

SHORTWAVE BULLETIN

Nummer: 1453, 25 februari 2001. Deadline nästa nr: 9/3 2001 (fax & E-mail 11/3 kl. 0900 SNT)

Veckan som gått har präglats av diverse bilreparationer på våra bilar. Frugans gamla Saab 900 (86) jämte ungarnas ännu äldre Saab 900 (84) gick ej igenom besiktningen. Diverse svetsjobb, byte av stötdämparna samt byte av två nerslitna vinterdäck blev följden. För den totala rep. kostnaden hade man nästan fått en bättre DX-radio! Dessutom upptäckte jag lackproblem på min bil (96). Som tur var fixade Saab detta på garantin. Betr. DX bidrar BM med sina bandscans kontinuerligt till varje nummer. Dessa gör ju att vi trots allt kan hålla ångan uppe med lite nya fräscha LA-tips. Kan även omtala att vi på jobbet skaffat en superkopiator – som även fungerar som skrivare. 50 sidor/min. – fram/baksida, häftning etc i ett och samma moment. 1 timmes utskrift av 25 ex SWB på 6 sidor går numera på mindre än 5 min!

Redaktion:

Thomas Nilsson
Mardal 3669
262 93 Ängelholm

Tel: 0431-27054

Fax:

0431-411501(arb)

E-mail:

thomas.nilsson@
sverige.net ☐

SWB-info

Glöm ej medlemsavgiften till postgiro nr **51 84 47-8 omg.**
Medlemmar Sverige: 220:- Medlemmar utrikes: 250:-

SWB online på HCDX: <http://www.hard-core-dx.com/swb>
SWB old archive: <http://www.algonet.se/~ahk/swbhome.html>
SWB hot stuff: <http://home.sverige.net/thomas.nilsson>

Komplettering av medlemslistan: Några stycken saknas ännu i vår medlemspresentation. Skriv några rader där åtminstone detta ingår: Yrke, DX-start, Verifierade länder/stationer, Mottagare, Antenner, Ev. andra hjälpmedel, Ev. annat avlyssningsställe, Favoritområde, Övriga hobbies, samt annat av intresse. Sammanställningen finns på: <http://www.hard-core-dx.com/swb/member.htm>

Konventdags!

Med detta nummer kommer inbjudan till konventet. Passa på att anmäla er snarast!!

QSL, kommentarer, mm.

Jan Edh: Tack för senaste bullen och litet material i gengäld: Jag missade mycket av de tydligen fina konditionerna i helgen, eftersom jag hade annat för mig som gjorde mig olämplig som bilförare, men när Ronny Forslund larmade på söndagskvällen, kunde jag i alla fall dra ut till Fredriksfors på söndagsmorgonen och få vara med på den nya testande Puerto Ricanen. Konditionerna var tydligen på upphällningen vad gällde NA, en hel del LA gick och det visade sig också att medan A-index höll sig på anständiga 6 gick K-index brant uppåt från 2 till 4 i det här skedet. KV var mager.

21/2: efter att åtminstone hjälpligt ha "återuppstått" efter ett rejält influensatillslag, chansade jag på Fredriksfors på kvällen 20/2. Trots A-index har det ju hörts saker en tid, och faktiskt... Nu gick A-index upp i 9, K-index 1 och konditionsprognosen pekade från "fair" till "poor", men det gick NA-stationer på hela MV-bandet! En del frekvenser (t ex 590, 740, 780, 930, 1010 (ON), 1200 (ON), 1320, 1510) gick timvis med vad som närmast är lokalstyrka. Däremot var det svårt att få fram så mycket annat. Det var mycket språk, europeerna var mycket starka och orsakade svårt splatter, och svagare signaler var både förvrängda (det mesta kom också in på CA-antennen) och utsatta för fading... Den nye Puerto Ricanen har väl blivit överöst med lyssnarrapporter och tycks inte längre våga berätta vad den heter. Bara non stop musik nu. Och tidigt (21.30 UTC) gick den och flera andra PR. KV gav klent, men Montevideo 9650 är ju kul. Australien 120 m gick, däremot inget Indonesien/PNG. Loggen därmed också kort.

John Ekwall: Hej och tack för bulle - som jag ännu inte läst. Skulle varit lite mer på alerten i morse med ett litet livstecken. De senaste nätterna kring midnatt bra mot Anderna hade bl a Siciuani och Tawantinsuyo inatt. I går kväll (lördag) bra styrkor på 120mB och Aussie-stationerna kl 20. Få se om det blir något lyssnade framöver.

Björn Fransson: Dags att bidra igen! Det har varit mycket MV-DX-ande på sistone, men natten 16-17 februari var det toppenkonds mot LA på kortvåg. Mängder av peruaner hördes och dessutom Guatemalastationer, som jag aldrig hört förut! QSL: **The Voice of Justice-15455** svarade via e-mail, v/s: parlamentsledamoten för Sam Rainsy Party, Tioulong Saumura (Ms.), ansvarig, som skrev på bra engelska. Hon funderar på att introducera en stunds program även på andra språk (engelska?) för de internationella lyssnarna samrainsy@bigpond.com.kh, www.samrainsyparty.org. Borde väl vara en SM-1:a? (Troligen - kul att du får så pass god utdelning på allt slit med rapporterandet! /red)

Lars Rydén: Ref. min förra mail: Den bolivian som hördes bäst på min Sony ICF-SW1000 i Salta (förutom Radio Illimani på 6025), låg på 5953-4, d v s R Pio XII. Program på indianspråk: Ena kvällen predikan, den andra personliga hälsningar. QSL har anlänt from **Turkmen Radio** 4930 efter flera försök. Sände denna gång ett tunt flygpostbrev, bara en sida plus IRC och adressetikett (som användes). Ev. "mellanhänder" insåg tydligen att det inte fanns något att hämta...Svaret kom på några veckor i form av: QSL-kort på engelska med alla detaljer med design som ett PPC, så tydligen har någon DXare försett dem med förlagan, brev från Kakali Karaev, The Chief of the Technical Department (den som svarar när man svarar) samt kopia av programschema.

Rolf Wikström: som siste bidragsgivare till detta nummer, kommer via e-mail några tips till deadline söndag 0900, vilket vi tackar för.

LOGGEN - ALL TIMES ARE UTC

2460.06	23.2	2355	Radio Alvorada, Rio Branco körde med romantiska, halvreligiösa låtar. Rysk utility ställde till med problem ibland. Svag. S 2. BEFF
3300	11.2	0700	Radio Cultura - "som vanligt" går den här nästan som en lokalstation vid denna tid- i övrigt bara brassar på 4905 och 4915 med anständig hörbarhet. Måste väl ha gjort något åt sändaren? JE
3340	23.2	2350	Radio Altura var mycket stark med reklam för en restaurang i Cerro de Pasco. S 3-4 BEFF
3360	21.2	0035	La Voz de Nahualá med religiöst program. 3 CB
3360	17.2	0135	LV de Nahualá gick mycket bra en stund med kyrkliga meddelanden. Första gången hos mig! S 2-4 BEFF
3375	23.2	2250	Radio San Antonio gick rapporterbart med programmet "Católica" och ett lustigt fågelkvitter (ej samma fågel som Radio Verdad nedan – men en trend??). S 3. BEFF
4052.47	17.2	0013	Radio Verdad gick riktigt fint med massor av ID's och adressläsning. Mycket orgelmusik dess emellan. Man hade fågelkvitter i pausen och dessutom en gök! S 3 BEFF
4052,5	19.2	0020	Radio Verdad äntligen rapporterbart. QSA 2-3. WIK
4799.8	23.2	2344	OID, men sannolikt Radio Buenas Nuevas med marschmusik. S 2. BEFF
4855	16.2	2255	Radio Diff Acreana drog lång ID-ramsans kl 2300, så jag behövde inte vänta länge. S 3. BEFF
4875	10.2	0130	OID brasse. ID: "Rádio Clube... , Pará, Brasil". Definitivt inte Rádio Clube do Pará som ju ligger 10 kHz ifrån. Något nytt eller samsändning? QSA 3. WIK
4890.22	16.2	2300	Radio Chota ID'ade flitigt och reklamerade för en turistbyrå. S 3 BEFF
4930.63	23.2	0030	Radio Costeña Ebenezer, Honduras överraskade, när jag letade efter Barahona! Religiöst program från "Iglesia del Cristo". 0044 kom en ryss och lade sig tvärs över hela härligheten! S 3 en stund. BEFF
4955	16.2	2323	Radio Cultural Amauta ID'ade bara "Radio Amauta". Hälsningar och litet halvreligiöst program. S 3-4. BEFF
4975	20.2	2213	Rádio Mundial med religiöst. 2 CB
5010.3	17.2	0235	OID, men med mycket typisk HC-musik, vågar jag placera som ERPE, Riobamba. S 2-3 och dov ton. BEFF
5020	16.2	2345	Radio Horizonte, Chachapoyas drog en av många reklamer. S 3. BEFF
5770	20.2	2340	OID VoA på SS och EE. Om detta är VoA torde Radio Miskut inte ha någon större chans. 3 CB
5770	17.2	2330	Radio Miskut som på heltimmen växlade från SS mx till Simon and Garfunkel och banne mig om de inte körde hela LPn non-stop. QSA 2-3. WIK
6160	11.2	0530	CKZN+CKZU? Det verkar troligt att båda kanadickerna hördes, den ena i så fall aningen lågt (CHNX?) och som skapade ett interferenstjut. QSA 2 JE
6230	18.2	1900	"Radio Studio Nevskaja Volna St-Peterburga" lät ID'et på den nya ryssen som. 4 CB
6230	16.2	1900	Radio Studio Doma är en FM-station i St Petersburg som också har med Radio Gardarika att göra. Många ID's och mycket pop. S 4-3 BEFF
9290	22.2	1840	Radio Nova Intn'l, brittisk pirat, satsar på Europa med sändningar dygnet runt här. Musik och täta ID's, där man ber om rapporter. De har hittills inte besvarat någon av mina gamla! S 3-4 BEFF
9600	10.2	1330	Radio Singapore Int med nyheter på engelska. //6150 men svagare där. 3 CB
9650	20.1	2315	Em Ciudad de Montevideo med festprogram (karneval?) i direktsändning med mycket sång och musik. QSA 2, mycket splatter. JE
9665.14	23.2	2130	Radio Marumbý med tonvikt på y-et ID-ade många gånger efter sig. S 3-4, men en hemsk ton, som låg och störde. BEFF
9720.41	23.2	2320	Radio Victoria stördes av splash, men gick fram med en barnröst i ett "phone-in" program. S 2. BEFF
15455	17.2	1000	The Voice of Justice är en clandestine från Kambodja, som sänder för Sam Rainsy Party via okänd sändare. Kambodjanska och trist program. S 2-4 och en massa oväsen på frekvensen. Gick bättre senare. BEFF
15820L	23.2	2140	Radio Continental, Argentina med reklam för programmet "Noticias del Sábado". S 3-4 BEFF
17495	10.2	1720	WBCQ med jazz, kl. 18.00 kom klassisk musik och 19.00 mer modern sådan. Trevligt avbrott på alla religiösa program från USAs privatstationer. WBCQ sänder dessa musikprogram endast lördagar. 4 CB



BM i Ecuador – bandscan KV-17, 25/2 2001

Björn Malm,

c/o Susana Garcés de Malm,

Avenida la Prensa 4408 y Vaca, Quito, Ecuador.

Rx: JRC-535, Loewe HF-150, Sangean ATS-808

tel.: + 593 2 598-470

email: bjornmalm@yahoo.es + bjornmalm@usa.net

Antenn: 15 m longwire + Magnetic Longwire Balun

Quito 22 feb. 2001. I går hände något ovanligt. Brevbäraren knackade på hos oss för första gången - tidigare har alltid breven lämnats hos apoteket. Han överlämnade med ett stort leende SWB nummer 1451! Fortfarande saknas nummer 1449 och 1450. Posten här i Quito är mitt uppe i en privatisering och många gamla trotjänare har avskedats. Säkert anledningen till att breven har behövt flera månader på sig för att komma fram. 73/BM. PS Jag tycker du gör ett fantastiskt fint jobb med SWB! DS

2340.08H Radio Central, Riobamba (Ecuador). Februari 2001 - 1030 UTC. Harmonic från mellanvåg 1170 kHz (2x 1170.04).

2900.06H Radio Calidad, Riobamba (Ecuador). Februari 2001 - 1100 UTC. Väldigt mycket reklam och skrikigt ljud. Harmonic från mellanvåg 1450 kHz (2x 1450.03).

2940.14H Ondas del Ibagué, Ibagué (Colombia). Februari 2001 - 0120 UTC. Är en regelbunden gäst men har tidigare bara haft den som tentativ. Harmonic från mellanvåg 1470 kHz (2x 1470.07).

3060.00H Radio San Felipe, San Felipe (Venezuela). Februari 2001 - 1035 UTC. Första gången jag har loggat en harmonic från Venezuela. Hörs ganska ofta. Harmonic från mellanvåg 1530 kHz (2x 1530.00).

3380.00 Radio Chortís, Jocotán (Guatemala). Februari 2001 - 1055 UTC. Startade denna tid med marimbamusik och samt ID både på spanska och indiandialekt. Följdes av mexikansk texmex-musik och gruppen "Los Tigres del Norte", som är enormt populära i Guatemala.

4573.63 Radio Independencia, Provincia de Chiclayo (Peru). 12 februari 2001 - 0225cd UTC. En helt ny station om man nu ska tro på DJen. Säger så då jag har en gnagande misstanke om att en radiopirat härjar i regionen. Tycker mig känner igen både DJens röst och sätt att kasta ut mängder av IDs och jinglar, precis som en "Radio San Juan" med okänt QTH gjorde, hörde stationen bara vid ett tillfälle på 6592v i november 1999 (se SWB 1420). Då annonserades KV samt MV 1330kHz. Radio Independencia uppgav KV samt MV 830kHz. Uppgav adress vid close down som jag bara delvis uppfattade: "Radio Independencia, Calle Colombia 12....., Provincia de Chiclayo". Ännu så länge har jag bara hört Independencia vid detta tillfälle. Mina funderingar om "radiopirater" gäller också min loggning av Radio San Juan, Chiclayo på 4576v (se SWB 1451). Rapporterar om vad jag hör och kan naturligtvis inte avgöra om det är en pirat eller en helt legal station. En pirat som har tillgång till internet och SWB/DXLD/HCDX/Cumbre osv måste ju ha det otroligt kul.....

4702.23 Radio Eco, San Borja (Peru). Februari 2001 - 0108cd. Ett program med enbart mexikansk musik. Härliga artister såsom Vicente Fernandez, Luis Gabriel och Lucero. Stängde denna tid. En station som ganska nyligen har börjat höras.

4865.07 Radio Verdes Florestas, Cruzeiro do Sul (Brasilien). Februari 2001 - 1035 UTC. Startade denna tid. Angav 4865 och 940 kHz.

5009.78 (TENT)Radio Cristal, Santo Domingo (Dom. Republiken). Februari 2001 - 1045 UTC. Med internationella nyheter samt ett långt block med nyheter från Dominikanska Republiken. Mycket svag signal.

5956.50 CARACOL, Villavicencio (Colombia). Februari 2001 - 0000 UTC.

6270v Radio El Libertador, Bagua Grande/barrio El Libertador, provincia Utcubamba, departamento Amazonas (Peru). Februari 2001 - 0000 UTC. Rapporterade om denna nya station i förra SWB, då med en del frågetecken. DJen uppgav denna adress: "Radio El Libertador, Calle San Martín, cuadra 16, sector El Libertador,de la iglesia evangelica.....del Peru, Bagua Grande, Utcubamba, Amazonas, Peru". IDar "Radio El Libertador en Cristo". Startar omkring 1030 UTC och brukar då hälsa till och "välsigna" folket i olika orter och barrios. Fortfarande miserabel ljudkvalité.

6435.55 Radio Universo/Radio Cielo, okänt QTH (Peru). Februari 2001 - 0040 UTC Med riktigt bra ljudkvalité, faktiskt är det nu möjligt att ställa in exakt frekvens i SSB då signalen är "renare" än tidigare. Dessutom har den hörts här en hel vecka på samma frekvens, +-2 kHz(har ju hörts på ett stort antal frekvenser). För andra gången har jag nu hört Radio Cielo IDa "Radio Universo". Första gången var den 27 maj/2000 på frekvensen 4663v. Så här sade då denne "lurige" DJ: "Estamos en calidad de prueba.....de Cajabamba, transmite Radio Universo". En pirat-DJ med humor!

6754.75 OID peruan. 19 februari 2001 - 0245cd UTC. Lyssnade i nästan två timmar på peruansk nonstop karnevalsmusik. Inget snack överhuvudtaget, inte ens vid close down 0245 UTC. I sångtexterna nämndes ibland "Cajamarca" så kanske är det listade Radio La Merced, Tongod som ligger i departementet Cajamarca. Fortsatte dagarna därefter att höras med nonstop peruansk musik. Bra signal och fin ljudkvalité. Enligt WRTH är den "irr".

Till TBV: Har kollat frekvensen 4840 då och då under den senaste veckan men utan att upptäcka den minsta lilla spanskspråkiga signal. Det enda jag hör är en asiat, kanske Indien. Radio Interoceánica är ju mycket oregelbunden, för det mesta off air. Omöjligt är det väl inte att stationen sänder inköpta, religiösa program t.ex. från HCJB, även om 05-0900 UTC verkar väl sent.

För övrigt är allt som vanligt här i galna Quito. Lite demonstrationer, en nypa strejker och indianerna gräver som vanligt upp stora hål i vägarna runt om i landet - så inte att undra på att också presidenten ville vara med och leka lite - han proklamerade undantagstillstånd i hela Ecuador. Aldrig har det varit så lugnt här i Quito som under den veckan! Den här helgen startar den stora karnevalen i Quito, det brukar bli ganska stökigt så vi funderar på att sticka iväg till Riobamba - om det nu finns några farbara vägar..... 73 från BM i Quito!



73 från  i Quito!

Stationsnyheter

ARGENTINA.

6440 (Cumbre DX follow up) Radio Luz del Mundo, (the stn discovered by Carlos Buscaglia & reported by Nicolas Eramo & Horacio Nigro). I spoke on Feb 20 to the station owner, Mr. Jorge Antonio Daniel who informed me that they are a Christian station broadcasting on SW from around 4 months. They are on the air daily 1000-0500, with 50 watts power in AM mode. On MW they're on 1130 khz as well as on 3220, but not traced there. Their correct address is: Catamarca 2560, 1847-Rafael Calzada (BA), Argentina, and he promised answer to the reports received. (Gabriel Ivan Barrera, Argentina, Feb 21 via Cumbre DX)

BOLIVIA

Centenario la Nueva, Santa Cruz de la Sierra, moved from 4855 to 4865,00. Hrd on the 22nd Feb, at 22,20-23,30, good signal and announcing the new fq [Rocco Cotroneo, Rio de Janeiro, Brasil via HCDX]

BRAZIL

Glenn, Mohrmann's and Hodgson's unid on **4866.1 is R Missões da Amazônia**, Brazil. Early morning transmissions seem to originate from Rede Boas Novas in Manaus and/or Pôrto Velho. Helpful info found at <http://www.rbn.org.br/noshist.htm> (Henrik Klemetz, Sweden, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

GUATEMALA

3370/4835 Radio Sistema Cultural Tezulutlan (TGTZ) is still on the air, but at reduced power. This could explain the reason for lack of reception in the USA. (DIRECT via Baysinger Feb 14) Mohrmann's LA-DX list last log on 4835 as Sept 2000, last on 3370 as Dec 99. (Johnson Feb 15 via Cumbre DX 334)

MADAGASCAR.

7154.5, Radio Television Malagasy, 0547-0601 Feb 13. Emission in Malagasy. Comments and announcements. Instrumental music. Time Signal. Identification of the radio station. 33222 (Claudio Morales, Argentina, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

(**Cumbre DX follow up**) **KBBN** According to Deborah Wells, they haven't really made any progress towards getting their shortwave on the air. **KBBN** still hopes to be on shortwave by July. **PANGTEL** has told them that the 3200-3400 range is crowded, but that they will try to coordinate a possible frequency 10 kHz to 15 kHz down from 3205 kHz. They are also looking at the 2300-2500 and 3900-3950 kHz ranges. (via Johnson Feb 22, Cumbre DX)

PERU

4655 Radio Nuevo Amanecer (new name or new owner??) 2350-0030 Musical Program and Comunicados, Advs, ID's "El programa El Peru y sus artistas en su audicion especial a traves de Radio Nuevo Amanecer" tc and ID "siete de la noche con quince minutos en todo el Peru en los 4655 KHz Onda Corta...por Radio Nuevo Amanecer..." Tnx to Pedro Arrunategui who confirm the new name of this station) See Chasqui DX 177 (Eramo Feb 5&6) 2340-0104 33333 Chicha music, ID "17 para las 7 de la noche en su Radio Nuevo Amanecer.." program and announcements. Folk music. ALSO: 0204-0305 33333 ID "Por Radio Nuevo Amanecer desde Celendín.." music and program "Fiesta Andina" s/off with "Buenos estamos llegando a la parte final, esperamos nos visiten y/o nos escriban, nuestra dirección es (note this is their address) Jirón Grau 485 Celendín, los esperamos en nuestro nuevo local, será hasta el día de mañana a las 5 de la mañana con nuestro programa amanecer campesino.. muy buenas noches y luego tocan el himno nacional.." NOTE: ex R. Celendín - R. La Voz del Campesino - R. Ecos del Edén and now R. Nuevo Amanecer. I called the Ecos de Eden telephone number but there was no answer. The phone company told me that there was no listing. Thanks Eramo. (Arrunategui Feb 10 via Cumbre DX 334)

PERÚ

13565v, Feb 11 Radio Ondas del Pacífico, Ayabaca, 0010-, 444, with nice Peruvian folk music, then time check by male, "La hora, 7 de la noche con 10 minutos... la hora te [sic] la está informando Radio Ondas del Pacífico desde la Ciudad Ayabaca." (Yimber Gaviria, Colombia, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

RUSSIA

Radio Gardarika (St.Petersburg's local FM station) will begin its regular shortwave broadcasting starting on Friday, February 16, 2001. Schedule: 1900-2100 UTC daily on 6230 kHz to Europe. You can send any comments about these transmissions to the following addresses: Radio Studio Doma Radio "Gardarika", Lgovsky prospekt 174, St.Petersburg, 197002, Russia, e-mail: studiosw@metroclub.ru. My personal request: please will send me a copy of your e-mail message to timofeyev@sp.ru if you will write them using this way... [Mikhail Timofeyev, St.Petersburg via HCDX]

VIETNAM.

4795.9, Son La Radio & TV Station, Feb 16, 17, 18 & 19-20, 2245-0033(fade out), Vietnamese talk and mountain tribal songs without music, 2329 instrumental interval signal and ID: "Viet Nam....dai phat (sounds like HI-FI in English) thanh truyen hinh Son La". Thanks to Alan Davies for assisting me with the ID which can be found on <http://members.tripod.co.uk/agd12/audio/son4796d.wav> (about 450 kB). Then followed a similar programme in one of the mountain tribal languages, obviously with extended morning service. 24232 (Anker Petersen, Skovlunde, Denmark, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Since at least the mid-90's, there has been a Vietnamese station operating in the range 4657-4722 kHz. It has been heard in Australia, Asia, and North America. Based on available information, DXers have listed it as a provincial station out of Lao Cai, Lam Dong, or Gai Lai. Others who noted it relaying Vietnam's national service out of Hanoi simply reported it as this, adding that they weren't sure of the site. Now this station has been IDed and it looks like we have a 'new' provincial station in Vietnam. Thanks to Gaku Iwata, who tells us that Satoshi Hasebe has identified this station as Lang Son. As is the case with the other Vietnamese provincial stations currently active, Lang Son is in the far north of Vietnam. Satoshi says it currently operates around 4660 from 1000-1430 as follows: 1000-1030 Relay VOV-Hanoi2, 1030-1100 Local program in Vietnamese, 1100-1130 Relay VOV-Hanoi2, 1130-1200 Local program in Vietnamese, 1200-1430 Relay VOV-Hanoi2. ID is heard as "Day la dai phat thanh Lang Son" Signals are very poor and the audio is extremely low. It is heard maybe once or twice a month in Japan. It drifts around in frequency. Care also has to be taken not to confuse it with the Laotian regional at Houa Phan, which also operates around 4660 at reported *1000-1230*. In the past, Houa Phan has carried the news from Lao National Radio from 1200-1230, so it is parallel to 6130 at this time. (Contributors Gaku Iwata JAPAN, Satoshi Hasebe JAPAN via Johnson Feb 20, Cumbre DX)

UNIDENTIFIED

3289.9 R Centro??? 1105 A new logging for me. Fast SS speaking man and woman. Fair with static crashes. Heard the man give an ID: "Radio " then CRASH. Probably would have gotten it. Signal faded before I could get another decent ID. Not Guyana, heard them several times up on 49 meters, recently. (Hodgson, Feb 9 via Cumbre DX 334)

4345.0 LA Station? 1100-1120, Drifting, raspy carrier with male ballads and possibly Spanish talk. Fading by 1120 which might suggest Peru or Colombia. Similar log made back in December on 4351.1 Nothing heard the morning of Feb 15. (Mohrman Feb 13/15 via Cumbre DX 334)

Övriga radionyheter

6075 LV del Junco, Honduras.

Going back to at least the early 1970s, it was never very regular. When I got there in 1982, the SW transmitter was not even in working order. It was a homebrew one and mostly a hobby for Antonio Hasbun, the owner. I think my presence prompted him to work on it and in 1983 he got it back on the air, although it was irregular then. Ironically, I would just as soon he not bothered - you can't believe the QRM it caused, as I lived less than 500 meters from the antenna. When he was on the air, the only other thing I could hear in 49 meters was VOA on 6130. Nothing else could make it through the splatter. I did serve as volunteer QSL secretary and issued about 20 QSLs to North American, Japanese, and Guatemalan DXers (plus two which I issued to myself). I know it has been on the air irregularly since then, - once in the later 1980s and most recently a few years ago when it was mostly carrying a new sister FM station (Galaxia FM - if my memory is good - I'd have to look it up in my logs to be sure). A few years ago, I learned that Antonio had been electrocuted while working on a new TV transmitter. With him gone, I doubt the La Voz del Junco will ever make it back on SW. As I said, it was purely a hobby for him. Shortwave has no practical commercial use in Honduras, or elsewhere in Central America. The audience for

domestic shortwave is poor, remote peasants who have little money to support advertisers' products. Of course, that is a good audience for religious broadcasters. (Moore Feb 12 via Cumbre DX 334)

RRI new website

Radio Republik Indonesia has now web site (partly 'under construction') at: <http://www.rrionline.com/>. RRI Overseas Service home page is at: http://www.rrionline.com/triframe_overseas_main.html. This information was picked from Ludo Maes' excellent TDP -site (<http://www.transmitter.org/>) [Pentti Lintujärvi, Helsinki, Finland via HCDX]

Drake Quality

I've owned an R8 for more than 7 years, and I have not had any problems with it. Also, I have an R8B on the way from Universal, since I have returned the JRC NRD-545 I purchased recently. (See my post for details.) Comparing the 545 to the R8, I found the 545's physical construction quality to be better than the Drake. The cabinet is sturdier, plus the tuning knob and other controls give a positive feel. I never did like the Drake's rubbery buttons.

Also, from what I have read in this group, the optical encoder used for the tuning system in the R8/R8A has been replaced with a rotary switch in the R8B, which is supposedly more prone to failure. (A Drake tech told me the rotary switch has been used since the R8A. Anyone care to comment?) Also, the metal knob used on the original R8 has been replaced with a plastic one. Not being a tech, I really cannot address the quality of the Drake's internal construction. However, I have always found the Drake's performance to be excellent. I was able to "dig out" many tough stations over the years with my R8. From what I have read in this group, and from reviews, the R8B appears to be a superb performer, and I expect it will surpass the performance of my old R8 in many respects.

[Craig, cleit273@aol.com via rec.radio.shortwave]

NRD 545 return

After almost 2 weeks of use, I have returned my JRC NRD-545 to Universal, exchanging it for a Drake R8B, a Bearcat 780XLT, and some other items. I did many A/B tests between my old R8 and the 545, on the same antenna, and there were many instances where the 545 was struggling to hear signals the Drake was pulling in just fine. I would attribute this to the 545's "fair" dynamic range, mentioned in Magne's review in Passport. New York City, "RF Alley" is line of sight to my QTH in the NJ suburbs, and there are many 50kw medium wave stations that come in S9 +50, so good dynamic range is a must.

Also, my R8 copes much better with the relatively high amount of electrical interference at my location from computers and fluorescent lights. Ah, the joy of living in the suburbs! I did not find the 545's noise blanker very effective, plus the DSP noise reduction mostly seemed to lock onto and amplify the noise rather than then the signal I wanted to hear.

Lastly, I found the 545's audio amp to be lacking. Some under-modulated South American stations would sound like an open carrier, where I could hear good audio with the Drake. The comment on DaveZ's page about running out of volume control is very much true.

It was not an easy decision to return the 545, but I felt it would be better to get the R8B for now and wait until the next JRC comes along. The 545 is a beautiful radio to look at, with better construction quality than the Drake. The tuning knob and other controls have a positive feel, rather than the "vague" rubbery buttons on the Drake. I hope the NRD-555? will address some of the 545's shortcomings, such as an AGC that's adjustable in all modes, a better audio amp, as well as better dynamic range, improved ultimate rejection for the filters, plus an antenna switch selectable from the front panel. If so, I'll be right in line to buy one! Are you listening JRC? (Also, I hope the rotary switch in the R8B holds up as well as the optical encoder in my R8!) [Craig, cleit273@aol.com via rec.radio.shortwave]

Interesting Web Links

Add the following links to your favorites: <http://www.egroups.com/message/shortwavelistening>. This is an alternative to rec.radio.shortwave, but with much higher quality of the messages. All spam is gone. Those interested in Icom receivers must add this link: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/icomr75> and those interested in NRD 525/535/(545) add this one: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/nrd-525-535>.

HFCC Conference

I had a talk with one of the Swedish delegates to the HFCC conference that took place in Geneva last week. He had some interesting news of general interest. On the matter of PLC (Power Line Communications), the conference concluded that this is deadly threat to AM broadcasting. The electric field next to the electric wires will be as much as nearly 3 V/m, which is the maximum value permitted from health aspects - and this will be throughout the spectrum from 9 kHz to 30 MHz and in all spaces where there is mains wiring. (Radio signals normally have a field strength that is only a small fraction of that, except next to the transmitters. OA) The reason for the incredibly strong signals is the poor signal to noise ratio of the system. My contact described the concept as sheer madness. It is not only that PLC will kill all other signals and will be a very obvious health hazard, it will still have mediocre performance with modest bit rates. After the common ABSU-HFCC conference last fall the situation was now back to normal with separate meetings. On the other hand, the coordination process for the northern summer period is unproblematic. (Olle Alm via Cumbre DX 334)

DRM (as DXers we may come to write DRM instead of QRM in the future?) is rapidly approaching implementation. The first regular tests, program blocks that are being broadcast in DRM on a daily basis, are expected to begin already in April this year. Radio Sweden expects to join this activity very soon. Widespread DRM transmissions are expected already in 2002. Receivers for DRM will not be available on the market for some time yet, but broadcasters want to be present with DRM to create an interest in receivers. On the subject of frequencies, my contact said that most likely DRM will not be referred to specific parts of the SW bands as has been suggested by some sources, but will mingle with AM transmissions. It is also expected that stations will not add more transmitters to take care of DRM, but will simply convert existing ones and gradually switch to DRM. Andy Sennitt has opposed to my critical remarks concerning DRM, but as DXers we have a legitimate right to express our concerns. With DRM taking to the air, DXing will not be what it used to. (Olle Alm Feb 13 via Cumbre DX)

New weekly DX bulletin, called Signal

I've started publishing a new weekly DX bulletin, called Signal. You may read it at: <http://listen.to/dxsignal>. Planned contents: radio catches, schedules, QSL news, radio-related Internet topics (stations, clubs, e-mail reporting). Signal exists in two versions: Russian and

English. Russian version is larger in volume, because I add translated items from some international DX publications and mail lists there. I think it's no sense to include such items into the English version. English version contains only original loggings, sent to me by DXers. The first issue uses only my info, because my conviction is: first to make a bulletin, then to announce it to the public. Hope you join me in Signal soon. Send you info, comments and suggestions to: dxsignal@listen.to You may freely reproduce items from Signal, mentioning it as info source. [Dmitri Mezin, Kazan, Russia via HCDX]

MYSTERY

Couple of years ago there was two strange stations/frequencies widely reported. I have not seen any definite explanations for these. Maybe I have missed something, anyone with more info on these?

1) Azores: R Club do Angra was heard on 13584 from Oct. 1989 till at least Apr. 1990. Station QSL'ed mentioning their MW freq. but had no idea why they were heard on SW. Listed MW freqs were 909 and 1394. If 10th harmonic, the 1394 transmitter had drifted as low as 1358.4. Any ideas?

2) In 1999 on approx. 4431,7 kHz a station with non-stop music (mainly Swedish language dance band) for months. Utility station, pirate, tx mixing product or what? Any ideas? Old stuff, but still puzzling me. Any info appreciated. [Jari Savolainen, Finland via HCDX]

K9AY a miserable antenna in theory?

G'day all, Ok I know that I am getting real old, grumpy and lazy, but it seems to me that the K9AY "terminated loop" antenna is in theory a pretty miserable receive antenna. Yet some very highly respected DXers are giving it rave reviews from actual on-air listening. Guess my analysis of the theory must be wrong but can't see quite see where. Can someone please enlighten me? I can't understand Gary Breed's explanation at all, must be early onset Alzheimers for me.

The production of a cardioid pattern by combining equal amplitude signals from a loop antenna (figure eight response in the horizontal plane, but opposite lobes 180 degrees out of phase) and a vertical antenna (omnidirectional equiphase response in the horizontal plane) has been known since time immemorial (well the 1920s anyway). The principle is and was commonly applied for radio direction finding. Amplitude was equalized by attenuating the vertical antenna signal with a series resistance (since the vertical antenna is the more efficient antenna when physical sizes of loop and vertical are comparable and there is no Q boost to the loop by resonating) and the 180 degree phase relationship maintained by balancing the loop with respect to ground (with a balun) and feeding the vertical antenna (positioned at the centre of the loop) at the centre of the balun.

Because the usual implementation was for direction finding, loop antenna and vertical antenna sizes tended to be small as sensitivity was not an issue for nearby signals being df-ed, but the antennas can be much larger subject to the less than quarter wave dimensioning limitation (actually at the top end of the mw band a full wave loop and vertical could be designed but this would lose the broadband feature of the antenna).

For DX purposes the small df loop/vertical (there is a designated descriptive name for the antenna in the early literature but i can't recall it at present) got a bad reputation because of its lack of sensitivity. The resonated high Q multiturn box loop gave good sensitivity and directivity, but a df loop/vertical of the scale of a K9AY loop or larger would be undeserving of such a designation. I can see that a K9AY size loop has the potential to be competitive with a Beverage, if narrow beamwidth is not a major criterion and even that could be overcome by a broadside array of several.

But the K9AY antenna on first inspection seems to be an inferior implementation of the df loop/vertical (apologies in advance to Gary if I have this all wrong). The guys in the 1920s had plenty of time on their hands with a ceiling of 10 megacycles and discrete components and they did not miss much in AM broadcast band antenna design.

It seems to me that the K9AY antenna largely uses the variable "terminating" resistor to balance the loop antenna with respect to ground by matching its value to the value of the reflected input impedance of the receiver on the other side of the ground connection. Could this be the reason why some Dxers have not been successful with this antenna (unusual receiver input impedance not matched by the "terminating resistor"). In any event, this is not the best way to go because the output of a non-resonant loop antenna is already quite low and the resistance will reduce the output signal due to damping. The damping due to the receiver input impedance cannot be eliminated but can be greatly reduced with an impedance step-up incorporated into the balun (the three to one turns ratio ferrite cored balun giving nine to one impedance step up would be typical for a 50 ohm input impedance receiver).

Again the vertical antenna component of the K9AY antenna seems to be largely the connecting wire between the centre of the loop antenna and the ground itself, but from the reports of useful sensitivity, I am forced to assume that at least a portion (probably all) of the vertical component of the loop antenna is acting as a vertical antenna also, with output affected by the "terminating resistance". I just don't see any advantage in this type of ground connection, while there are all kinds of potential problems with it due to unbalancing, impedance transformations and phasing variations. Best to get rid of it and use a low impedance earthing with multiple earth straps, or no local earth at all and electrostatic shield in the balun.

Remember with a cardioid pattern the weakest antenna is the determinant of overall sensitivity, since amplitudes must be equalised. Therefore greatest sensitivity requires either a high-Q loop or a large loop. I know cardioids have received a bad name in more recent years, because in our search for greatest sensitivity we have begun phasing them against very high-Q (as much as 1000 unloaded) resonant multi-turned box loops. The rate of phase change for the output signal from such loops in the vicinity of resonance is phenomenal and even with additional damping is quite high, such that nulls are very difficult to adjust precisely and tend to drift. A broadband cardioid such as the K9AY must be a real relief to weary knob twisters, and the degree of rotatability with multi-loops (has anyone put one of these on a rotator? - armstrong or otherwise) a great bonus.

I think what i am saying is that, if the K9AY loop works well, an extra 6dB or so should be obtainable (while retaining the broadband cardioid pattern) by going back to the 1920s version - just a single turn loop, centre mounted vertical, balanced feed to loop and centre feed to vertical through variable resistance (maybe some variable reactance to shift nulls).

If this proves to be the case then thought needs to be given to either (1) a multiturn loop (say 3 turns, each separated by 5cm, switchable to have either one, two or three turns in circuit) for better sensitivity on the low end of the band or (2) an even larger loop - all the designs on the net are sacrificing size for good MW performance - a framework of two lightly guyed 15 metre telescoping aluminium masts, insulated from ground and separated by 15 metres with a centre hung vertical wire should provide signal levels comparable to a Beverage antenna yet take up minimum real estate on a beach and be quite portable or (3) both the foregoing. Again phased broadside arrays could really tighten up the beamwidth but a linked rotator system would be essential and it might be difficult to find a beach that was wide enough at high tide. [Sam Dellit, Brisbane, Australia via HCDX]