

VHF-UHF DIGEST

the official publication of the Worldwide TV-FM DX Association

FEBRUARY 1979



**TRANSPACIFIC F2
TV DX TARGETS
...P. 6**

**WEATHER DATA
AND TROPO DX
...P. 18**

**BEACONS ON
50 MEGAHERTZ
...P. 25**

From The Staff:

WTFDA Headquarters, P.O. Box 202, Whiting, Indiana 46394

SORRY IF WE'RE LATE...The extreme winter weather conditions that have socked in much of the Midwest slowed down the past couple of VUD editions. This month's issue may be a little delayed also. As of the deadline, most scheduled columns had not yet arrived, so we had to wait for them to "trickle" in one by one. Here's hoping winter weather doesn't foul things up any further!

NEW WESTERN TV DX EDITOR...We are very pleased to announce that Fred McCormack will be taking over the WESTERN TV DX post. Members west of the Mississippi and in the states of Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Arkansas, and Louisiana, as well as the provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia are asked to send their reports of TV DX to Fred at Box 5221, State University Station, Fargo ND 58102.

FCC FM...Bruce Elving sends word that the slowdown and a lack of FCC news in recent weeks has resulted in no column this month. FCC FM should return in March.

CONVENTION '79...It really isn't too early to start planning for this year's WTFDA convention. Be sure to include Baltimore in your travel plans this August! See page 10 for more details.

PUBLICATIONS...A new edition of Beyond Shortwave is nearly ready, and don't forget about our two new FM publications, OMDAS FM (a guide to the FM stations of Central and South America) and the EDUCATIONAL FM GUIDE. Quantities are limited, so order soon!

BE PREPARED...It's wise to keep a close check on F2 skip conditions these days, for many surprises can (and probably will) result as we approach spring. TV DX by transequatorial scatter (TE) will be a very real possibility for many North American TV DXers, especially those in the South. You can keep aware of what F2 is doing by monitoring the 6-meter amateur band (50-54 MHz) for signs of transcontinental DX. If something seems to be up on a good day, keep an eye on channel 2!

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MAILBOX

John Zondlo
6617 Maryland
Hammond, IN 46323
(219) 844-8694
Deadline: 10th

New Members:

Stanley B. Jones
William Wurtzel

403 Wayne Ave.
32 W. 31st St.

Crawfordsville, IN 47933
New York, NY 10001

Renewals:

Michael Albanese, John Baumgarten, Robert Baxter, Randall Clark, Felix Collier, Richard Hawkins, Frank Hostetler, Rod Luoma, Gerald Pulice, David Rogers, Eric Schwarz, Paul Traska, Morgan Williams.

Rejoins:

Mike Mitock-975 Osborn Ave.-Lorain, OH 44052

Address Changes:

Richard C. Evans-Box 1294-N. Wales, PA 19454

Bill Heusmann-Iowa Public Broadcasting Network-Box 1758-Des Moines, IA 50306

Renewals Due in March:

Jim Alexander, Douglass Allen, Ken Blair, Fred Born, Lynn Burke, Thomas Cornell, Emile Courcy, Richard Culin, David Curvin, Clinton Day, Wayne Fitzgerald, Bill Frahm, Ronald Green, Gerard Hart, Daryl Herzog, Guy Kroger, David Leibold, R.E. Lyons, Joe Markewicz, Pat Martin, Henry McCoy, Peter McGorty, George McKay, Greg Monti, Fred Nordquist, Guy Ogden, Jim Pizzi, Les Price, Theodore Quiroz, Mike Reid, John Robertson, Bob Seybold, James Shepherd, Takashi Shimamura, Craig Simons, Joseph Smith, Richard Steinberger, Peter Taylor, Steve West, Michael Worst, Neil Zank.

New member WILLIAM WURTZEL is a freelance writer who's also into BCB and shortwave DX. He belongs to NRC, IRCA, NNRC, ECDA, BDXC, and NASWA. DX gear includes a Realistic Patrolman CB-8 and a GE Monitor 10. More from William in Tidbits.

Tidbits.....

Dave Walcutt (2828 Rogerdale, #108, Houston, TX 77042) has such a deal for us: "If anybody can use a copy of the latest Belden wire catalogue, which gives specifications on the different types of coaxial cable available, I can have one sent, free for the asking, since I work at an electronics distributor that stocks Belden wire. If anybody can use this, they could send me their name and address."

As you can see above, Bill Heusmann has a new address, and congratulations are in order! Bill has just landed his "dream job" as traffic manager for the Iowa Public Broadcasting Network. He previously worked at KDMI Des Moines and KANY Ankeny IA. Way to go, Bill!

It's good to have Mike Mitock back in the fold, and he's happy too: "Heaven forbid! Didn't mean to let my membership lapse - but I guess I did! I've really missed the VUD, believe me! Promise not to lapse again!"

Time limitations hamper us all, and such is the case with Dave Garvey (Box 1055, Kalamazoo, MI 49005): "There never seems to be enough time for everything. I finally got around to reading the journals the last two issues and started logging TV on 10/14/78. I've logged 40 stations, all Tr, longest is 300 miles. Not too impressive compared to reports in the journal, but it's made me very pleased. Received verifications from 21 so far. I don't imagine I'll be able to get all continents on TV (I did it on BCB 10 years ago), but my goal for now is simply to get a couple hundred veries. I'll work on quality later."

A few words now from Pierre Daigle (1017 du Long-Sault, Ste. Foy, PQ G1W 3Z8): "This summer (1978) was the worst period of DXing I ever encountered, with practically no Es, very weak tropes, and too much static. Here in Quebec City long distance propagation is reduced to nothing at all from mid-September to early April. The only exception was six years ago, an excellent Es opening occurred at the end of November (I do not remember the date). At approximately 3 o'clock in the afternoon I turned on my receiver to seek for a new station, CKRL-FM 98.1 MHz. The pilot light glowed, but the pointer was in the 103 MHz region. It was a North Carolina station. I tripped the pointer across the dial and dozens of stations crowded over the entire FM band. Unbelievable!! This was my first Es opening and simultaneously, my thunderbolt with long distance FM DXing."

As promised, here's a few words of introduction from William Wurtzel: "I am presently in a few other radio clubs, the IRCA, NRC, Brooklyn DX Club, NASWA, NNRC and East Coast DX Alliance in New Jersey. I am a prolific writer of poetry and limericks which are DX related, and have had a number of items published in the two medium-wave club bulletins, DX News and DX Monitor. I would like to submit some limericks to your magazine, and hope you will be receptive to DX related humor. I am located in a strong signal area, two blocks from the Empire State Building in mid-town Manhattan, NYC. I (try to) DX on a number of radios which include the Realistic Patrolman CB-8, an eight-band set, the GE Monitor 10, a ten-band, and recently acquired a used Barlow-Wadley XCR-30 radio. I also have a Realistic CTR-44 AM-FM-TV bands cassette player. My previous location was in Passaic, New Jersey - about 15 miles away. Your club claims to be the friendliest, let me see! So far it is virtually impossible to make friends in any of the other clubs I have joined. My 5,000 LP record albums are my best friends, in my 24x30 foot loft. You may invite members to contact me, and my phone number is 212-594-4892. I enjoy trading records and books. That's about it. I'm a friendly guy and like to meet people, especially DX'ers."

Member Al Ellis (19 McClure Ave., Brantford, ON N3R 4L7) has had some good DX this winter: "Was fortunate enough to be able to tape O.R., the BBC 'One' program on 40.500 MHz on the 23rd of October and have a QSL card from them to prove it as well as the tape. This as you may know is method sending for QSLs is a bit of a bore and unless I can tape the station I am not sure I can say truthfully that I heard them. I have seen some of the weak claims mailed by SWLers and the possibility of their actually hearing the station is nebulous. So I tape and if the station is real DX they may get a sample copy and as a rule are very enthusiastic to its receipt. I gather from the letter and the card a number did hear the BBC Channel One, as the letter was a discourse on what Es could do. It lasted for two hours and consisted of all things kids programs most of U.S. make...one with a Brooklynese accent of all things. Now ain't that somethin'." Many thanks to Al for his kindness in repaying the club for resending a recent VUD. Because of a postal strike in his country, many VUDs were returned to HQ.

Ever seen New Zealand TV? Greg Agnew (35 Tidal Road, Mangere East, Auckland, New Zealand) tells us what it's like: "In New Zealand, like America, we have networks. But unlike ABC, NBC, CBS & PBS, our networks are owned by the Broadcasting Corporation of New Zealand (a statutory public body). The 2 networks are known as Television One and Television Two (South Pacific Television). New Zealand television operates on VHF channels 1 through 9 with the PAL system of colour and sound transmitted by FM. The test patterns used are the 'Philips PM5544' and 'BREMA Test Card F', both with full ID for both channels. In between every programme on South Pacific Television (TV2) the Eye logo has a revolving red centre about a vertical axis and voice over with details of the next programmes. The hours of TV1 daily are 2400 through to 1100 GMT (1200 through to 2300 NZST), and on TV2 0300 through to 1100 or 1200 GMT (1500 through to 2300 or 2400 NZST). TV1 received a reception report this year from Mexico. Programming on New Zealand TV is quite mixed. NZ is the biggest market for British productions and these are mixed with all the top American programmes (apart from those made by Paramount and Universal, due to a repeat (rerun) price dispute), and many of our own productions. Major productions you may have seen in the U.S. are the "Pacific Song Contest" (TV1) and "Hunters' Gold" (TV2)."

Perhaps some of you Ontario folks can be of help to David Pristupa (3437 Ortona St., Saskatoon, SK S7M 3R9): "Wanted: Toronto radio station stickers, playlists, brochures, etc., from the past. Especially wanted are playlists from CFTR (CHFT), CKFH, CHUM, CFRB & CKFM from early 70's. Also needed are tapes of station's music program portions from summer '70 to summer '72. Will trade."

This in from ANARC '79 publicity chairman Tom Gavarras: "The 1979 Association of North American Radio Clubs (ANARC) Superconvention will be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota, on June 22-24. A full, all-wave agenda is being scheduled and participation is expected from manufacturers and international broadcasters. A more detailed list of convention activities will be released soon. For more information, send a large SASE to Association of North American Radio Clubs, 1979 Convention Committee, 3320 Grand Ave. South #305, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55408." Hope to see many of you at our club convention in Baltimore. IRCA's convention this year will be in Peoria and NRC's will be in St. Louis. See y'all next month...73....jz



SOUTH PACIFIC TELEVISION

WTFDA newswire...

Morrie S. Goldman, WA9RAQ
5815 N. Christiana Ave.
Chicago, IL 60659

FCC UHF PROBE BUILDS... The FCC has recently begun additional inquiries into UHF television engineering with plans to examine virtually all aspects of receiver and transmission technology. The goal of the Commission is improved UHF-TV performance; to increase the number of available channel allocations. In addition to studying ways to improve receiver performance, the Commission will explore such wide reaching topics as circular polarization, higher transmitter power and higher antennas, low-noise UHF preamps, better receiving antennas, teletext decoders and even stereo TV sound. We'll be watching for any actual developments.

CHEAP FM SELECTIVITY... The January issue of Audio features an interesting article entitled "Rimo FM Tuner Filters," by Richard Modafferri. Modafferri, who designed the McIntosh MR-78 and the i-f filter it uses, forecasts that the cost of high selectivity will soon come down. "When surface-wave integratable filters become available in the near future, anyone [manufacturer] will be able to market an inexpensive FM receiver with any amount of selectivity. Plastic portable radios with 100dB adjacent-channel selectivity [not alternate channel!] should cost no more than present-day sets." That figure would top even the expensive tuners of present day.

VCR UPDATE... The latest hot rumor is that a totally new generation of home video cassette recorders is already in the prototype stage. The new recorders will use 1/4" tape instead of the 1/2" types now used for Beta and VHS. All of this will be made possible by the use of the 3M developed metal particulate (not oxide) tape that has already invaded the audio cassette world. The newer machines will be smaller and lower priced than current VCRs. Sony has been very quiet lately and some sources say that Sony will be first to intro this new concept. Record/play times should be a minimum of four hours per cassette and stereo audio capability will be available. Best guesses lean toward an announcement in mid to late '79, though early '80 is also a possibility. Price in US may be under \$800... Meanwhile, the long awaited Sony Betamax cassette changer is said to now be in limited national distribution, aimed at owners of the early SL-7200... JVC expects to deliver a 3 hour VHS tape in spring '79. That tape should give two-speed VHS machines a 6 hour maximum play time.

CATJ INDEX COVERS 52 ISSUES... CATJ magazine, the most technical of the CATV pubs has printed a complete index of all articles to date. CATJ is offering a reprint service, with many articles relevant to TV & FM-DXing. For a copy, send \$1 to CATJ Librarian, Suite 106, 4209 NW 23rd, Oklahoma City, OK 73107. A one-year subscription to CATJ is \$10 to WTFDAers in the US. By the way, CATJ promises future construction articles (with kits) on a 2.15GHz "simplicity down converter" for MDS and modules to build a satellite receiving station.

NEW SCA SYSTEM FROM McMARTIN... WTFDAer Neil Zank sends us an article from the Omaha World-Herald on McMartin Industries. The article quotes company president Ray McMartin as saying McMartin manufactures 80% of the SCA receivers in the world. According to the article, the company has now discovered a method to split SCA into two separate channels. It was suggested that one channel could be used for Muzak while the second could be used for computer data.

BITS... Bearcat is offering another scanner rebate program. This one runs from February 1 to March 31, 1979 and covers both the Bearcat 210 and 250. The rebate on these units is \$20. Details from your dealer... The February issue of Ham Radio Horizons features part I of an article entitled "A Guide to VHF Propagation." The article is intended for hams, but also relates to other VHF-UHF signals... Hamtronics Inc. is offering a free 40-page catalog of products including VHF/UHF converters and preamps. Hamtronics, 182 Belmont Rd., Rochester, NY 14612... The January 19th issue of HR Report detailed December's mean sunspot level at about 120, the third over-100 month for cycle 21. The publication says the rise is not scheduled to peak until 1980... The Panasonic PF-1115 reviewed in last month's VUD by Mike Hogan is available at a discount price, \$69.95 (+\$1.05 shipping), from Long's Electronics (1-800-633-6461).

SEND YOUR NEWS... Next time you spot an article in your local paper of interest to WTFDAers, send it along to this editor. WTFDA Newswire will return in April.

73, Morrie

INTERNATIONAL NOTES from

Ken Simon
528 Pilgrim
West Palm Beach, FL 33405

With reports of continued reception of the BBC1 (ch E1) and TF1 (ch F2) in the east since mid OCT '78, let us not forget the possibility of TP (Trans-Pacific) openings.

The audio portion of New Zealand ch 1 is 50.75 MHz and the audio portion of Australia ch Ø is 51.75 MHz. This makes the following stations TP possibilities for West Coasters:

| | | | |
|------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|---------|
| NEW ZEALAND ch 1 | Wellington | Television One* | 100 kw |
| AUSTRALIA ch Ø | Waga Waga, New South Wales | A.B.C.* "ABMN" | 100 kw |
| | Nunawading, Victoria | ** "ATVØ" | 100 kw |
| | Brisbane, Queensland | ** "TVQØ" | 100 kw |
| U.S. ch 2 | Pago Pago, Samoa | * | 40 kw |
| | Honolulu, Hawaii | ** KHON | 60 kw |
| | Fairbanks, Alaska | ** K FAR | 5.3 kw |
| | Anchorage, Alaska | ** KENI | 28.7 kw |

*-GOVERNMENT, **-COMMERCIAL, A.B.C.-Australian Broadcasting Commission

--**-*--*-*

Randy Clark continues to pick up BBC1 and TF1. Here in West Palm, I've had six loggings on NOV 4, 5, 19 1978. All were made about 1600 GMT using a Lafayette HA520 receiver and US type log periodic TV antenna fed by RG59U coax. I expect to have my up converter back soon thanks to Glenn Jacobs. On the BBC, no regional IDs were logged by me.

Glenn has noted the regular ID, the Northern Ireland service and the Welsh service. The Scottish service still eludes him. It appears a small portion of the programming day is given over to regional programs. Glenn has also logged the video of BBC1 on 45.00 MHz and it sounds like a hum. No visual loggings yet, but...

Via R. Nederlands DX program (you remember short wave?) we learned that WUOT FM's Glenn Hauser (Knoxville, TN) has logged the BBC1 too.

In DEC '78 QST, BBC1 and TF1 were reported on OCT 15 by WB2VWW for several days. KH6HI reported MUFs to East Coast of 47 to 48 MHz between 2000 and 2200 GMT...

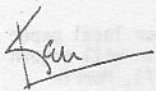
It appears that BAHAMAS ZNS-TV is on the air according to newspapers received here. I haven't received ch 13 yet though. Also, has anyone logged any South American stations other than Radio Caracas TV on ch 2 and 3 in Venezuela recently? Tes to the south are predicted for early '79. Also the MUF for TAs (Transatlantics) is EXPECTED to reach 66 MHz!!! This may make Eastern Bloc FMs DXable! Just remember, this year won't be the peak...the spots are still going up. A top count of 225 is predicted for this cycle compared to a top of 200 in 1958!

New TELEGUIAS from Mexico do not list anything except the Mexico City stations. I have just received a TV listing for NOV from New Zealand if anyone is interested.

NEXT column I will list BOLIVIAN TV stations and update Dominican Republic. CONGRATULATIONS to BILL THOMPSON for the new EDITORSHIP and KUDOS to FRANK ADEN for a hell of a job.

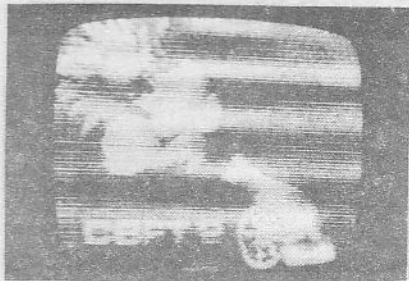
KEEP THOSE LETTERS, CARDS and reports coming. I can be reached after 5 pm EST at 305-585-7415 (no collect calls please!).

73s KEN SIMON



February, 1979

Guidelines for reporting: When sending photos for use in this column, please include as much of the following information as possible: 1) Call letters and location of the station photographed; 2) Location of reception and distance from the station; 3) Mode of propagation by which the station was received; 4) Date (and, if possible, time) of reception. If a photo of equipment is sent, include details of the equipment shown. Color photos are acceptable only in special cases. If you have something highly unusual, but it is a color print, send it to your editor and we'll see if a way can be found to use it.



CBFT- 2 Montreal, PQ
E-skip (Simon)



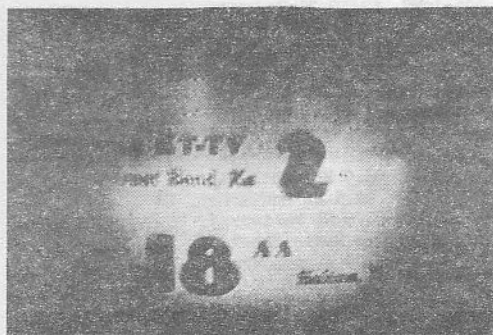
KIII- 3 Corpus Christi, TX
E-skip (Combs)



WICD-15 Champaign, IL
300 mile tropo (Gaines)



KFVS-12 Cape Girardeau, MO
475 mile tropo (Gaines)



KCKT- 2 Great Bend, KS
E-skip (Pizzi)

Contributors:

Ken Simon, West Palm Beach FL

John F. Combs, Orlando FL

Paul Gaines, Detroit MI

Jim Pizzi, Orcutt CA

73 and good DX,

Jim

DEADLINE: March 9th

E-SKIP AND TR CONTINUE TO MAKE MODEST SHOWINGS

| | |
|---|--|
| Pat Dyer, 5315 Silvertip Dr., San Antonio, TX 78228 - Nov. 1, 1978 to Jan. 1, 1979 | |
| Equipment: Halliocrasters SX-62 with International Crystal SAX-1 preamplifier(s); Archer 6-element FM antenna at 20 ft. with rotor. | |
| 12-17 | CST used, new underlined, t-tentative. |
| 1615 WSCIt 89.3 SC Charleston, NPR 1120 | 12-30 |
| 1620 WPXIt 95.1 SC Charleston, soul | 1728 WLVE 94.9 WI Baraboo, wx, ad, ID 1085 |
| 1623 WWVZ 93.5 SC Summerville, (area ad) | 1730 WWRW 103.3 WI Wisconsin Rapids, "W-103" |
| 1635 f/outs | 1732 KLEE 97.7 IA Ottumwa, ID |
| 12-20 (tr) | 1737 WTMB 98.7 WI Tomah, area ads 1100 |
| 0013 KEBC 94.7 OK Oklahoma City, k, ID | 1750 very spotty |
| 12-30 | 1801 KSJRT 90.1 MN Collegeville 1135 |
| 1712 WPNET 89.3 WI Green Bay 1190 | 1938 KUSDt 89.7 SD Vermillion, jazz 920 |
| 1718 WDOR 93.9 WI Sturgeon Bay, ad 1225 | 1943 KLEot 92.5 SD Sioux Falls, EL 975 |
| ENOF 95.3 MN St. Paul, wx 1110 | WDAYt 93.7 ND Fargo 1200 |
| 1719 WDMI 99.7 MI Ironwood, ads, rk 1255 | MUF to 96.7 |
| 1722 WUPM 106.9 MI Ironwood, "Super U", ID | 2003 KESD 88.3 SD Brookings, ID, wx 1020 |
| 1724 KROC 106.9 MN Rochester, ID 1060 | 2009 KENJt 93.9 SD Rapid City, rk 1040 |
| | 2015 f/outs |

A rather skimpy winter Es showing, well in keeping with the poor summer levels on FM. Didn't try with the Geminids as main effort with the TV again. Trop conditions always do get up some and make it a mess. Dec. 20th trop very good on the TV but FM pretty well clobbered by in-state signals. 73, Pat.

Randall B. Clark, Rt. 5 Dutch Ridge, Parkersburg, WV 26101

There wasn't much FM DX except for the following: 12/17 1841-44 EST/92.9 KFYR Bismark, ND, QSLing! Tent: 2004-12/93.3 KSJM Jamestown, ND. This band opening caught me totally off guard!

FM DX is once again proving to be very lousy. I hope most of the east coast members are trying for BBC TV audio! CX has been rather fantastic for TV audio. Dec. 12th saw the MUF skyrocketing to 48.25 MHz with BBC1-B2 audio in!!!

Rick Sanford, 404 S. McNeill, Burnet, TX 78611 - Dec. 5, '78 to Jan. 4, '79 CST

This period had two tr openings, both of which were almost "good." 12/5-6 tr had weak signals (incl. the closer TX & LA stuff but at times WRBQ came in better than just about everything east of Houston, often in fairly good \$. Logging the new station & prop. modes was easier since the fringe area signals were below their usual levels for this type of opening. Judging from the ex at the various times I checked, one can safely assume that 12/19 had non-stop tr during the day. Unfortunately, the mid-day stuff was about as good as that heard during the evening. Most of these were weak but a few decent catches were heard.

We had a very severe ice storm over the New Year's Day weekend with the temp. here dipping down to 8 F on 1/2. If our present wx pattern continues much longer, tr may take a hiatus until March. All tr except 12/6 WYOR 105.1=MS, 12/17, 30=Es, KHLR=line of sight.

| | |
|---|--|
| 12/5 | 12/6 |
| 2007 XHJD 98.9 NL Monterrey, ID 365 | 0212 WPFM 107.9 FL Panama City, ID 765 |
| 2020 WRBQ 104.7 FL Tampa "Q-105-FM" 985 | promo for PFM free xmas party w/address; |
| w/bay area wx; in past 0200 erratically | a front thru a few hours later, so no chance |
| 2029 WAFB 98.1 LA Baton Rouge, ID 435 | for trop to redevelop. |
| 2050 WJMI 99.7 MS Jackson, promo 500 | 12/7 |
| 2128 WDBO 92.3 FL Orlando 1030 | 1028 XHJD 98.9 NL Monterrey 365 |
| ID, "Q-92," wx | 1037 XHSRO 92.5 NL Monterrey, ID |
| 2143 WYFM 94.1 FL Lakeland, ID 1005 | 1544 XHJD 98.9 NL Monterrey, "Q-99", heard |
| o/KQY | on fairly new Radio Shack #12-665 port. |
| 2327 KSLI 96.9 LA Alexandria, ID 355 | 2029 XHJD 98.9 NL Monterrey, obviously in |
| 2330 WKEL 105.3 LA Slidell, "X-105" 520 | all day. All of the 12/6 p.m. & 12/7 stuff |
| 12/6 | due to overrunning from the Gulf; near |
| 0001 XHSRO 92.5 NL Monterrey, ID 365 | freezing temp. here. |
| Monterrey now in strong \$ | 12/8 |
| 0051 WRLY 106.7 FL Leesburg 1005 | 1045 KHLB 107.1 TX Burnet, ID 2 |
| ads, "Y-106" All of the underlined | testing; heard doing so since 11/29; |
| heard prev. by Es. | Highland Lakes Broadcasters. |
| 0115 KCIL 107.1 LA Houma, ID 470 | 12/17 |
| 0116 KZZQ 94.3 LA Golden Meadow 500 | (weak Es; not much of a 23rd birthday pres.) |
| "Z-94", wx | 1620 WTOC 94.1 GA Savannah, ID |
| 0143 WYOR 105.1 FL Coral Gables, ID | cont. |
| (via long(10+ sec.), clean MS burst | |

12/17

1623 WTOG 97.7 GA Vidalia, ad
Atlanta Falcons post-game show
1630 WSCI 89.3 SC Charleston, ID

12/19

0900 WAFB 98.1 LA Baton Rouge, ID 435
0903 IHJD 98.9 NL Monterrey, plus eight
other stations; most in good §

1311 WJMI 99.7 MS Jackson, "JMI" 500

1322 WAFB 98.1 LA Baton Rouge, ID 435

1329 WEZB 97.1 LA New Orleans, wx 500

1336 WAGT 94.1 AL Carrollton, ID 630

1410 WLIN 95.5 MS Jackson, ID 500

1411 WXL 105.3 LA Slikell, ad 520

1419 WFMP 102.5 LA Baton Rouge, ID 435

1448 IHSRO 92.5 NL Monterrey, ID 365

tr to Monterrey finally weakening a little

1700 WRPM 107.9 MS Poplarville, ID 530

1759 WAJB 107.3 FL Pensacola, ID 665

1802 KQID 93.1 LA Alexandria 355

"93-QUID-FM"

1811 WPCS 89.3 FL Pensacola, ID 665

2035 WFMP 102.5 LA Baton Rouge, ID 435

2037 WEZB 97.1 LA New Orleans, ID 500

2100 KTBC 92.1 TX Macogdoches, ID 220

2105 WAFB 98.1 LA Baton Rouge, ad 435

2109 WCKW 92.3 LA Laplace, ad 480

2132 IHJD 98.9 NL Monterrey, not as

good as in afternoon

2139 WKMX 106.7 AL Enterprise 745

12/19

2217 WLIN 95.5 MS Jackson, ID 500

2218 WKIV 106.7 MS Vicksburg, ad 460

2316 WXL 105.3 LA Slikell, FSA 520

2334 WRBQ 104.7 FL Tampa 985

"Q105-FM" w/Becky Gordon"

2337 WNLZ 101.7 MS Collins 530

2337 WINK 101.5 LA Baton Rouge, ID 435

12/20

0750 WKIV 106.7 MS Vicksburg, ad 460

0754 WJMI 99.7 MS Jackson, wx 500

0800 WLIN 95.5 MS Jackson, nx

0822 KQID 93.1 LA Alexandria, nx 355

0826 KWLV 107.1 LA Many, ad 290

0832 WAFB 98.1 LA Baton Rouge, ad ID 435

0839 WKMX 106.7 AL Enterprise, "WKMX" 745

0852 WZZK 104.7 AL Birmingham, ad 705

0900 WBHM 90.3 AL Birmingham, ID 705

end of "Wake Up, Birmingham" w/cl nx

0919 WAGT 94.1 AL Carrollton, I had 630

to shut it down at 0924, hoping nothing

else would come in. A front came thru

shortly before noon, anyway.

12/22

1156 KHLB 107.1 TX Burnet, first min. on

air w/regular programming; §, M nx,

12/20 (Rs)

1733 WDOR 93.9 WI Sturgeon Bay

1736 WSPT 97.9 WI Stevens Point

1739 KOEL 92.3 IA Oelwein, wx, ID

Vernon Eaton, Rt. 1, Benton AR 72015 - Nov. 20, '78 to Dec. 31, '78

Equipment: Sony ST5130, Hor. stacked CM Stereo Probe antennas w/CD44 rotor, @ 55' original catches underlined; 359 stations logged including 13 new catches. "ID" means that an actual ID was heard, city mentioned or another definite clue!

Not much happening down here, mostly average. On Dec. 19th we had a strong record breaking warm spell out of the SW. I found some good tropo openings from Alabama to N. central Mexico. I got an ID in Laredo, TX (700 mi.) & Monterrey Mexico (980 mi.). I couldn't develop any more catches south of the border. It was a good tropo opening but not as strong as some of great midwest & northeast tropo.

I have stations logged on 98 freqs. The only ones not logged are 88.1 & 98.3. I caught KIAZ (98.5) off the air about six hours one night & two hours the next day. It is a splatting type of 100,000 watt completely dominating 98.3 (3,000 watts or less). I was sure I would get my 99th. Both times the reception was so rotten, I couldn't get anything except a new catch at 98.5.

11/20

2002 WZZQ 102.9 MS Jackson, ID § 220

2015 WBWB 88.9 TN Chattanooga 450

2035 WVTK 107.7 TN Knoxville, ID 550

11/24

0210 KWIS 107.7 TX Beaumont, ID 360

0213 WGLT 107.3 AL Florence, ID 310

1100 KTER 93.3 OK Ada, ID 230

1828 KYKR 93.3 TX Port Arthur, ID 350

1832 WTOG 93.3 KY Paducah, ID 300

1835 WCKR 93.3 MS Houston, ID 250

11/25

0405 KWGL 96.9 KS Pittsburg, ID 250

0407 KLUT 105.1 TX Lufkin 275

12/2

0125 KWIC 107.7 TX Beaumont, ID 350

0130 KOBS 104.5 TX Orange, ID 340

0135 KPLX 99.5 TX Ft. Worth, § 285

0145 KNOK 107.5 TX Ft. Worth, ID

0150 WWL 101.9 LA New Orleans, ID 400

12/3

1055 WZZQ 102.9 MS Jackson, ID 250

1105 KAJN 102.9 LA Crowley, ID 300

12/6

0754 KNUE 101.5 TX Tyler, ID

2017 WKYQ 93.3 KY Paducah, "ID"

2128 KCRV 103.1 MO Caruthersville, ID

2135 WKTA 106.9 TN McKensie, ID 280

12/6

2140 WGLT 107.3 AL Florence, ID 310

12/8

0825 KEAT 95.7 OK Ardmore, ID 300

0835 KIKK 95.7 TX Houston, ID 380

0845 WBYU 95.7 LA New Orleans 400

1522 WJFR 96.3 MS Jackson 250

1720 KUMR 88.5 MO Rolla, ID 250

1730 KETR 88.9 TX Commerce, ID 200

1750 EPFT 90.1 TX Houston 380

1808 KWMU 90.7 MO St. Louis, ID 330

1835 KOBC 90.7 MO Joplin 200

1847 KVIT 91.7 TX Dallas 275

1849 KOSU 94.7 OK Stillwater 280

1900 KDQH 92.7 AR DeQueen, ID, new 120

1927 KYKR 93.3 TX Port Arthur 350

1940 WCPG 93.3 TX Houston 250

2010 WJFR 96.3 MS Jackson 250

2013 KADI 96.3 MO St. Louis 330

2015 KSCS 96.3 TX Ft. Worth 285

2025 ESLI 96.9 LA Alexandria 250

12/19

0855 WFJZ 97.1 TX Ft. Worth, ID 285

0908 KZSW 97.9 TX Dallas, ID 275

0910 KAYD 97.9 TX Beaumont, ID 340

0932 KUHF 88.7 TX Houston, ID 380

12/19

1025 KPFT 90.1 TX Houston 380

12/19

| | | |
|-----------|---------------------------|-----|
| 1030 KVTI | 91.7 TX Dallas | 275 |
| 1103 KSCS | 96.3 TX Ft. Worth | 285 |
| 1113 KBID | 92.9 TX Wichita Falls, ID | 375 |
| 1116 KLUR | 99.9 TX Wichita Falls, ID | 375 |
| 1130 KPLX | 99.5 TX Ft. Worth, ID | 285 |
| 1140 WKTV | 106.7 MS Vicksburg | 200 |
| 1143 WATA | 106.9 MS McKensie, ID | 275 |
| 1147 WRO | 106.9 TX Conroe, ID | 360 |
| 1212 KSUC | 88.3 TX Keene | 280 |
| 1219 KETR | 88.9 TX Commerce, ID | 200 |
| 1225 WMBW | 88.9 TN Chattanooga | 450 |
| 1313 WDTN | 89.7 TN Chattanooga | |
| 1427 WKMS | 91.3 KY Murray | 275 |
| 1430 KNCI | 91.3 TX Killeen, "ID" | 410 |
| 1510 KALM | 92.5 TX Dallas, "ID" | 275 |
| 1818 WKYQ | 93.3 KY Paducah | 300 |
| 1930 WKXI | 94.7 MS Jackson | 250 |

(NOTE: Most 200-250 mi. class B/C loggings were omitted from this report since I feel they don't constitute true dx considering the unusually fine equipment used. Any comments, readers? -DB)

12/19

| | | |
|-----------|-------------------------------|-----|
| 1940 KOYE | 94.9 TX Laredo, ID, \$ | 700 |
| 2010 KHME | 104.5 MX Monterrey, ID, \$ | 900 |
| 2057 KMJQ | 102.1 TX Clear Lake | 380 |
| 2228 KFMB | 101.9 OK Oklahoma City, ID | 310 |
| 2238 WQLT | 107.3 AL Florence, ID | 310 |
| 2250 KOAX | 105.3 TX Dallas | 275 |
| 2300 WKIR | 104.1 TN Jackson, ID | 220 |
| 12/20 | | |
| 0812 KSNS | 96.1 LA Lake Charles, ID | 320 |
| 1603 WBJO | 98.5 MS Tupelo | 250 |
| 12/31 | | |
| 0340 KJCS | 103.3 TX Macogdeches, ID | 240 |
| 0354 KWIC | 107.7 TX Beaumont, ID | 350 |
| 1355 KAKI | 107.1 AR Benton, new, 1st day | 6 |
| 1805 KOPC | 103.9 AR Pocahtontas, ID | 175 |
| 1830 WKYQ | 93.3 KY Paducah, "ID" | 300 |
| 1850 KJEE | 95.5 MO Poplar Bluff, ID | 200 |

Deany Buntin, 1020 S. Duncan, Stillwater, OK 74074

Greetings from the heart of the Sunbelt...er, or is it the Snowbelt now? Winty weather has established a firm grip here, closely following last year's record breaking weather pattern, only this time it set in two weeks earlier than last year. Snow has covered the ground since New Year's Eve. It's all so unreal to think we have another bad winter on our hands while memories of last year's terrible winter are still fresh. Naturally DX here has gone into hibernation.

Last DX received here was on Nov. 24. It was a new to the air station from Parsons, MS, KLEC, 93.5, received at 2100. A new station in my area is ERMH ("Creek"), Bristow, OK, 104.9. "Creek" is the name of the county where the station is located. ERMH plays country music. Their signal is pretty good and steady for a class C station around 40 miles away. Probably a good target for you ES, MO, AR DXers. Until next month, 73.

CONVENTION '79

Make plans now to attend the 1979 WTFDA Convention August 3-5 in Baltimore! The big event will be held at Meushaw's Motor Inn, Security Boulevard and Baltimore Beltway. Tentative room rate for conventiongoers is \$22 per night for two in a room. Other room rates are still being negotiated. The total registration fee will be around the \$17 mark.

Hosts Don Blevins and Tom Yingling have several activities tentatively planned, including a tour of WMAR-TV, a Baltimore Fire Department communications lecture, a Baltimore County Fire Department public relations lecture, and a Baltimore Police Department lecture. If you'd be willing to give a lecture on any DX-related topic, please contact Don or Tom.

Baltimore is easily accessible. Interstate highways lead into the city from several directions. Most major airlines have service into Baltimore-Washington International Airport, and Greyhound, Trailways and Amtrack service are also available.

Further convention details will be forthcoming as we draw closer to the big event.

EASTERN TV-DX

Bill Thompson
1907 Seneca Street
Buffalo, NY 14210

February 1979

Deadline: 5th

Once again, a very harsh winter has kept TV DX to a minimum in much of the eastern part of North America. In addition to the severe blizzard conditions that have crippled many areas of the Midwest, there have been antenna-bending ice storms and high winds in numerous places, as well as torrential rains. Obviously, not many opportunities for good tropo conditions have come about!

No reports of midwinter E-skip activity have come in yet, but there have been a few scattered openings, so perhaps we'll see some evidence of a peak in next month's column.

Roy Barstow 70 Heritage Circle Testicket, Massachusetts 02536

"My improved 7' dish with the screening attached fell off the tower at 35' and was damaged beyond repair. The bottom of the GME rotor housing broke. This is the second GME rotor that has broken off and needless to say, I will not put the same rotor on my TRI-EK tower again. This spring or summer I will buy another 7' dish and also put screening on it and try another rotor. For the two months (October-November) I had it operating it did a great job, especially on the higher channels as you can see from my last 2 reports. To show its effectiveness I checked on 3 stations over a period from November 14 '78 to Decem'r 9. In this time slot I checked for WPTX-33 Burlington VT, 240 miles north; station #2 was WHEE-17 Schenectady NY, 190 miles west of me; station #3 being WKBS-48 Philadelphia PA, 253 miles S.W. of my home. On the 21 days that I checked for these 3 stations they were in every day and night, rain or shine, with the exception of 1 day (Nov. 25), in which I could not raise WKBS-48 PA up out of the mud, although WJMN-50 Montclair NJ at 200 miles was in that day. See you next spring."

| October | | November | | December | |
|------------|--|---|---|--|--|
| 25 Tr 1900 | Philly U's WAFB-22 MD WBEZ-22 VT WVTE-33 VT WVTA-41 VT WHEE-16 PA WHEE-28 PA WDAU-22 PA WVTP-33 PA WLNH-15 PA to WHP-21 PA WVIA-44 PA WHEO-15 VA WVPT-51 VA Staunton 505 W41AB-41 VA (WVPT-51 xltr) "CGI from NJ" | 29 Tr 0830 WHEB-31 MD Bagerstown 0845 WVIR-29 VA "This was a very good night and morning..." 31 2000 "NJ UNF HTS & N.Y.C. WFPs to & semi-locals in solid, but 2200 nothing else" | 3 Tr 2330 W14AA-14 VA Arlington (WVPT-53 xltr) 4 0010 WHEB-28 PA 0030 WTP-33 PA WHEE-43 PA 0100 WHEE-49 PA 6 0900 WHEE-15 VA WBOC-16 MD WFOA-20 DC to WAFB-22 MD WETA-26 DC WHEE-26 MD WHEE-27 VA 1100 WFPB-28 MD 2100 WFOA-23 VA 2200 WQVE-57 VA 2330 WHEE-66 VA 7 0030 WJPR-33 SC 8 1600 WHEE-22 VT WHEE-33 VT 17 1000 WHEE-52 NH to WHEE-15 NH 1030 WVTA-41 VT 29 GE --- WQTV-68 MA Boston 30 --- WQTV-68 MA "on testing both evenings" | 3 Tr 1815 W71AG-71 CT New Haven (WHEE-24 xltr) 1830 W59AA-59 CT (WHEE-30 xltr) W60AI-60 NY (WTVG-68 xltr) to W64AA-64 NY (WHEE-5 xltr) W61AG-61 CT (WHEE-49 xltr) 1900 W62AA-62 NJ (WELJU-47 xltr) 1930 WETA-26 DC WHEO-15 VA WBOC-16 MD to WAFB-22 MD WCEB-22 MD WHEE-45 MD WHEE-67 MD 2200 WHEE-69 PA 2230 WTKL-66 VA Manassas 2300 WTVT-53 VA | 4 Tr 1600 WAFB-22 MD WVIR-29 VA "Weird ex; WVIR in fair to good for 1 hour & gone..." 5 1915 CIVN-17 QB? T |

Rob Grant 5775 Bishop Detroit, Michigan 48224

| August 1978 | | September 1978 | | October 1978 | |
|-------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| 21 Tr 0600 | WHEE-28 PA 375 | 23 Tr 0320 | WHIO-7 OH 195 | 25 Tr 0220 | WRAJ-10 PA 270 |
| 23 0245 | WCPO-9 OH 240 | 25 0115 | WHDU-16 IN 170 | Also logged: CFTO-9 OH, | |
| | | 0210 | WHMB-46 IN 170 | WSTV-9 OH, WGR-2 NY | |

| | | | | | |
|---|--------------------|-------|------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Jeff Wolf 1131 University Blvd. W. Apt. 701 Silver Spring, Maryland 20902 | | | | | |
| Time 1978 | | | 0141 | WNCT-9 NC? | T 20 Tr 0813 WTVG-68 NJ |
| 0 Tr 0032 | W44AA-44 WV | 15 Tr | 0242 | WITN-7 NC | Newark 192 |
| | Martinsburg 60 | 18 Es | 1045 | unID-3 | "Most stations in |
| | (WVVU-24 xltr) | | 1047 | WTHS-2 FL 900 | till 1000. WJPM-33 |
| 0110 | unID-27 | Tr | 2316 | WNJT-52 NJ? T | and WRLK-35? in and |
| Es 0230 | KTEW-2 OK 1000 | | 2327 | WNJS-23 NJ? T | out till 0938. Best |
| | "local off" | 19 | 0203 | unID-27 CGI | tropo opening I've |
| 1041 | WTHS-2 FL 900 | | 0235 | WCTI-12 NC | seen." |
| 1042 | "Cuba-2? CGI" | | 0238 | unID-11 | 2213 unID-11 CBS |
| 1116 | MUF ch 4 | | 0517 | unID-7 3/4 CB | 2327 unID-58 |
| 1130 | WRDU-3 FL? T | | 0522 | unID-12 | 2340 unID-68 |
| 1200 | KFDX-3 TX 1183 | | 0526 | WNCT-9 NC | 0011 unID-27 |
| 1224 | MUF ch 5 | | | Greenville 243 | 0155 WVEC-13 VA |
| 1330 | WBRZ-2 LA | | | "local off" | 0200 WABC-7 NY |
| | "audio o/WMAR" | | 0541 | unID-11 CBS TP | 0230 unID-67 3/4 CB |
| | MUF ch 5 | 20 | 0001 | WNJS-23 NJ | 0241 WTVN-11 NC |
| 1434 | KBTX-3 TX 1245 | | | "strong" | WPIX-11 NY 200 |
| 1500 | KCKT-2 KS? T | | 0100 | WTAF-29 PA | 0321 WCBS-2 NY |
| 1600 | KCBS-3 LA 983 | | | "w/slight CGI" | 0334 unID-4 w/toner |
| 1730 | KMTV-3 NE 950 | | 0110 | WTVN-11 NC 235 | 0507 WNEW-5 NY 200 |
| 1850 | KTEW-2 OK? T | | 0206 | unID-9 | 0515 WNET-13 NY |
| 2255 | "Cuba-3? CGI" | | 0208 | CGI on WJEX-8 | 0517 unIDs on ch 7 |
| | | | | CGI on WWRN-12 | 0541 unID-12 |
| | | | 0220 | WPVI-6 PA | 0557 WTNH-8 CT |
| July | | | | Philadelphia | New Haven 261 |
| 1 Es 0011 | unID-2 CGI | | 0223 | unIDs on 11 | 0609 WRDU-28 NC |
| Tr 0130 | WGL-8 PA | 73 | 0227 | WOR-9 NY | 0611 unID-27 TP |
| | Lancaster | | | New York 200 | "under WTAH" |
| 3 Es 1527 | unID-2 CGI | | 0259 | WCBS-2 NY | 0700 unID-27 ABC |
| 4 1156 | unID-2 ABC | | 0325 | WPIX-11 NY | 0800 WNET-13 NY |
| 5 1945 | unID-2 CGI | | 0340 | WABC-7 NY | "audio o/WJZ" |
| 6 Tr 1010 | unID-3 | | 0450 | WNEW-5 NY | 22 Es 1738 unID-2 "Cuba?" |
| Es 1010 | unID-3 | | | New York 200 | 1740 MUF ch 5 |
| Tr 2300 | WNJS-23 NJ | | | "local off" | 1800 WPBT-2 FL |
| 8 0322 | WCBS-2 NY | | 0523 | WNET-13 NY | 1945 KATC-3 LA? T |
| 0612 | WABC-7 NY | | | New York 200 | 2000 WRDU-3 FL 846 |
| | New York 200 | | | "local off" | 23 Tr 0953 unIDs 36, 65 |
| | "local off" | | 0525 | WNCT-9 NC 243 | 1000 WTVN-11 NC |
| 2238 | unID-33 | | | WNET-13 NY | 1030 WRDU-28 NC? T |
| 2337 | W44AA-44 WV | | | "thru local" | 24 Es 1226 CGI chs 2, 4 |
| | "w/slight CGI" | | 0551 | CGI on WJEX-8 | 25 0929 KTEW-2 OK |
| 9 0004 | unIDs on 15 | | | WTVN-11 NC | 1030 KFDX-3 TX |
| 10 0948 | unIDs 33, 44 | | | "strong" | 26 1930 unID-3 PBS |
| 11 Es 1103 | unIDs 2,3 PBS | | 0631 | WRET-36 NC | "Cuba-3?" |
| | 1337 "Cuba-3" TP | | | Charlotte 324 | 1937 MUF ch 4 |
| | 2203 KDAL-3 MN 937 | | 0638 | unID-18 "WCCB?" | 2000 WRAR-3 FL |
| | 2233 MUF ch 4 | | 0703 | WRDU-28 NC | 2021 "Cuba-3" |
| 12 2330 | KDLO-3 SD | | 0711 | WJPM-33 SC | 27 Tr 0954 WCTI-12 NC? T |
| | 1245 unID-3 NBC | | | Florence 358 | 28 0946 unID-12 w/CGI |
| | 1710 MUF ch 4 | | 0725 | WTVN-11 NC | 1000 WSET-13 VA |
| 2000 | WRDU-3 FL 846 | | | "like a local" | "audio o/WJZ" |
| 13 Tr 0245 | WJKW-8 OH | | | WLVI-56 MA | 30 0400 WCTI-12 NC 269 |
| | Cleveland 294 | | | Boston 371 | 31 Es 1029 WPBT-2 FL |
| 15 0016 | unID-11 CGI | | 0757 | WRLK-35 SC? T | MUF ch 5 |
| 0120 | unID-9 CBS | | | | |
| | "local off" | | | | |

| | | | | | |
|---|-----------------|-----------|------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Donald B. Ruland 4448 68th Place Kenosha, Wisconsin 53142 (CST) | | | | | |
| October | | | 30 Tr 0650 | CHLFT-9 OH | 1 Tr 0500 |
| 30 Tr 0545 | Lexington U's | | | Sarnia 290 | 0500 WCPO-9 OH 300 |
| 0600 | WVIZ-25 OH 330 | | | CICOGS-18 ON 340 | 0515 WAKR-23 OH 340 |
| | WAKR-23 OH 360 | | | CICOGS-28 ON 400 | 0530 WKBN-27 OH 380 |
| 0630 | WJRT-24 PA 400 | November | | | 0530 WHIZ-18 OH 360 |
| | WSER-35 PA 400 | 1 Tr 0430 | | WTRF-7 WV 420 | 0645 WPGH-53 PA 430 |
| 0645 | WPBO-42 OH 370 | | | WLIC-11 PA 430 | 0645 WFMJ-21 OH 380 |
| | WDRB-41 KY 330 | | | WKRC-12 OH 300 | WTTV-33 OH 380 |
| 0650 | CHLFT-40 ON 340 | | | WBNS-10 OH 320 | WOSU-34 OH 320 |
| | CHLFT-76 ON 400 | | | KPLR-11 MO 300 | WPBO-42 OH 370 |

"Nothing noted since 11-1 as of 12-28. Hopefully some Winter E-skip will grace the tube in the next week or two. Log at 471 with 18 new for 1978. 13 of those came Sept. 4-7 so it would have been a disappointing year otherwise."

IN SEARCH OF POC

Donald L. Blevins
1715 Earhart Road
Baltimore, MD 21221
phone #301-574-2714

IN SEARCH OF TRENDS.....The vast spectrum of public service frequencies reflect a growing trend of change. Several factors influence an agency's desire for change. This can take place on any frequency, but it is foremost on lowband VHF. This can take place when E-skip propagation or F-2 propagation takes place, sometimes to the extent of preventing an agency's reception of its own mobile units, but more often occurs when mobile units cannot copy their other mobile counterparts.

The second most frequent type of propagation occurs on VHF-High Band. Because of tropospheric propagation, agencies on the same frequency often experience from each other. On such example is the frequency 156.21. This frequency is assigned to a number of agencies in Southern New Jersey (otherwise referred to as the South Jersey Net) Norfolk, Virginia, and formerly Anne Arundel County, Maryland. Anne Arundel County (located in Baltimore's Southside) is situated about mid-way between South Jersey and Norfolk. Summertime tropo opening, Anne Arundel often received unbearable interference from both agencies.

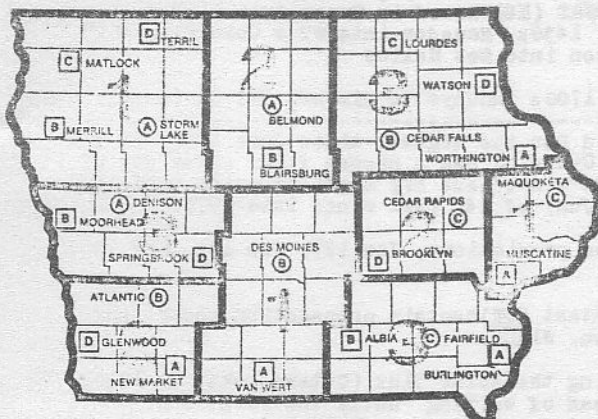
Another interesting affect with high-band VHF is cascading. This occurs when the input of a repeater is being fed by the output or base frequency of another. One example is in the case of Camden, NJ's Fire Department base on 153.77 mhz. feeding Howard County, MD's base, who's output is on 154.25. It takes a tropo opening for this affect to occur, but it does happen!

Anne Arundel County found a solution to the problem...change to UHF. A move to UHF generally means operating on standard inputs and outputs, eliminating the cascading from occurring.

This month's feature will take a look at one such agency that move from old frequencies on old band to VHF-High Band. This comes as a courtesy from Michael Scheel of Davenport, Iowa. THANKS MIKE.....

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION



LEGEND

- COMMUNICATIONS BASE STATION/REPEATER
- REMOTE REPEATER

DUPLEX FREQUENCIES

BASE TX/MOBILE RX MOBILE TX/BASE RX

| AREA ONE | | | |
|------------|---------|---------|--|
| 155.640 | DPS/DSE | 154.650 | |
| 155.700 | LEA | 154.770 | |
| AREA TWO | | | |
| 155.555 | DPS/DSE | 154.755 | |
| 155.685 | LEA | 154.890 | |
| AREA THREE | | | |
| 155.555 | DPS/DSE | 154.865 | |
| 155.700 | LEA | 154.900 | |

STATEWIDE SIMPLEX FREQUENCIES

MUTUAL AID
155.475
CAR TO CAR
155.430

STONE CODED SQUELCH ACCESS

STONE A 127.3 MZ
STONE B 148.2 MZ
STONE C 167.9 MZ
STONE D 188.8 MZ



VHF UTILITY DX

Pat Dyer
5315 Silvertip Drive
San Antonio, TX 78228
Deadline: 5th of month

FEBRUARY 1979

Randall B. Clark, Route 5 - Dutch Ridge, Parkersburg, WV 26101 GMT

ORTF (41.25 TV audio) France

| | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <u>12-1:</u> 1541-1545 | 4: 1810-1832 | 13: 1345-1625 |
| 1610-1626 | 1938-1948 | <u>16:</u> 1518-1545 |
| 4: 1508-1515 | 7: 1444-1536 | |
| 1744-1748 | <u>12:</u> 1448-1729 | |

BBC-1 (41.50 TV audio) England (* Divis, Northern Ireland)

| | | |
|-------------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| <u>11-27:</u> 1519-1538 | 6: 1505-1511 * | 9: 1600-1622 |
| <u>12-1:</u> 1520-1550 | 7: 1422-1507 | 10: 1557-1615 |
| 1707-1830* | 1530-1536 | <u>12:</u> 1435-1729 |
| 2: 1538-1755 | 1644-1740 | <u>13:</u> 1405-1510 |
| 4: 1425-1555 | 8: 1428-1435 | <u>14:</u> 1400-1710 |
| 5: 1630-1636 | 1453-1458 * | <u>16:</u> 1425-1615 |
| <u>6:</u> 1412-1438 | 1620-1636 | |

(48.25 TV audio) 12-12: 1530-1605 (note MUF fell from 48.25 thru 41.50 1722-1725 in some 4 minutes)

Radio France International (R.F.I.) 43.17 2nd harmonic sw broadcast

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| <u>12-6:</u> 1420-1725 | <u>12-14:</u> 1340-1630 (also possible R. Sweden harmonic 43.15-.19) |
| <u>12:</u> in most of time | |
| BBC-1 in | <u>16:</u> 1500-1615 |

Bob Billings, WB2RLK/VEL, RR 1, Bridgewater, NS, Canada B4V 2V9 TR-6 & 11-el beam for 6-m; GMT

12-12: 1813 WA7ECY (OR), 1815 K7KV (WA)
13: 1350-1445, video buzz to 52.5
15: 1350-1450, Colombia to 52.5 & backscatter W1,2,4
16: 1405, brief 50/ Colombia

Other 50-MHz news items - ZB2VHF on as of late Dec with new beacon (fsk) at 50.035; the old Gibraltar beacon (50.003) heard in the Canal Zone Dec 12,13,14,15 around 1315-1345z....Dec 23 good Japan to New Zealand opening ... Dec 30, 2335z, W9RT (KS) heard in Guam; Guam also with several days into Alaska ... Dec 16, 1430z, Ecuador into W2 & Colombia to W3 ... Dec 18, 2045z, Hawaiian beacon into New Mexico

weekly 10-m net (28.885) at 1700z Sundays to discuss VHF DX (mostly 6-m)

Solar flux peak of 237 in mid Dec the highest since June 1969. In fact, only about 6 days in all of Cycle 20 had a higher flux. (peak day of it was 262). Dec avg of 178 best since peak avg month of prior cycle (Jan 1968, 189). Smoothed value (Jun) of 141 best since late 1970.

Latest Swiss sunspot smoothed predictions, Jan 127, Feb 132, Mar 136, Apr 139.

W1AW phone bulletins (see latest QST) contain propagation report and outlook prepared by Ed Tilton, W1HDQ.

WVW has recently been updating the solar flux (Ottawa taken at 1700z) on the 1818z bulletin instead of waiting until the 0018z one.

Now, my loggings. Hallicrafters SX-62, Hammarlund SP-600-JX-10, Allied A-2586, Patrolman (c. 1967); two 30' long-wires at 12' with ne-sw & nw-se runs; all F2 unless noted (* Es) with daily peak MUF's; new underlined, GMT used (49.5+ MHz with Swan 250 + Ameco nuvistor pre-amplifier, 5-element horizontal Cushcraft Yagi at 23' with rotor)

12-6:
1742 KOP303 35.46 Langley, WA-mp
2005 37's US

12-7:
1614 KCA346 37.54 Ellsworth, ME-he
1635 39.70 Spanish
1640 low-38 Canada
1659 KDA381 33.90 Wilton, NH-f
1700 KCJ825 33.94 Bedminster, NJ-"
KCA410 33.90 Wareham, MA-"
KBH354 " Rockville Center, NY-f

1830 KOP303 35.46

12-8:
1555 35.78 Brazil ?
1800 35 US Pacific nw ?

12-9:
1620 36.8 Can ?, 1800 35's US

12-10:
1820 35's US

12-11:
1449 KEC515 35.58 Albany, NY-tp
1455 KCA346
1657 KEP954 33.86 Mahwah, NJ-f
1659 KCB526 33.70 Kennebunkport, ME-"
1701 KCI315 33.64 Beacon Falls, CT-"
1702 KCI224 33.86 Limerick, ME-"
KCG249 33.70 Southbury, CT-vf
2100 KSV810 33.08 Portland, OR-ho

12-12:
1530 - 35.58 Scranton, PA-vp
1534 - 35.22 Wilkes-Barre, " "
1535 ORTF 41.25 France (TV audio)
1550 BBC-1 41.50 England (" "
1600 US 39's, 1628 KOP303 35.46
1629 KRA860 35.22 NY, NY-tp
1634 KOA796 35.58 Portland, OR-tp
1652 tent 45-video buzz England
1831 KCC405 37.54 Bangor, ME-he
1934 KOK118 35.46 (west)-mp
1944 KUA288 35.22 Portland, OR-tp
2015 - 35.26 Seattle, WA-mp

12-13:
1641 KUA288, 1643 KOA796
1658 KCB404 33.82 Ashburnham, MA-f
KCB526
1659 KDC288 33.90 Hollis, NH-"
KGG249
1700 KCD497 33.64 Buzzards Bay, MA-"
KCD582 33.70 Harvard, " "
1701 KBZ283 33.90 Orford, NH-rf
1702 KCH954 33.70 N Brandford, CT-f
1706 KLB98 33.66 Redwood City, CA-sf
1750 hi-37 US, 2029 mid-38 Canada?

12-14:
1644 low-42 Spanish
1648 Scranton, 1845 hi-37 US

12-15:
1615 47.60, 48.60 backscatter ?
1709 KRA860
1900 KOB238 37.48 Seattle, WA-light
1912 KCI299 35.22 New Haven, CT-tp
1920 KUA288, 1932 KOK418
2043 KLF527 35.22 Honolulu, HI-tp
2049 KOP303 35.46

12-16:
1425 hi-46 Spanish
1631 KCI299, KRA860
1634 Scranton
1657 KCH209 33.9- Waterford, CT
1658 KCA639 33.90 W Wareham, MA
KDA383 " Milford, NH-"
1659 KDC288
1700 KKY999 33.80 Coeymans Hollow, NY-vf
KCA410 33.90 Wareham, MA-f
1702 KCD371 33.98 Raynham, " "
1915 hi-37 US, 2200 KOA796
2202 KUA288, 2205 KEC515
2224 KOP303 35.46

12-17:
1555 low-45 Spanish
1652 KES909 33.78 Verona, NJ-f
1654 KEH451 " Toms River, " -cf
2035 mid-37 US
2043 KIF651 35.58 Ft Lauderdale, FL-tp *

12-18:
1614 49.68, 1740 low-33 US
2218 KKY508 35.22 Orlando, FL-tp *

12-19:
1559 KCA695 33.78 Manchester, NH-f
1643 Scranton, 1645 Wilkes-Barre
1652 hi-41 Canada
1659 KRA323 37.18 New City, NY-op
KES591 " " -p
2000 KOP303 35.46

12-20:
1555 mid-hi 41 Spanish
1645 KCC482 35.22 Concord, NH-vp
1659 KDC288, KDA383; 1700 KCA410
1825 KOK418
1902 KCA305 37.54 Eddington, ME-u
1905 KCC405, 2121 KOA796
2324 KLF527

12-21:
1835 mid-37 US
1851 KOP303 35.46, 1853 KRA860
1902 KUA288, 2245 KLF527

12-22:
1530 mid-43 Spanish
1700 KCA410 33.92
1701 KCG964 33.76 Terryville, CT-f
1704 KCH954, 2143 KUA288

VHF UTILITY DX

FEBRUARY 1979

12-22:
2230 KLF527
12-23:
1445 US 30-32
12-24:
1715 US 30-32, low-33 Can
1955 35.22 Spanish
12-25:
1822 KEA860, 1834 KOA796
1840 KCI299, 1902 KUA288
12-26:
1643 mid-42 Spanish
1847 mid-38 Canada ?
1917 KLF527, 1923 KUA288
2036 KCF574 33.70 Mashpee, MA-f
12-27:
0132 KSC645 35.58 Chicago, IL-tp *
1632 KCB360 33.70 Leominster, MA-f
KCC825 " Kennebunk, ME- "
1643 KCF574, 1659 KDA383, KDA381
1700 KCB360 33.60, KCD497, KCD582
1702 KCL224, 1807 mid-37 US
1815 KOP303 35.46, 1823 KUA288
12-28:
1643 KBZ283
1853 KOP303 35.46, 1855 KOA796
2040 KEA860, 2102 low-41 Spanish
2105 hi-37 US
2110 " 35.6- NY, NY-mp
2126 KUA288
2135 KCE816 33.58 Southington, CT-f
2137 KCE721 33.70 Litchfield, " "
2139 KCC960 33.72 Bloomfield, " "
2144 KXV489 33.94 Granby, " "
2150 KCE670 33.86 Norwalk, " "
2153 KDY438 33.82 Port Reading, NJ- "
2157 KGC493 33.94 Simsbury, CT- "
2159 KDC288, KDA383, KCA695
2200 KCD384 33.94 Manchester, CT- "
2203 KCH954
2204 KCE587 33.98 Wayland, MA- "
12-29:
2015 KCA305, 2019 KCA346
20-- KCA585 33.90 Plymouth, MA-f
2150 hi-37 US
2201 KDP398 33.70 Dayton, NY- "
2202 KCP474 33.78 Tuckerton, NJ- "
2209 KOK418, KEA860, 2211 KCI299
2216 KOA796, 2219 KOP303 35.46
2226 KUA288, 2230 38.02 Russian
2244 KCF582 33.70 Thomaston, ME-f
2245 KCD497
2248 KCC921 33.90 Old Lyme, CT- "
12-30:
1730 Wilkes-Barre, KCA305
1735 low-40 Spanish, hi-37 US
1834 KLF527, 1843 KUA288
2002 KOA796
12-31:
1700 mid-37 US
1706 KRZ270 33.9- Fenton, NY-f
1846 KUA288
1-1:
1600 Wilkes-Barre, ORTF, BBC-1
1602 KEA860, Scranton
1605 US 39's, 1635 KEC515

1-1:
1712 KCI299, 1725 KUA288
1758 KCA305
1-2:
1605 BBC-1, 1615 ORTF
1631 KEC515, 1636 KEA860
1645 hi-37 US
1659 KGC524 33.78 Georgetown, DE-sf
KGD273 33.7- Forest Hill, MD-f
1755 KOP303 35.46, 1759 KDC288
1909 KUA288, 2305 KLF527
1-3:
1700 KBH354, 1704 KUA288
1800 KOP303 35.46, 1845 low-38 Can
1850 hi-37 US, 1933 KOB238
2052 KLF527
1-4:
1405 hi-45 Spanish, 1645 KEA860
1659 KCJ825
KEI744 33.94 Gladstone, NJ-f
1702 mid-39 US, 1722 KCA346
1733 KCA305, 1742 KCI299
1802 KCC405, 1809 KOP303 35.62
1810 KOP303 35.46, 1815 KOA796
1825 KUA288, 1910 KLF527
1942 KCC482
2228 KEM734 33.94 Canton, CT-f
2233 KCC284 33.90 Tolland, " "
2245 KCE537 33.70 Sterling, MA- "
2249 KCH469 33.54 Shutesbury, " "
2258 KCC785 33.70 Ogunquit, ME- "
KCD658 " Westminster, MA- "
2259 KCC997 " York Beach, ME-vf
KCD306 " York, " "
KCD244 " Falmouth, MA-f
2301 KCD511 " Camden, ME- "
KJE253 33.54 Gill, MA- "
2302 KVA379 33.84 W Albany, NY- "
2303 KCB360 33.60
2304 KCB844 33.70 Greenfield, MA- "
KCA633 33.90 Middleboro, " "
2307 KCC672 33.9- S Windsor, CT- "
2310 KCE816
KCD246 33.58 Yarmouth, MA- "
2314 KCG711 33.54 Hamden, CT- "
2315 KDC288
KDG722 33.66 Littleton, MA- "
1-5:
1635 mid-40 Can, 1645 KCI299
1646 KEA860
1657 KCA460 37.18 E Hartford, CT-p
1700 KEI744, 1701 KCI315, KCH954
1703 Scranton, KOP303 35.46
1715 mid-39 Mass, 1734 KCA305
2025 KUA288, 2028 KLF527

f-fire(c-county, r-regional, s-state,
v-volunteer), h-hydroelectric,
ho-hospital, mp-mobile phone,
p-police(c-sheriff), tp-tone pager,
vp-voice pager, u-utility

73. Pat WA5IYX

50 MHZ BEACONS

For those with receivers that can tune the 6-meter amateur radio band, we present a list of 50 MHz propagation beacons gathered from various sources:

| <u>FREQUENCY</u> (MHz) | <u>CALLSIGN</u> | <u>LOCATION</u> |
|------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| 50.003* | ZB2VHF | GIBRALTAR (British) |
| 50.018 | WA1EXN | Maine, U.S.A. |
| 50.023 | HH2PR | Port-au-Prince, HAITI |
| 50.025 (FSK) | 6Y5RC | Kingston, JAMAICA |
| 50.029 | ZS6PW | Pretoria, SOUTH AFRICA |
| 50.050 | VE6NAB | Alberta, CANADA |
| 50.055 | WA9FHF | South Elgin, Illinois |
| 50.080 | TI2NA | San Jose, COSTA RICA |
| 50.080 | W1AW | Newington, Connecticut |
| 50.085 | HL9WI | KOREA |
| 50.088 | VE1SIX | New Brunswick, CANADA |
| 50.095 | W7KWA | Phoenix, Arizona, U.S.A. |
| 50.100 | 3D3AA | FIJI |
| 50.100 | 5W1AR | SAMOA (Western) |
| 50.100 | ZK1AA | COOK ISLANDS (N.Z.) |
| 50.100 | K7JHZ | Apache Junction, Arizona |
| 50.100 | CH0TS | RASTER ISLAND |
| 50.101 | F08DR | TAHITI (French) |
| 50.101 | WA6MHZ | San Diego, California |
| 50.104 | FX3VHF | FRANCE |
| 50.104 | KH6BQI | Pearl Harbor, Hawaii |
| 50.110 | JD1YAA | Minami Torishima (Japan) |
| 50.110 | KG6JDX | GUAM (U.S.) |
| 50.500 | 5B4CY | CYPRUS |

* --recently reported on 50.035 MHz with new transmitter

Like navigation beacons, these propagation beacons are easily identified, as they automatically identify continuously! Most of these transmitters use unmodulated CW (A1) emissions, although at least one employs FSK (frequency shift keying), for which RTTY (teletype) gear is required.

Additionally, there are propagation beacons operating above 52 MHz in New Zealand and Australia, since 50 MHz is used for television broadcasting "down under"...we'll run a list of these in a future issue.

Keep in mind that these beacons are run for the most part by individual amateurs for propagation research, and may have erratic schedules. Some of the above beacons may have changed frequency by the time this appears in print, so listen for them by callsign, rather than relying primarily on frequency!

Amateur radio operators listen for these transmitters to determine if the band is "open", so whenever you hear one of these signals, you can expect the lower part of the 6-meter band to fill up with the SSB transmissions used by the many avid DX-chasers who frequent the area just above 50.1 MHz.

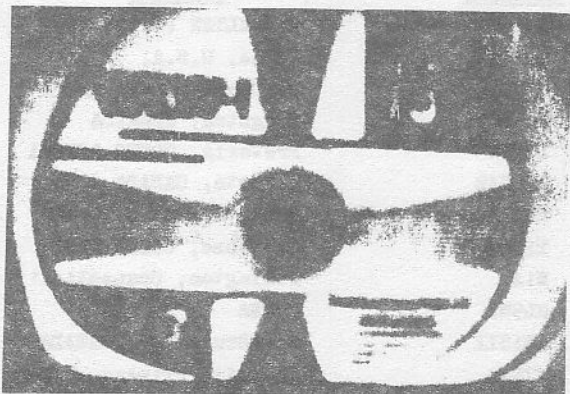
-KA2ABE

Memorabilia

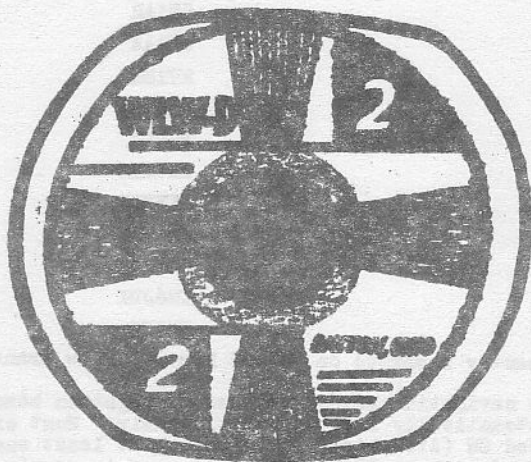
February 1979

Robert J. Williams
251 6th Avenue East
Twin Falls, Idaho 83301
Phone: 733-3621 (Area C, 208)
Deadline: 5th of month

This month, MEMORABILIA presents two more memorable test patterns of TV-DXing's past. Pictures submitted by Robert Kramer of Carbondale IL. Thanks very much, Bob!



WLW-I 13 Indianapolis IN
(now WTHR-13)



WLW-D 2
(now WDTN-2)

Dayton OH

Well, that's it for this month, guys. See y'all in 30. 73s, gud DX,

Bob

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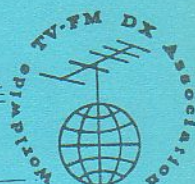
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