 | CFRX, Toronto, comments, news. 1 (Méndez) + (Wilkner) |
| 6150 | Jan5 | 0607 | Radio Saturno, Belo Horizonte, Brazilian songs, "Faixa Brasil". 2 (Méndez) |
| 6185 | Jan5 | 0634 | Radio Educación, Ciudad de México, music, comments. 1 (Méndez) |
| 7289.93 | Jan6 | -0914* | RRI Nabire Pro 1, 0751-0914*. The usual announcers and EZL songs; *0845, start of the daily QRN; sounded almost like jamming noise or a DRM signal, except it covered a wide frequency range; Islamic Shalawat Tarhim prayer from 0909 till suddenly cut off 0914*. (Ron Howard, Asilomar State Beach, Calif.) |
| 7390 | Dec24 | 1518 | R.NZ Pacific, Rangitaiki. E, songs. 3 (CG) |
| 9635 | Dec24 | 1557 | R.Mali, Kati. Tribal songs, Vn, nx (p) at 1600. 1 (CG) |
| 9665.1 | Jan4 | 2231 | R.Voz Missionária, Camboriú SC. Natl. nx magazine A Voz do Brasil. // 11750.031 vy. poor, // 5940.183 poor. 4 (CG) |
| 9670 | Dec24 | 1609 | Channel 292, Rohrdorf. Pops. Adj. QRM, strg. at times. 2 (CG) |
| 11630 | Jan1 | 1050 | CNR 17, Lingshi, Kazakh ann, local songs 4 (QRM China in English 11635) (AP-DNK) |
| 11750 | Dec29 | 2234 | R.Voz Missionária, Camboriú SC. "A Voz do Brasil". // 9665.136, 5940.183. 2 (CG) |
| 11760 | Jan5 | 0448 | RHC S9+20/30 and achieving VG modulation! It can be done; could be start of a new year trend? Reluctant to be that optimistic. In Spanish starting segment on artes y cultura. Something's not always wrong at RHC. The Other Side: ``Poverty, a lack of medicine and agony: a portrait of a Cuban family The story of Carlos, Daimara and their children is one of the increasingly common ones that can be found among the ruins of Havana, in which poverty is a threat to life itself -- Alberto Martínez La Habana 02 Ene 2024 - 19:07 CET. Carlos is 41 years old and is going blind. This father lives with his three young children and his wife, Daimara, in extremely precarious housing in Central Havana, one of the most populous municipalities in the Cuban capital. His mother-in-law passed away almost three months ago, after a long ordeal that included dementia...`` https://diariodecuba.com/cuba/1704218873_51952.html (Glenn Hauser, OK, WOR) |
| 13770 | Jan1 | 1020 | R The Great Bay, CNR 7, Kashgar. Cantonese talk 3 // 15550 (AP-DNK) |
| 13865 | Dec24 | 1244 | R. Classic Sunday via R.Piepzender, Zwolle. Songs. ID via DX press. 2 (CG) |
| 13865.1 | Dec25 | 1136 | R. Experience via R.Piepzender. Pops. ID via DX press. 3 (CG) |
| 15380 | Jan1 | 1035 | Voice of China, Beijing. Chinese. 3 // 13610, 13630, 13670 and 15370 (AP-DNK) |
| 15390 | Jan1 | 1030 | CNR 13, Lingshi, Shanxi. Uighur talk, local song 3 // 9420 and 13700 (AP-DNK) |
| 15476U | Jan6 | 1732 | LRA 36, Radio Nacional Arcángel San Gabriel, Base Esperanza, relaying Radio Nacional, songs, comments, id. "En todo el país, Radio Nacional". Today special program due to the visit to Base Marambio and Base Esperanza of the president of Argentina. Weak signal at the moment. https://www.tvpublica.com.ar/post/milei-partio-a-la-antartida-para-visitar-las-bases-marambio-y-esperanza (Méndez) |
| 15540 | Jan1 | 1025 | China Business R, Lingshi, Shanxi Chinese, orchestral music 4 // 9820 (AP-DNK) |
| 15700 | Jan1 | 1708 | World Music R, Randers. Mx & songs. 3 (CG) |
| 17730 | Dec28 | 1950 | African language is 2nd SSOB, outshone only by 17700 VOA Grimesland. Cuts off at 1959* and if any ID, I dozed/missed it. But soon back on before *2000 with AWR theme, opening French. As of Dec 29, latest HFCC update is Dec 18! Showing 10-degree beam adjustment, including slews, from 295 to 305 degrees, from Ibo/Igbo for Nigeria, to French for central Africa (Glenn Hauser, OK, WOR) |

CLANDESTINE & TARGET BROADCASTING

| | | | |
|--------|-------|------|---|
| 3480 | Jan4 | 2235 | Voice Of The People (cland.), Goyang. Kor to KRE, songs, tks. 2 (CG) |
| 3910 | Dec26 | 2234 | Voice Of The People (cland.), Goyang. Kor to KRE, tks. Strgr. on 27/12, 2255. 2 (CG) |
| 3930 | Dec26 | 2232 | Voice Of The People (cland.), Goyang. Kor to KRE, tks. Strgr. on 27/12, 2255. 2 (CG) |
| 3985 | Dec27 | 2250 | R.Echo Of Hope (cland.), Gyengi-do. Kor to KRE, pops, tks. // 6250, 7720 both fair~good. 3 (CG) |
| 4885 | Jan6 | 1034 | Echo of Hope VOH, 1034+. An extremely rare day with the normal N. Korean jamming silent; pop songs (Bruno Mars - "Just The Way You Are," etc.); jamming suddenly started at *1039; good reception while free of jamming. My VOH audio of one minute in the clear and one of jamming - https://app.box.com/s/kaad9dwef4rn6xniykfffzme4rpl6ei0 . (Ron Howard, Asilomar State Beach, Calif.) + (CG) |
| 5995 | Dec26 | 2240 | R.Echo of Hope (cland.), Gyengi-do. Kor to KRE, pops. QRM de MLI. 2 (CG) |
| 6230 | Jan1 | 1636 | Sound Of Hope R Int'l., unk. site. Mand to CHN, tks. Meas. 6229.970. 1 (CG) |
| 6250 | Jan2 | 2224 | R.Echo Of Hope (cland.), Hwaseong. Kor to KRE, western pops, tks. 3 (CG) |
| 6279.9 | Jan1 | 1638 | Sound Of Hope R Int'l., unk. site. Mand to CHN, tks. Meas. 6279.891. 1 (CG) |
| 6350 | Dec30 | 2151 | R.Echo Of Hope (cland.), Hwaseong. Kor to KRE, ann., jingle, nx (p) at 2200. 3 (CG) |
| 6370 | Jan1 | 1634 | Sound Of Hope R Int'l., unk. site. Mand to CHN, tks. Meas. 6369.984. 1 (CG) |
| 6520 | Dec30 | 2202 | Voice Of The People (cland.), Goyang. Kor to KRE, tks. Jammed. 3 (CG) |

6600 Dec30 2204 Voice Of The People (cland.), Goyang. Kor to KRE, tks. Jammed. 3 (CG)
 7720 Jan2 2226 R.Echo Of Hope (cland.), Hwaseong (?) . Kor to KRE, western pops, tks. 3 (CG)
 7810 Jan2 2228 Sound Of Hope R Int'l., unk. site. Mand to CHN, tks. 1 (CG)

VOLMET & UTILITY STATIONS

3330u Jan3 2345 CHU noted with strong signal. (Wilkner)
 3485 Jan1 2255 VFG Gander Volmet, NL. Met rpt. 2 (CG)
 6230 Jan1 1936 VMW Marine Weather Station, Wiluna WA. Wx warnings. QRM de TWN. 1 (CG)
 6507 Jan1 *1930- VMC Marine Weather Station. Wx warnings. 3 (CG)
 6604 Jan1 2256 VFG Gander Volmet. Met rpt, s/off ann. 3 (CG)
 6676 Dec25 1732 VKA-930 Australian Volmet, Alice Springs NT? Met rpt. 1 (CG)
 6676 Jan1 1721 9VA-40 Singapore Volmet. Met rpt. 2 (CG)
 6676 Jan2 *1915- ARA Karachi Volmet. Met rpt. 1 (CG)
 6676 Jan3 2242 HSD Bangkok Volmet. Met rpt. 3 (CG)
 6676 Jan4 1926 AWB Bombay Volmet. Met rpt. 2 (CG)
 6679 Dec25 1753 ZKAK Auckland Volmet. Met rpt. 1 (CG)
 6679 Jan2 1916 VRK Hong Kong Volmet. Met rpt. 1 (CG)
 6754 Jan2 *2310- CHR Trenton Volmet, NL. ID, met rpt. Many unreceived rpts. 3 (CG)
 6765.1 Jan3 2240 HSW Bangkok R. Ocean wx. Uty. QRM. // 8743 poor. 2 (CG)
 8176 Jan1 1931 VMC Marine Weather Station. Wx warnings. 3 (CG)
 8743 Jan1 2252 HSW Bangkok R. Ocean wx, fqs. ann., music box IS, ID in E, ocean wx. 3 (CG)
 8828 Jan1 2246 VRK Hong Kong Volmet. Met rpt. 1 (CG)
 8828 Jan2 *1920- ZKAK Auckland Volmet. Met rpt. 1 (CG)
 10051 Jan1 1052 VFG Gander Volmet, NL. Met rpt. 3 (CG)
 11387 Jan1 *2250- 9VA-43 Singapore Volmet. Met rpt. Vy. faint. 1 (CG)
 11387 Jan2 2301 VKA-931 Australian Volmet, Alice Springs N (?). Met rpt. 1 (CG)
 12362 Jan1 1934 VMW Marine Weather Station, Wiluna WA. Wx warnings. 2 (CG)
 12365 Jan1 1932 VMC Marine Weather Station. Wx warnings. 3 (CG)
 13089 Jan1 1716 NMN Chesapeake R, VA. Ocean wx. 3 (CG)
 13146 Dec23 1828 ZSC Kaapstad R. E, ocean wx. 2 (CG)
 13270 Jan1 1054 VFG Gander Volmet, NL. Met rpt. 3 (CG)
 13282 Dec31 1013- JIA Tokyo Volmet. Met rpt. 1 (CG)
 13282 Jan1 2247 VRK Hong Kong Volmet. Met rpt. Vy. faint. 1 (CG)
 13282 Jan4 *1850- ZKAK Auckland Volmet. Met rpt. Inaudible on // 6679, poor on // 8828. 2 (CG)
 15034 Dec31 2228 CHR Trenton Volmet, NL. Met rpt. Many unreceived rpts., a.o. Ancona, Zagreb, Split, Tule, Shannon, Kevlavik. 2 (CG)
 17314 Jan1 1718 NMN Chesapeake R, VA. Ocean wx. 2 (CG)

Contributors to the log:

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|--|--|
| wb, Wolfgang Büschel, DF5SX, wwdxc BC-DX TopNews, DXLD, DXPlorer, A-DX Glenn Hauser, Enid, OK, USA (also WOR/DXLD) Manuel Méndez, Lugo, Spain | (CG)/(CGS), Carlos Gonçalves, Lissabon/SW Coast, Portugal Ron Howard, Asilomar State Beach, CA, USA, WOR/DXLD AP-DNK, Anker Petersen, Skovlunde, Denmark Robert Wilkner, Pompano Beach, Florida |
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Station news

BRAZIL. 4885v+, Jan 6 at 0147, S7 open carrier into Missouri remote, varies +19/28 Hz, similar offset like R. Clube do Pará before it vanished a couple weeks ago. Following tip on WOR iog: ``Currently at 0023 UT have a strong carrier on 4885 KHz - maybe Rádio Clube do Pará is coming back? 73, Mike Beu, KD5DSQ, Austin, Texas``.

By 0422 it's JBA talk into Bonaire SDR varying +20/23 Hz. Pardino gets JBA on +23; Brasília makes it out better, continuous talk in Portuguese, S9 vs storm noise, and with an automatic 5?-pip timesignal at 0430. If Pará, it's much weaker than before, both direct and remotely. Even at Brasília, 4985 RBC is much stronger. As I recheck direct at 0433, 4885 is JBA S5/S8. Still on at my further rechex, 0504 S9+10 but dead air? 0737 JBA carrier.

Meanwhile Manuel Méndez reported directly at 0625: ``Yes Mike, Rádio Clube is back but with a weaker signal than usual. Log in Lugo, NW of Spain: BRAZIL, 4885, Rádio Clube do Pará, Belém, 0604-0633, 06-01, Rádio Clube is back on the air after several days out, but at the moment it seems to be on with less power than usual.

Relaying Rádio Bandeirantes news. Very weak.`` (Glenn Hauser, OK, WOR)

Other radio news

Communications for Victory: how the world's most powerful medium-wave station was built.

Almost immediately after the declaration of war in the USSR, the construction of the world's most powerful radio station began. On July 1, 1941, a decree of the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR was issued "On the construction of a radio station in the Kuibyshev area" - "Construction No. 15 of the NKVD Osobstroy". The planned power of the station was supposed to be 1200 kW, fantastic for those years. Theoretically, it was impossible to achieve such power under the conditions of that time due to the lack of proper radio tubes. This problem for the USSR was solved by Alexander Lvovich Mints, the creator of long-wave radio stations named after Comintern" with a power of up to 500 kW, which began broadcasting in 1933.

Details in Russian - <https://www.broadcasting.ru/articles/svyaz-dlya-pobedy-kak-stroili-samuyu-moshchnuyu-v-mire-srednevolnovuyu-stanciyu>
(<https://www.broadcasting.ru/>)
(RUS-DX #1271)

[RealDX] China AM English IDs and Pips Compilations

Within the next week, barring any unforeseen catastrophes, I should be releasing my China AM ID Database, a project I began in May 2021 and is all but complete now and will be posted here when officially finished.

With a final total of 52 hours of audio and 1,512 station ID clips including 95.6% of the Chinese AM band, 95.6% of the Taiwanese band, and 100% of the Hong Kong band, I find that these two audio compilations of interesting IDs would probably get lost in the extensive lists of stations and content if posted all at once. Therefore, I wish to share them both beforehand as a preview and just as something of interest for those who are curious about the state of Chinese radio nowadays. They are perhaps the most Western-friendly of all audio clips in the project.

I've got two compilations here, totaling 1hr 14min of audio that I have put together:

First, there is the English ID compilation with English IDs of 60 stations in China. English isn't the norm on Chinese radio, so when you hear it - especially if you understand no Chinese - it truly stands out. I think people abroad would enjoy it most of all, being able to understand something, anything at all. This is 29 minutes of audio.

http://www.chriskadlec.com/media/radio/audio/china/Compilations_English.mp3

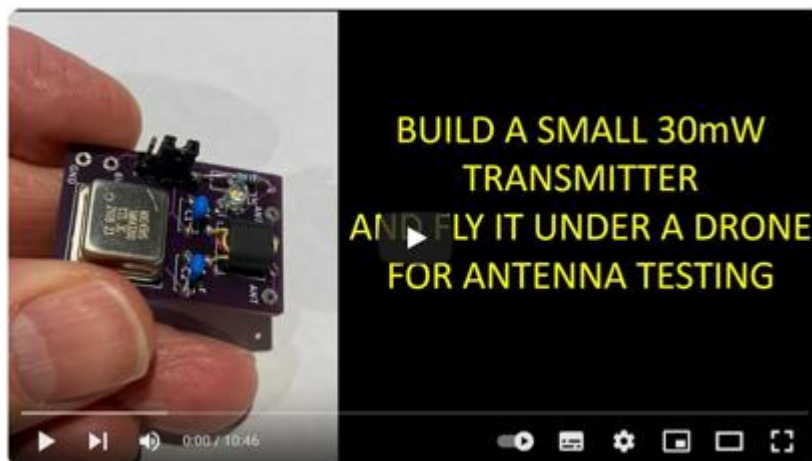
Second is the non-standard time pips compilation. Time pip patterns differ across all stations; even stations owned by the same broadcasting companies often use different pip patterns. While the standard is 5 short + 1 long, only 27% of all stations actually use this pattern. 33% of stations utilize no pips at all. Yes, I did the math myself. 17% of stations use abnormal (non-standard) pip patterns and/or combine them with music or jingles, use clock ticks, doorbells, and all sorts of little oddities. This compilation includes those stations, with 45 minutes of audio spanning 89 stations.

https://www.chriskadlec.com/media/radio/audio/china/Compilations_Pips.mp3

I truly hope these can provide someone with a little education and/or entertainment. It's literally less than 2% of all the audio I have on this upcoming webpage.

(-Chris Kadlec via RealDX)

[MWN] Test your directional antennas



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EGAIrhGG51Y&t=0s>

((Medium Wave News 69-08)

In the past you could test the directional pattern of your MW antenna by tuning to a variety of local stations on various frequencies across the band. Of course you'd do this around mid-day when there were stable ground wave signals and no signal fading due to the ionosphere.

Nowadays in Europe many of us no longer have several local signals that can be used to test or adjust antenna directional patterns. So a better solution is needed. Indeed here it is, combining a micro transmitter and a drone to replicate what professionals used to do with helicopters. Check out this excellent development by Steve VE6WZ.

Andrew Ikin, RIP

I am the bearer of very sad news.

My good friend Andrew Ikin of Wellbrook Communications passed away on 25th October 2023 after a very short illness.

He was buried on 10th November, a day before his 79th birthday.

He is buried in the local churchyard in Beulah

Andrew was internationally known and respected, his products were second to none and his reputation for customer service renowned.

I was lucky enough to count him as a friend and I will sorely miss him.

The amateur radio and radio listener fraternity have lost a true colossus.

(73s Tracey G5VU IRCA Mailing list)

[WOR] Why the Shipping Forecast remains a British institution

Telegraph, By Monty Halls, 4 January 2024

It has a lyrical cadence that is strangely comforting, and yet speaks of wilderness and peril. It has been the backing track to our lives, spanning two generations, and even if the words mean nothing to many, the meaning is obvious to all – we are an island nation, beset on all sides by a heaving ocean. The Shipping Forecast, which is 100 years old this week, is broadcast four times a day on Radio 4 – as regular as the tides themselves – and is a celebration of our splendid isolation off the coast of Western Europe.

And, to this day, it saves lives. In an age of satellite forecasts and weather websites, those who know – who really know – still tune in to hear its solemn intonation (“There are warnings of gales in Rockall, Malin, Hebrides, Bailey, and Fair Isle...”) and, as a consequence, secure a weathered hatch or take an extra turn of braided line around a winch.

I must confess an interest here, a very personal investment. As a relatively new sailor, a freshly minted day skipper venturing out with my young family, there is nothing quite like the combination of two great institutions – the Met Office and the BBC – to reassure that all is well. In the restless world of the Atlantic, everyone seeks a constant, a trusted prophet, and in doing so asks for permission to proceed. This broadcast, above all others, provides it.

To describe in practical terms something so deeply evocative seems strangely reductive, but the structure of the forecast is an essential part of its make up, a rhythmic familiarity that makes it compelling.

Each forecast lasts precisely 10 minutes and follows exactly the same format: first, the gale warnings – a portent of imminent and life-threatening storms – then a general synopsis, and then a region-by-region tour of the coastline of the United Kingdom, Ireland, and beyond – as far south as Trafalgar off the Portuguese coast, all the way up to Southern Iceland, 1,900 miles further north.

Each of these 31 individual segments – split into wind direction and strength, precipitation, and then visibility – have their own beat, their own patois; veering, backing, good, poor, rising and falling, with each detail making up the poetic whole.

The names of the regions covered by the forecast are a celebration of our maritime heritage. Trafalgar, Finisterre, Fair Isle, Viking, and perhaps most pertinently of all, Fitzroy. A great maritime hero, a colossus, now immortalised in a restless patch of vast, grey ocean west of Biscay. Robert FitzRoy skippered HMS Beagle around the globe, changing the world view of a young Charles Darwin in the process. He established the Meteorological Office, which led in turn to the Shipping Forecast as a sentinel of the troubled, shifting, unpredictable seas on which he sailed. It is as good a metaphor as any for the man himself, who took his own life in 1874 to still the restless ghosts within.

Perhaps a measure of the enduring power of the forecast lies in the songs, poems, and great works it has inspired. No one summarised this better than Seamus Heaney, whose poem The Shipping Forecast perfectly encapsulates each broadcast, a life or death missive emanating from crackling, tinny radio sets, as rain lashes the window panes behind the oil lamp flicker of fishing villages along the Irish coast:

“Midnight and closedown. Sirens of the tundra,
Of eel-road, seal-road, keel-road, whale-road, raise
Their wind-compounded keen behind the baize
And drive the trawlers to the lee of Wicklow.”

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/travel/travel-truths/monty-halls-21st-century-sailors-shipping-forecast/>

(Mike Terry via WOR)

MY UNEXPECTED VISIT TO AU INDIA RADIO PORT BLAIR

by Babul Gupta ~ VU3ZBG

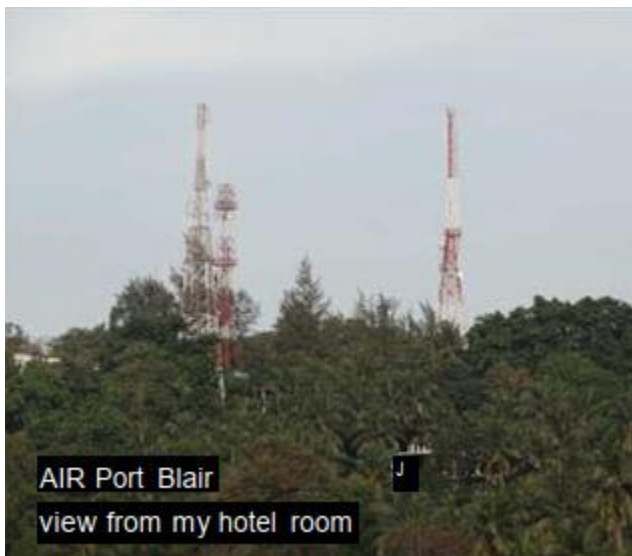
I was on a holiday tour with my family and we went to Andaman & Nicobar Island to spend our vacation in the lovely Beaches of the Island. We were staying in a hotel in Port Blair the capital City of A & N Islands and least to my expectation I saw a FM tower on a hill top, I was quite excited to know what was it all about so in my curiosity I asked my tour guy about it and he told me that the tower is for AIR Port Blair Studio & Office at Dilanipur. I asked him to take me there and it was only about 2 km ride as we reached there but I was not allowed in due to security reasons.

All this happened on the first day of our trip. I told my tour guy about my interest in Radio listening so he promised me that he will manage an entry as he had some connections with ex-AIR Port Blair staff. I went back to the hotel and called my friend Sudipta in Kolkata and told him about my experience.

Next day Alokesh called me and he said that he has heard about my visit to AIR Port Blair from Sudipta and contact Jose Jacob (VU2JOS) and asked him that if he had any contact, likewise Jose had a friend who now works in AIR Calicut he worked in AIR Port Blair once. Who gave contacts of Asst. Engineer working in AIR Port Blair.

All preparation done and I was waiting to call at AIR Port Blair now six days passed and it was 24 th December 2012 we had our flight at 1405 hrs. and had to report at the airport at 1200 hrs.

In the morning I had my breakfast and called at AIR Port Blair Studio and fixed an appointment at 1 100 hrs. I was very excited to finally get a visit. We kept our luggage in the Hotel lobby after checking out and went to AIR with my family. We did an entry in the security room and as we entered, we were received by the man himself. Many things were running in my mind as I have visited AIR transmitter Site at Aligarh and AIR Kolkata Transmitter site at Amtala and had some pictures in my mind but this was a studio.



AIR Port Blair
view from my hotel room

I asked him whether my family members can come with me he agreed. We went in and he took us to the Control Room first and introduced us to the Control Room Engineer and other staff. I thought this was it know I will be asked to leave because of all the security reasons and privacy but no, things were different he started explaining the whole thing starting from the equipment's to the arrangements and the different studio layout and the full layout of the plot. He showed how the equipment's in the control room works how each of the studio's programs are fed to the control room and then it is sent to the transmitter site at Brookshabad located about 17 kms from Dilanipur.

He then took us to the composing room where the program is composed or edited then to the Talk Studio and showed us how each of the studio are signaled that they are on air.

Then he took us to the Drama Studio where he told my son to record something so that he can show us how the voices are edited or how the whole recording is done. Then to the Music Studio & the News Studio. He even showed us the equipment for FM transmission which was a 10 kW Nautel 10 NARFO36 transmitter operating on 100.9 MHz FM. This carries Vividh Bharati programs. He also showed us the power supply and the Generator room then the centralized AC unit.



When I asked him that who deals with reception reports from listeners, he told me that the guy who deals with it is absent because of Christmas.

Then we bid farewell and left. Though I was not allowed to click any pictures but my experience was memorable.

(Asian DX Review January 2024 Edition (Volume-42, No. 591)

Tropical Bands Monitor 2024

<http://www.dswci.org/tbmonitor/2023.pdf>

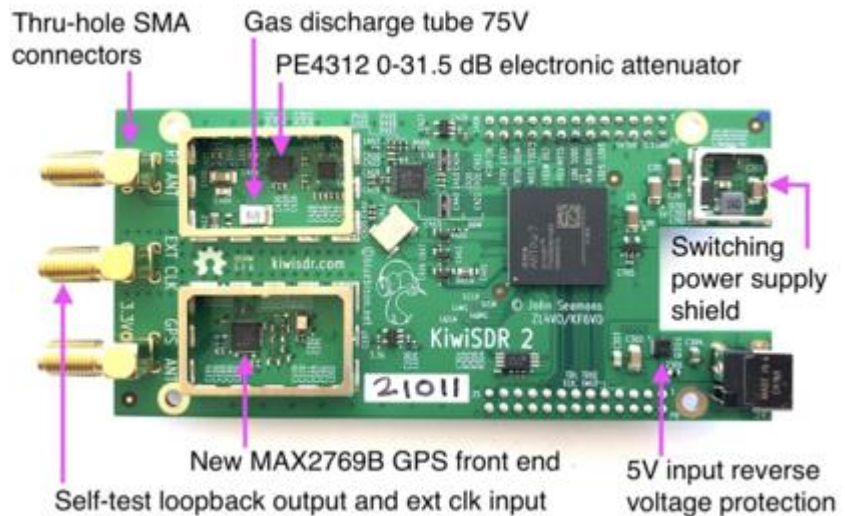
as logged by DX-ers worldwide. Compiled by Anker Petersen 01 January 2024.

(Anker Petersen, www.dswci.org)

KiwiSDR-2 now available



KiwiSDR 2: New Features



The online store for the new KiwiSDR opened just before Christmas. It is taking orders on a first come, first served basis. You can find out more on the pricing, cost of delivery and how to order here: <https://kiwisdr.nz/>
The first production run is already sold out.

European, Private Shortwave Stations January 1st 2024

Only legal stations are included. Most stations use low power, but a few use several kW. All times are given in UTC. Abbreviations: D = Germany, DNK = Denmark, FIN = Finland, NL = the Netherlands, NOR = Norway. A.o. = and others, F.pl.: future plan, Int'l = International, Irr. = irregular, 24/7 = twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, Jan = January, Mo = Monday, Tu = Tuesday, We = Wednesday, Th = Thursday, Fr = Friday, Sa = Saturday, Su = Sunday

| kHz | Schedule (UTC) |
|-------|---|
| 3955 | D Radio Channel 292 Rohrbach Waal Daily 0000-0600, 0700-2000 & 2200-2400 |
| 3975 | D Shortwave Radio Winsen, Aller Daily 1600-2300 |
| 3985 | D Shortwaveservice Kall-Krekel Daily 1700-2000 (Radio Slovakia Int'l a.o.) |
| 3995 | D HCJB Weenermoor 24/7 |
| 5895 | NOR Radio Northern Star Bergen Daily 0559-2305 |
| 5920 | D HCJB Weenermoor 24/7 |
| 5930 | DNK World Music Radio Bramming 24/7 |
| 5940 | NL Radio Piepzender Zwolle Irr. (weekends) (main frequency) |
| 5955 | NL Radio Veronica Westdorpe Daily 0457-1457 |
| 5970 | DNK Radio208 Hvidovre 24/7 |
| 5980 | FIN Scandinavian Weekend Radio Virrat Sa February 3 rd DNK Radio OZ-Viola Hillerød We 2200-2300 |
| 6005 | D Shortwaveservice Kall-Krekel Daily 1100-1630 (Radio Slovakia Int'l) |
| 6020 | NL Radio Casanova International Winterswijk Irr. |
| 6055 | DNK Radio OZ-Viola Hillerød Sa-Su 1200-1400 |
| 6060 | NL Radio Casanova International Winterswijk Irr. |
| 6070 | D Radio Channel 292 Rohrbach Waal 24/7 |
| 6085 | D Shortwaveservice Kall-Krekel Daily 0800-1800 (Radio MiAmigo Int'l) |
| 6110 | NL Radio Delta International Elburg Sa-Su 0630-0900 |
| 6115 | D Radio SE-TA 2 Gera J anuary 7th 2024 1100-1200 |
| 6130 | NL Radio Europe Alphen a/d Rijn 2 4/7 |
| 6140 | NL Radio Onda, Belgium Borculo, NL Will be back from the NL in February |
| 6150 | D Europa 24 Datteln Daily 0800-1500 |
| 6160 | D Shortwave Radio Winsen, Aller Daily 0800-1600 |
| 6170 | NL Radio Europe Alphen a/d Rijn FIN Scandinavian Weekend Radio Virrat Sa February 3 rd |
| 6185 | NL Radio Piepzender Zwolle Irr. – evenings (alternative to 5940 kHz) |
| 6195 | D Radio SE-TA 2 Waldheim January 8th 2024 1000-1600 (in DRM only) |
| 7270 | NL RockPower Radio Nijmegen Daily approx. 0945 – approx. 1545 |
| 7340 | NL Radio Europe Alphen a/d Rijn |
| 7365 | D HCJB Weenermoor 24/7 (Segenswelle in Russian) |
| 7405 | NL Radio Piepzender Zwolle Every weekend (main frequency) |
| 7425 | NL Radio Piepzender Zwolle Irr. (alternative to 7405 kHz) |
| 9520 | NL Radio Europe Alphen a/d Rijn |
| 9530 | NL Radio Onda, Belgium Borculo, NL Will be back from the NL in February |
| 9670 | D Radio Channel 292 Rohrbach Waal 24/7 |
| 11690 | FIN Scandinavian Weekend Radio Virrat Sa February 3 rd |

| | | | |
|-------|-----|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 11720 | FIN | Scandinavian Weekend Radio Virrat | Sa February 3rd |
| 12030 | NL | Radio Delta International Elburg | Sa-Su 0900-1500 |
| 13595 | NL | Radio Piepzender Zwolle | Irr. (alternative to 13865) |
| 13865 | NL | Radio Piepzender Zwolle | Weekends |
| 15700 | DNK | World Music Radio Randers | 24/7 |
| 15785 | D | BitExpress Erlangen | 24/7 (Funklust) (in DRM only) |
| 18925 | NL | Radio Piepzender Zwolle | |
| 18940 | NL | Radio Europe Alphen a/d Rijn | F.pl. |
| 25800 | DNK | World Music Radio Mårslet, Aarhus | 24/7 |

This list is published by Hartvig Media ApS at the beginning of each month – based on details supplied by the stations, stations websites, monitoring observations, HFCC registrations, and some presumptions. Not copyrighted. May be published everywhere – without alterations. Subscription of pdf by e-mail is free; write to shn@wmr.dk

[WOR] Interval Signals Online (aka IntervalSignals.net) update

Interval Signals Online (www.intervalsignals.net) is currently being migrated to another hosting server, so there may be some disruption or errors experienced on the website for up to 72 hours. This process started around 20:00UT last night (2 January) and so far I haven't encountered any problems in using the site - my fingers remain firmly crossed! (David Kernick, Interval Signals Online, via WOR)

[A-DX] TinySA Spectrum Analyzer

Im **Hamparts.shop** gibt es ab sofort den kleinen **Tiny Spectrum Analyzer** für 72 € zu kaufen. Zur Störungssuche eine extreme Hilfe, man sieht das Spektrum wie bei einem SDR, tragbar und in der Größe einer Zigarettenschachtel. Für den kleinen Betrag sehr wertvoll, ich konnte damit schon so manche Störungen (die man sich meist selbst macht) ausfindig machen. <https://hamparts.shop/tinysa-spectrum-analyzer.html> (Christoph Ratzer, A-DX)

 This is a **very powerful handheld Spectrum Analyzer with RF signal generator**. It is new version 0.3.1_E. The display is a 2,8 inch touch display with 320x240 pixels resolution and 16 bit depth. You can use resistive touch or Jog switch control. Color display showing max 290 points providing gapless covering up to the full frequency range. **Switchable resolution bandpass filters from 3 to 600kHz**. Internal attenuators 0dB to 31dB (cannot be used in combination with LNA). Rechargeable battery allowing a minimum of 2 hours of portable use. **There is NO SD slot and Audio output.**



Applications

- **Spectrum Analyzer**
- **RF generator**
- **Spectrum monitoring**
- **PC controlled SA+TG**

[WOR] Campaign to Keep Longwave

2024 looks to be a critical year for longwave broadcasting in the UK. In the year we celebrate 90 years of transmissions from Droitwich, the BBC has announced its intention to shut this historic transmitter down. The campaign to keep longwave is still very young, and consists essentially of the 13 people on this mailing list, but it is encouraging to see nearly 2500 people already having signed our petition. Please continue to refer anyone who might be interested in signing to www.keeplongwave.co.uk

I'm getting in touch now to let you know our current plan of action:

Plan A: Keep BBC Radio 4 Longwave

We have already contacted the BBC on this issue multiple times, and contributed to the Radio 4 Feedback programme. Some of those contacted have been sympathetic, but the general view of the BBC is that nobody listens to LW any more and maintaining the transmitter is a waste of money. They have not provided any evidence for this, and have not been able to produce any listening figures for longwave. **Please contact the BBC** if you haven't already, to complain about the planned demise of longwave, and help to prove them wrong! You can contact them quickly and easily [here](#). It has been heartening to receive messages from listeners in Europe, and as far away as Newfoundland, and it is becoming increasingly clear that the Droitwich transmitter is one of the most important in the world, with a large international audience. This is a point that has not been emphasised to the BBC, and will therefore guide our next stage of campaigning. I am going to contact my MP specifically on the issue of listeners abroad, and suggest to him that it might be worth approaching the Foreign Office to discuss the impact of losing the voice of the BBC in Europe. He is very sympathetic to our cause, and the Droitwich transmitter is inside his constituency.

Plan B: Amateur Longwave

Our Plan B will come into play if it becomes impossible to persuade the BBC and government to retain longwave transmissions. The plan would be to obtain an Ofcom license to broadcast on longwave from an alternative site using an underground aerial, since the costs of maintaining the Droitwich transmitter would be too high. This would keep longwave broadcasting, but we would lose our iconic transmitter, and listeners abroad would no longer be served. Were we forced to choose this option, however, we would need to start a fundraising campaign to set up and maintain transmissions.

If you have any other ideas or suggestions, please do let the group know. Thank you to everyone who has already contributed your comments and suggestions, and for sharing the petition.

Let us enter 2024 with a degree of optimism, even in the midst such troubled times worldwide.

With all best wishes,

(Dr Tobias Thornes, Campaign to Keep Longwave, tobiastjw@gmail.com)

[jaguarpro] Windows updates stopping help

About Windows Updates; one good option is the program "Win Update Stop". I am using for couple year to my remote pc this small free program and it does its job well and reliably. With this simple tool you can permanently disable Windows Updates and re-enable Windows Updates when you want ! The program can be downloaded from many places...

(73 Tuomo Vesala)

[nordx] Ur minnets djup

Vår lärare i matematik vid Folkskoleseminariet I Karlstad, Fingal, var ingen lysande pedagog. Frågor från eleverna om förklaringar besvarades i regel med "det blir så".

Denna skola höll mycket låg kvalitet. Lärarna var en underlig samling individer, där flertalet föreföll mer eller mindre misslyckade i sin universitetsutbildning. Att komma dit från det utmärkta gymnasiet i Kristinehamn var frustrerande. .

Åter till Fingal. Han var hörselskadad och bar en hörapparat på magen. En dag trasslade apparaten under lektionen och Fingal vred irriterat på rattarna.

Då hördes ur klassens djup:

- Försök med kortvåg!

Det gick fram och det gick hem. Fingals irritation försvann.

Kan också nämna att i vår klass var tre elever sändareamatörer och jag dx-are och samtidigt hängiven cw-utövare. Det hände att vi fyra väste fram morsemeddelanden till varann under lektionerna. Övriga fattade ingenting.

Minnena härrör från åren 1955-57.

God fortsättning!

(Ullmar Qvick)

Ye Olde Hurdy-Gurdy Museum of Vintage Radio

Our son, Jesper, was visiting Dublin a few weeks ago. A fantastic memory for him was on 8 December to take part when Shane MacGowan's coffin was borne through the streets of Dublin on a horse-drawn carriage as fans lined the streets for his funeral procession. He stayed in Dublin for a few days and was advised to visit Howth, a small village just a bit north of Dublin. There is this fantastic old radio museum.



The Ye Olde Hurdy-Gurdy Museum of Vintage Radio is located in the Martello Tower in Howth, County Dublin, and houses a collection of exhibits chronicling the history of telecommunications from the 1840s to present day. It is the vast collection of one man, Pat Herbert.

The Ye Olde Hurdy-Gurdy Museum of Vintage Radio in Howth boasts many examples of early Morse equipment, gramophones, crystal sets, valve radios and other pieces of equipment. Additionally, you'll find music boxes, posters, photographs, telegrams, batteries, needle boxes, early TVs, stamps, household items and more. It's a gadget lover's paradise.

Hurdy Gurdy Museum of Vintage Radio is a really interesting place to take the kids, so they can learn how far communication has come. It is even set in an interesting location, a Martello Tower that was built in 1805 and has its own part in radio history.

The museum is literally packed with an amazing variety of objects, many of which will be explained to you by your friendly guide as they take you on a tour through the history of radio. The kids are likely to be surprised at the ways in which we communicated before mobile phones, and amused by the variety of radios used through history, from the kitsch to elegant pieces of furniture.

The Tower itself was the termination point for the first telegraph line under the Irish Sea in 1852, and the first to the south of Ireland in 1913. It has also been the site of several experimental stations, and is home to an amateur radio station today (EIOMAR)

You don't have to be interested in this subject to enjoy this fascinating collection, which is brought to life by the stories and information provided by the guides on the way.



In 1898, Guglielmo Marconi relayed the results of the Kingstown Regatta races from aboard the Flying Huntress using wireless telegraphy. The races took place in Dublin Bay just off Howth Head. This was the first journalistic use of wireless and also the first wireless report of a sporting event.

EIOMAR





Kingstown Regatta 1898
First journalistic use of wireless

QRA:IO63xj
WAI:O28
ITU Zone:27
IOTA:EU-115
CQ Zone:14



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DX nostalgia by RFK

A new year and time for a new edition of DX nostalgia. As this is being written before Christmas I don't know what will have happened in the world as you read this but we can all hope for a better year in every respect. Maybe the instigator of so much misery is gone by now? That would indeed be a perfect start of the New Year.

Let us hope that the year 2024 will be a year of peace for us all.

Now let's start with the DX nostalgia. This QSL card from the AFRS was received by Bengt Ericson for a reception report from November 26, 1958.



Next we have a QSL card from the collection of Ullmar Quick UQ. He started DX-ing already in the 1940s and is still active! Catholic station Radio Renascença was heard on 6154 kHz despite the modest power of 500 watts. Card scanned by John Ekwall JOE.

RADIO RENASCENÇA

CONFIRMAÇÃO
(Verification Card)

Para ULLMAR KVICK
(To)

Confirmamos a sua referência sobre a nossa
We hereby confirm your report on our
emissão de 16/9/951
broadcast, on

às 19,30 GMT pela qual nos confessamos
at 19,30 GMT for which we cordially
muito obrigados.
thank you.

Director
[Signature]

Emissora Católica Portuguesa
(Portuguese Catholic Radio Station)

RUA CAPELO

Lisboa
PORTUGAL

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|-------|
| Frequência Frequency | <u>6154</u> | Kc. |
| Potência Power | <u>500</u> | Watts |
| Sinal de intervalo Interval signal | | |
| Horário Schedule | <u>19,30-24</u> | hr |

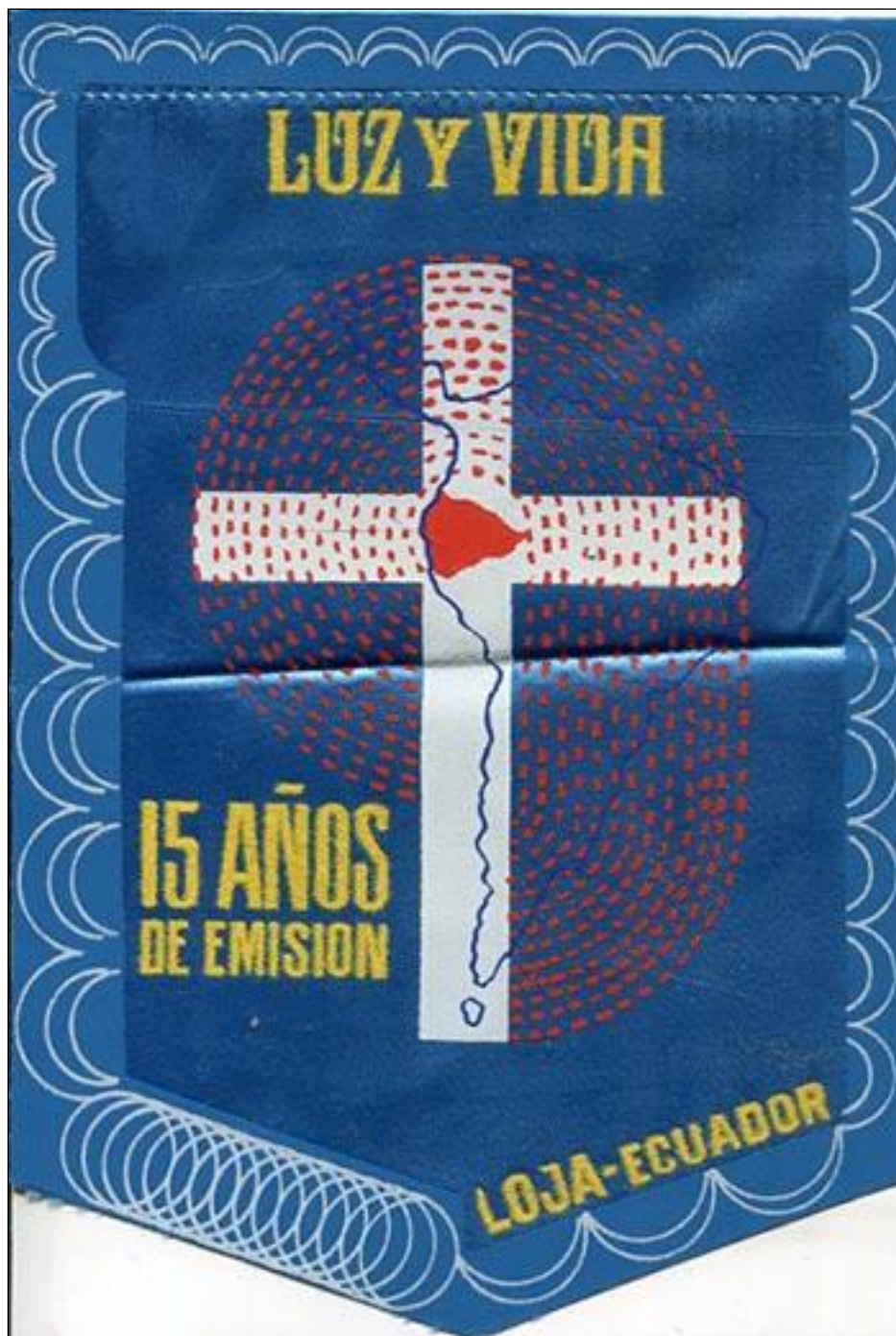
There was a time when many Spanish local stations could be heard on SW. Here is one example from the collection of Ullmar Quick UQ: Radio Juventud de Cadiz. Ullmar reported them in 1951. The station was listed in the WRTH with 600 watts of power. Card scanned by John Ekwall JOE.



The photo below comes from the collection of Bengt Dalhammar BD and shows the broadcasting house of Radio Apintie which Bengt heard on 5006 kHz. The station was closed down because of their critical attitude towards the military regime after the coup d'état in 1980 but was later allowed to return. André Kamperveen, wellknown sports reporter on the station, was arrested in 1982 together with 14 other prominent Surinamese men by the forces of Dési Bouterse, dictator of Suriname at the time. They were taken to Fort Zeelandia (at that time Bouterse's headquarters), where they were heard as "suspects in a trial" by Bouterse and other sergeants in a self-appointed court. After the questioning they were tortured and then shot dead. This incident is known as The December Murders. Kamperveen had successful careers in football, basketball and judo. He was also a politician and started his own radio station, Radio ABC – The Love Station in 1975.



At last let's have a look at a pennant which Bengt Dalhammar BD received from Ecuadorian station Luz y Vida, Loja in 1983 with the QSL card.



My friends, as usual your contributions to DX nostalgia are highly welcome – just mail me at in-fo@rock.x.se Any stories and special memories about a QSL or a logging are especially welcome. Take care and stay safe. 73 & GOOD DX!