

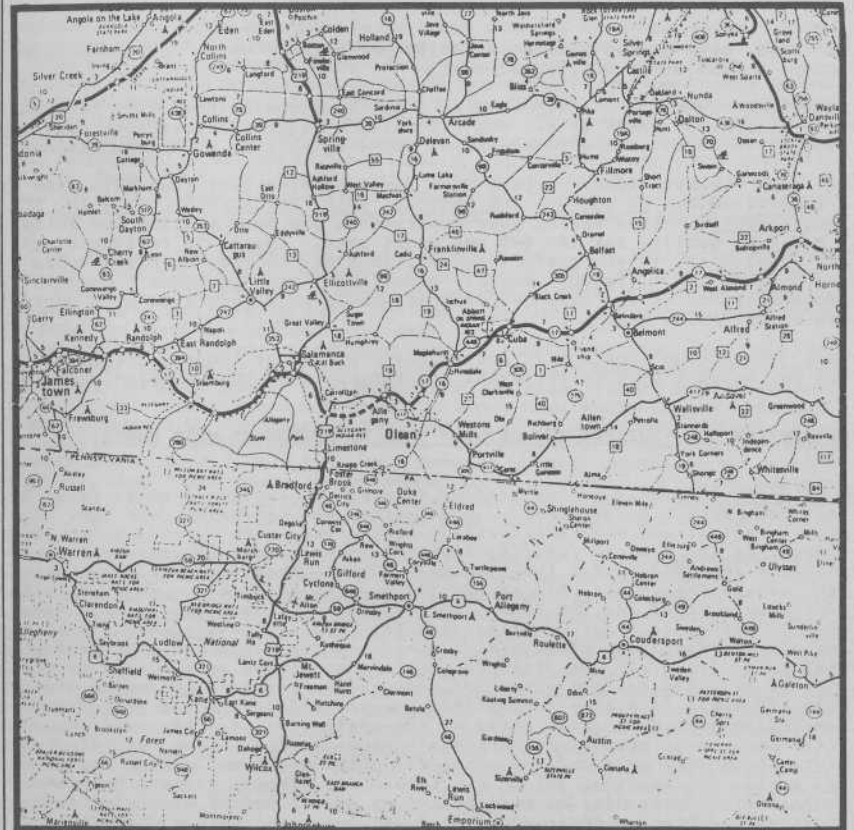
Vhf-Uhf DIGEST

The Official Publication of the Worldwide TV-FM DX Association

APRIL 1993

PIG 95.7 fm

COVERAGE AREA



3219 West State Road, Olean, New York 14760

Power FM: 43,000 Watts

Frequency: 95.7 Megahertz

Operating Schedule: 24 Hours



WORLDWIDE TV-FM DX ASSOCIATION
POST OFFICE BOX 514-BUFFALO, NY 14205-0514-U.S.A.

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11/93
WILLIAM N NOLLMAN
35 NYE ROAD
GLASTONBURY CT 06033

Nashville

1993

Your 1993 WTFDA Convention will be held July 23 through 25 at:

DAYS INN CENTRAL

211 North First Street

Nashville, Tennessee 37213

We have been quoted a rate of \$45.00 per night. Up to four persons may occupy a room at no additional cost.

Deadline: June 15. A block of at least 20 rooms at the \$45 rate has been guaranteed until 6/15. Any reservation requests after that date are subject to higher daily rates and/or non-availability of accommodations.

To make reservations: Call Days Inn Central's toll free WATS line at 1-800-251-3038. **DO NOT USE THE NATIONAL TOLL FREE NUMBER LISTED IN YOUR PHONE BOOK.** When making your reservation you must mention the letters "DX" to qualify for the \$45 per night rate. (Note: TN residents call 615-254-1551.) If you prefer, reservations may be made by mail; write to the address listed above. Questions or problems concerning accommodations at the Days Inn Central should be directed to our contact there, Ms. Diane Brooks.

Your convention hosts will not be responsible for lodging arrangements, but may be contacted in the event of problems with the Days Inn Central.

CONVENTION PRE-REGISTRATION DETAILS WILL BE ANNOUNCED NEXT MONTH.

COMMENTS: Initially we had planned to find a location away from the downtown area. Unfortunately, the sites we preferred did not have meeting rooms; and were subsequently ruled out. The location we have chosen is a 9 story facility that was opened about 20 years ago as the "KING OF THE ROAD" Motor Inn (and yes, former Nashville bellhop, singer and songwriter Roger Miller was the guy who built it). We will be the sole occupants of the 9th floor; originally a bar, now used as a 'party room'. There is a lot of glass, and the view of the skyline, the river, and almost everything else in a five mile radius is GREAT! The Days Inn Central folks told us that the maximum occupancy of the room is about 150, so we ought to have plenty of elbow room (actually it looked to us like 50 would be a nice comfortable group). Sliding doors lead from the convention room to a large patio on the north side of the building, and there is easy access to another large rooftop area on the south side...both will be excellent sites for antenna setups. There are a lot of small tables that will be ideal for viewing photo albums and dx memorabilia; larger tables will be set up for TV and FM receiving setups. RF from local transmitters should not be too much of a problem; the closest are about four miles to the west. (Actually, NO location would be ideal in this respect, as transmitters are located almost everywhere in the Metro area.) The Days Inn Central is two blocks from I-65, and about a mile from the center of the downtown area. On site facilities include an indoor pool and spa, exercise facilities, restaurant and bar. They do not provide airport transportation, but don't worry about that...if you fly in, your hosts will make arrangements to see that you get to the Convention Headquarters.

PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 27 →

IT'S ALMOST E-SKIP TIME:

A REVIEW OF THE MOST EXCITING TV/FM DX MODE

By Mike Hawk, NØOSY

With another E-skip season approaching, I hope that this article will be of some value for everyone - from the new members to the experienced ones.

Sporadic-E (E-skip) is probably the most exciting form of propagation that occurs on TV and FM. The reason for this is in its name - it is sporadic. Just when you think you have it figured out, it surprises you. Although E-skip wasn't abundant last year, there were many surprises. There was a lot of extremely short skip, there were a few openings after midnight, a little trans-Atlantic skip, and cases where the "clouds" of ionization moved in strange ways. Also, one may be surprised at how strong signals may be. All that's needed to use sporadic-E is a dipole (or rabbit ears) and a decent TV or receiver.

Sporadic-E (E_s) occurs most often in the summer months of May through August. During these months, there will be very few days where no E_s is reported somewhere in the USA. The first really big widespread opening usually occurs in the last week of May.

E_s forms during the daylight hours. This is because the E layer must become ionized by the sun's ultraviolet radiation. Patches in the E layer (about 60 miles up) become much more densely ionized than the rest of the layer. These densely ionized patches, commonly called clouds, can refract signals to 200 MHz and higher. The clouds are most likely to form 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM local time. A slightly lower peak is from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM. These clouds are generally thin (2 miles and less), and have a diameter of around 100 miles. These clouds were once thought to be flat, like a plane. A recent study showed that there may be some clouds that bend at the edges, like an upside-down plate.

After forming, the clouds usually move rather quickly in a westward or northwest direction. They continue until reaching a certain point where they slow down and stop, then dissipate. Occasionally, however, clouds move in other directions, such as southwest or even due north or south, but rarely due east. Many times, other clouds will follow this same path at regular intervals.

There are literally dozens of hypotheses as to the exact causes of E_s , but very few hold up after any testing. The most common theory is wind shears (winds of different directions at different heights) creating friction, and thus, ionizing an area. Another common theory is that thunderstorms, especially severe ones, somehow induce ionization. The major problem with this theory is that the heart of the severe weather season occurs from April to June, but the height of E_s is in June and July. It also doesn't explain why there is a secondary peak of E_s in late November to early January, or why we don't get E_s when those freak severe weather events occur as early as March. A very interesting theory is one proposed by the late Mel Wilson. This is discussed in the reprint "Mel Wilson on E-skip", available from the reprint service, and highly recommended by me.

Anyway, the E_s clouds must be within anywhere from 650 to 750 miles from your location to be usable. Any further, and they would be too far below the horizon. Because of this, the maximum single-hop distance obtainable is 1300-1500 miles. Using geometry, one would think that approximately 1250 miles should be the limit. Recently, there have been several ideas kicked around as to why single hop skip occasionally reaches 1500 miles. I feel it's because of the groundwave characteristics of the band that it is occurring on. On 10 meters (28 MHz), I've never made a single hop contact further than 1298 miles. This is about 50 miles farther than the geometrical limit. On a normal day, I can make groundwave contacts to about 25 miles. Assuming the other station I'm receiving has a similar situation, ideally, 50 miles (25 + 25) could be added to 1250. On FM groundwave characteristics are much better, so on a normal day, stations to 140 miles are fairly strong. Most anything beyond 140 miles is generally tropo-scatter. Since the station we are receiving doesn't use a high gain yagi, we'll say that they get out about 110 miles. When 140 and 110 are added to 1250, the result is 1500 miles. The maximum single hop distance most often published is 1300 miles. This corresponds with the 10 meter maximum, where most studies of E_s are performed.

The shortest distance possible from an E_s cloud is unknown. If ionized highly enough, a signal could be reflected straight downward. Normally, however, the distance stays above 750 miles. During intense openings, stations as close as 400 miles are possible. The lower the frequency, the more likely this short E_s will occur. On 28 MHz once, I made a contact about 230 miles away to MO.

One other fact is that there seems to be a 3 to 5 day pattern with E-skip. In other words, if you hear E_s on June 3, it will be likely that there will be more the next few days. A good example is last Memorial Day weekend. There was quite a bit of E_s reported to the VUD on FM on 5/23, 5/24, 5/25, and 5/26, then none between 5/27 and 6/1. Then, there was E_s reported again every day from 6/2 to 6/6.

Besides increasingly shorter distances, highly ionized clouds produce higher maximum usable frequencies (MUF). E_s usually first affects frequencies around 24 MHz. As the ionization increases, so does the MUF. It can be followed starting at the 10 meter ham band, then into the scanner frequencies (30-40 MHz), then to the 6 meter ham band. The next step for it is to reach low band VHF TV.

Since E_s first affects the 10 meter band, it would be nice to have a simple way of checking for E_s. Listening for conversations between hams is one way, but unreliable, as sometimes openings go unnoticed by hams. Luckily, there are several beacons that operate between 28.2 and 28.3 MHz in CW (morse code). The transmit their ID and occasionally the location and other information over and over. Anyone who has a general coverage receiver can check for them. By doing this, one can seriously cut down on wasted time staring at channel 2, or listening to the fuzz of 88.1. Below is a list of beacons in the USA and Canada. Beacons with a * means that they may be silent. You may be wondering how you can tell E_s apart from F2 at 28 MHz. This shouldn't be a problem from mid-April through the end of August, as F2 propagation within the USA is nearly impossible (although F2 to other parts of the world still occurs). Now, since cycle 22 officially peaked in 1989 and again in 1991, it's on a downswing towards a solar minimum in early 1997. This means F2 will be fairly rare except in the heart of winter on 28 MHz through about 2000.

FREQ	CALL	LOCATION	FREQ	CALL	LOCATION
28.206	KJ4X	Pickens, SC	28.251	See notes	
28.2075	W8FKL	Venice, FL	28.252	WJ7X*	Victoria, MN
28.209	NX2D	Staten Isl, NY	28.260	KALNSV	Hyanis, MA
28.2175	VE2TEN	Chicoutimi, PQ	28.270	KF4MS	St Petersburg, FL
28.218	W8UR	Mackinac Isl, MI	28.280	See Notes	
28.222	W9UXO	Chicago, IL	28.285	N2JNT	Troy, NY
28.2245	KA9UEX	West Bend, IN	28.290	WJ50	Corpus Christi, TX
28.2325	KD4EC	Jupiter, FL	28.294	WC8E	Deerpark, OH
28.245	WA6APQ	Long Beach, CA	28.2945	KE0UL	Greeley, CO
28.250*	K0HTF	Des Moines, IA	28.296	W3VD	Laurel, MD

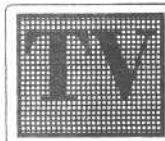
Note 1: On 28.251, there is a beacon in Arlington, TX; on 28.280, there is a beacon in Tennessee. Unfortunately, the only place where I had written the details down was in the ARRL Repeater Directory, which I gave away.

Note 2: There are likely several other beacons in existence on 10 meters. Most lists published by the ARRL are very inaccurate/outdated.

To complete this review of E-skip, you should know that there is no correlation between solar cycles and E_s. In other words, even in years when F2 is poor, E_s will still be possible.

I highly recommend that anyone interested in E_s reads "Eleven Years of Sporadic E" written by Pat Dyer, WA5IYX and Emil Pocock, W3EP. This article is in the magazine QST in the March 1992 issue on page 23-28. There is a good list of references at the end of this article which will direct you to even more fine articles. QST should be available in most libraries.

Remember, E_s can occur anytime and anywhere. The dates/times mentioned are most likely times. I hope that this has been of some help to you. 73



STATISTICS

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12284 NICE ROAD
AKRON NY 14001-9529

DXers Name	DXers Location	Log Total	UHF	LPTV							YB as of:	
				x/hr	E _s	MS	AU	USA	CN	MX		OF
Seybold	Bob NY Dunkirk	1032	526	122	197	30	6					50
Draeb	Bill WI Kewaunee	915	386	106	193	113	1					53
Kadet	Jeff IL Macomb	758	420	99	163	1	0					83
Eckberg	Bill IL Dixon	608	311	48	134	26	1					55
Ruland	Don WI Kenoska	539	272	39	93	31	0					71
Gaines	Paul MI Detroit	527	249	23	81	28	0					73
Pizzi	Jim NM Lovington	523	239	150	189	19	0					81
Shults	Marvin IL Toulon	501	205	27	123	26	0					00
Lapinski	Mike NY Jamestown	500	292	56	48	1	0					78
Yingling	Tom MD Baltimore	485	216	26	157	13	0					70
Nieman	Dave NY Akron	411	282	47	60	4	0					84
McCormick	Fred ND Fargo	394	81	105	113	1	2					74
Kramer	Robert IL Chicago	388	160	10	90	30	0					00
McCormick	Fred ND Des Lacs	373	28	31	213	45	0					64
Hollis	Mike AL Enterprise	371	175	11	75	13	0					80
Barstow	Roy MA Teaticket	352	188	32	84	5	1					71
Grant	Robert MI Detroit	351	135	7	106	22	1					78
Ely	Nate WI Madison	315	180	33	35	2	0					00
Wheeler	Frank PA Erie	297	68	1	228	5	2					55
Norquist	Fred NY Clay	285	147	21	71	3	0					69
Reese	Richard PA Jersey Shore	262	45	0	152	28	0					79
Ross	Robert ON London	252	122	0	74	1	0					77
Hepburn	William ON Niagara Falls	242	84	6	84	0	0					76
Michalek	Allan MA Springfield	216	64	6	101	0	0					00
Cunningham	Mike WV Harrisville	195	102	3	43	0	0					83
Purdue	Ron MN Byron	193	97	34	69	0	0					81
Schweitzer	Bob NJ Old Bridge	183	110	17	4	0	0					76
Grant	Robert MI Honor	171	27	0	80	10	0					79
Combs	John FL Jacksonville	166	93	9	31	0	0					00
Chernos	Saul ON Toronto	161	6	0	94	0	0					76
Sprachman	Steven NY Seaford	154	84	0	0	0	0					77
Broomall	John GA Waleska	143	90	1	12	0	0					00
Jefferson	John CA Pleasanton	142	54	18	64	1	0					76
Bueneman	Eric MO Hazelwood	83	28	1	25	0	0					81
Chernos	Saul ON Brunt River	60	23	0	12	0	0					79
Grant	Robert MI Carleton	20	13	2	1	0	0					87
Hepburn	William NWT Coral Harbour	10	0	0	9	0	0					84
Hepburn	William NWT Hall Beach	1	0	0	0	0	0					84

This is the first "TV STATISTICS" column to appear in the VHF-UHF Digest since September 1987. I will try to send in an update every three months or four times a year. The current standings are from that September 1987 VUD. If you wish to update your totals; you will have three months from the month this appears in the VUD. If you don't; you will be dropped from the TV stats column. New reporters are encouraged. When you send in your TV stats; they should be in the following order: (1) YOUR NAME, (2) YOUR DX LOCATION, (3) YOUR LOG TOTAL FROM THAT LOCATION, (4) TOTAL UHF STATIONS LOGGED, (5) TOTAL LPTV/TRANSLATORS LOGGED, (6) E-SKIP TOTAL, (7) METEORSCATTER TOTAL, (8) TOTAL AURORA, (9) NUMBER OF U.S. STATES LOGGED AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, (10) NUMBER OF CANADIAN PROVINCES LOGGED, (11) NUMBER OF MEXICAN STATES LOGGED, (12) NUMBER OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES EXCLUDING U.S.A., CANADA AND MEXICO (13) THE YEAR THIS LOG WAS BEGUN, (14) THE STATISTICS ARE AS OF, GIVE MONTH/DAY/YEAR. Count stations in only one propagation mode. Cutoff year is 1991. Information **MUST BE COMPLETE** to be accepted. Distance records information by channel and propagation mode plus state/province and foreign country totals will be asked for at a later date.

TECHNICAL TOPICS

April 1993: CALENDAR OF METEOR SCATTER DX EVENTS

Many people know about the potential DX possible from meteor showers, and that they have strange names like *Eta-Aquarid* or *Perseids*. But sometimes it's hard to find information on the subject. The accompanying chart lists the major meteor shower events, while the following few paragraphs briefly explain some of the terminology and some interesting trivia.

☉ The first observation of MS was made, apparently, in 1931 by Skellett and his fellow engineers at Bell Labs. They first attributed a short-lived, observable increase in the density of ionization in the E layer to meteors, and used radio observations during the *Leonid* shower to show this¹.

☉ One of the very first MS "DXers" was a Mr. Allen, who was involved in MS research for the FCC just after WW2. In 1943-44, the FCC made records of the signal from several high-power FM stations (which then were operating in the 42-50MHz band). Allen reported that short bursts of signal strength often correlated directly with visual meteor sightings. The daily variations of these bursts seemed to peak in number around 0600 local time, and be minimal around 1800 hours. In his words, "Short passages of speech or music were heard with clarity during the bursts, even though the distance between transmitter and receiver was as great as 1,370 miles."² Further observation showed an annual variation of visual rates (number of meteors seen per hour). Meteor sightings were lowest in the spring months (January-April) and highest in the late summer (July-October).

☉ After the FM band was moved to its present 88-108, the incidence of reported MS contacts decreased. In the 1950's, the defense industry (notably Collins Radio) produced several HF and LVHF tactical radio communications systems which relied on MS and/or troposcatter. Outside the military, detailed interest in MS basically remained with two groups: astronomers and amateur radio operators. George Brown, in an article called "Sky Power" in *73 Magazine*³, claims to have made the first known, two-way VHF ham radio contact via MS. It was between W4HHK and W2UK on 144 MHz, during the *Orionid* shower of October, 1954.

☉ Back in the early 1960's, meteor scatter was described in this way by Bill Orr:

DX communication during extensive meteor showers is characterized by frequent bursts of great signal strength followed by a rapid decline in strength of the received signal. The effect of a single meteor of normal size is a 'burst' of signal at points not ordinarily reached by the transmitter, for 10-40 seconds. After 40 seconds, the effect of a single meteor is not perceptible. However, many of them in a 'shower' will produce a 'quivering' ionized layer which bounces back VHF signals with a characteristic 'flutter' distortion.⁴

☉ In Fred Nordquist's "FM Statistics" column, there were 26,112 total DX contacts reported. Of these, only 538 were via MS, a mere 2.06%. Given that roughly 100,000,000 visible meteors encounter our planet every day⁵, one might expect a lot more loggings via this mode. Perhaps most of the bursts are too short, or the band is simply not quiet enough in your area for very weak signals to be discerned? But remember, when many meteors are concentrated in a shower, it is possible for strong, sustained bursts of signal of up to 30 seconds or so.

☉ A meteor shower occurs when the earth encounters the path of a comet. The *Aquarids*, for example, occur when the earth's orbit crosses the debris trail of Halley's comet. Every year thousands more pieces of debris from Halley's succumb to the gravitational pull of the earth and are pulled into the outer atmosphere. There, friction burns them up and produces a trail of ionization and sometimes visible light. The *Perseids* are the most famous of all meteor storms, and can be seen for several weeks in late summer, along with the *Delta Aquarids*. Sometimes they provide dramatic DX from many directions. The meteors in the *Delta Aquarids* travel lower and for longer distances; these are the "shooting stars" of poetry.

☉ References

- ¹ McKinley, DWR, *Meteor Science and Engineering* (McGraw-Hill Book Co., 1961, pp. 16). This book gives interesting historical information and good general reading about MS.
- ² *ibid.*, pp. 146-149.
- ³ Brown, George, WB4CHZ, "Sky Power," *73 Magazine* (March 1984, No. 282, pp. 90-91).
- ⁴ Orr, William I, *Radio Handbook* (ITT Press, 1972, pp. 24.15-24.20).
- ⁵ McKinley, *op cit.*, pp. 113-114.

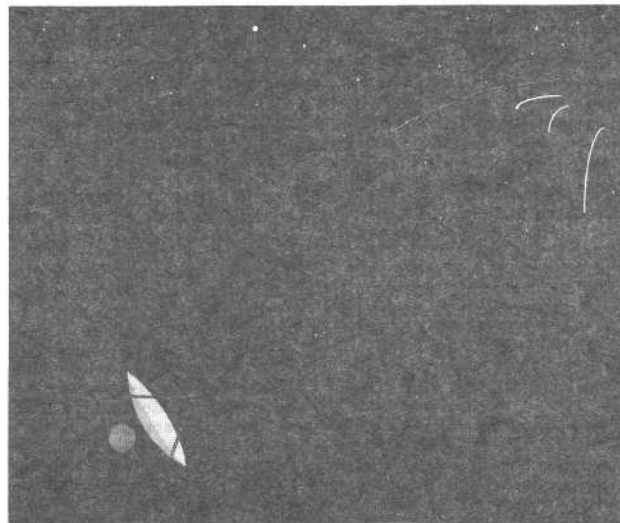
Tim McVey, PSC45 Box 1066, APO AE 09468 [Non-US use 17 Park Gate, Knaresborough, HG5 9DR, UK]

CALENDAR OF METEOR SHOWER EVENTS

Event ¹	Date ²	Time ³	Duration ⁴	Dates ⁵	VHR ⁶	R.Asc. ⁷	Decl. ⁸
<i>Quadrantids</i>	Jan 4	0545	0.5	Jan 1-4	40-50	231°	+50°
<i>Lyrids</i>	Apr 21	0330					
<i>Eta Aquarids</i>	May 4	0315	10	Apr 21-May 12	20	336°	0
<i>Arietids (D)</i>	June 7	1000	20	May 29-Jun 19	60	45°	+23°
<i>Zeta Perseids (D)</i>	June 9	1100	15	June 1-17	40	62°	+24°
<i>Beta Taurids (D)</i>	Jun 29	1115	10	Jun 24-Jul 5	20	87°	+20°
<i>Delta Aquarids</i>	Jul 28	0215	20	Jul 15-Aug 18	10-20	339°	0
<i>Perseids</i>	Aug 11	0330	5	Jul 25-Aug 17	50-60	46°	+58°
<i>Orionids</i>	Oct 20	0430	5	Oct 18-26	20-30	95°	+15°
<i>Taurids</i>	Nov 2	0045					
<i>Leonids</i>	Nov 17	0515					
<i>Geminids</i>	Dec 13	0200	6	Dec 7-15	50-60	113°	+32°
<i>Ursids</i>	Dec 22	0825	2	Dec 17-24	10	217°	+80°

The table lists the most visible of some 600 meteor showers that occur throughout the year. Original source from McKinley's book, pp. 146-149. Several of these are listed in the *Sky Gazer's Almanac* chart which appears in *Sky and Telescope* magazine, January of each year.

- ¹ Showers are named for the constellations or regions their radiants seem to be located in. For example, the *Perseids* have a radiant near the constellation *Perseus*. If more than one radiant is located within a given constellation, a greek prefix is used to reference the nearest prominent star, i.e. *Eta Aquarids*. (The *Quadrantids* are named for an obsolete constellation, *Quadrans Muralis*, found just east of the handle of the "Big Dipper.") Note some of these are daytime showers, and are denoted with a "D."
- ² Date refers to the date of the peak (maximum activity) of the shower. No prominent annual showers occur in February or September.
- ³ Time given is the time of radiant transit (local time), the best time to see meteors. The **radiant** is the spot in the sky from which the meteor or shower appears to originate.
- ⁴ **Duration** describes the sharpness of the peak of activity. It is the time, given in days, during which shower activity is greater than 25% of its maximum. Hence, the *Quadrantids* is short-lived, while the *Arietids* are a long-lived and easily visible shower.
- ⁵ At least a few meteors of the shower should be visible.
- ⁶ **Visual Hourly Rate (VHR)** is the approximate number of meteors seen per hour. This is relative, of course, and depends on local cloud cover, ambient light, etc.
- ⁷ **Right Ascension** specified at time of maximum activity. Radiants move eastward across the sky about 1 degree per day in right ascension.
- ⁸ **Declination** specified at time of maximum activity.



TV News

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CIS 72777,3143



Abbreviations used in this column:
ERP= Effective Radiated Power, in kilowatts
HAAT= Height Above Average Terrain, in meters
AAT= Above Average Terrain
AG= Above Ground
ASL= Above Sea Level
nc= no change
TL= Transmitter (and tower) Location
CP= Construction Permit
MP= Modification Permit (modification of CP)
*= Non-commercial
CRT= Canadian Radio-TV Commission

CONSTRUCTION PERMITS FOR NEW TV STATIONS:

St. Ch. ERP HAAT Call Licensee
AR 48 1062 310 Jonesboro; AR Rural TV Co.
(TL: 35°45'34"N, 90°40'36"W
Close to Jonesboro proper.)
NY 67 15 134 Springville; Unicorn Sprvl.
(Springville is 40km S of Buffalo, among the Buffalo tower farm.)

APPLICATIONS TO MODIFY CONSTRUCTION PERMITS:

St. Ch. ERP HAAT Call City
CA 31 36.4 90 KVMD 29 Palms
(TL: 34°09'15"N, 116°11'50"W
2.1km N of CA-62.
was 15.8kW/83m.)

CHANGES GRANTED TO EXISTING STATIONS:

St. Ch. ERP HAAT Call City
AR 29 1410 nc KHOG-TV Fayetteville
(was 708kW) ville
NE 19 1683 348 KXNE-TV Norfolk
(was 2750kW/338m)
NY 4 100 366 WIVB-TV Buffalo
TX 51 nc 506 KNWS-TV Katy
(TL: 29°33'40"N, 95°30'04"W;
Senior Rd. tower farm S of Houston. was 294m.)

OTHER STUFF:

Obviously, the big story this month has to be the World Trade Center bombing. Most of NYC's TV stations, including all 7 VHF stations, transmit from the WTC; all were driven off the air by the

bombing, when the building's owner, the Port Authority, ordered backup generators shut down for safety reasons. The outage lasted from roughly 12:30pm to 11:30pm Friday, Feb. 26, with WCBS-2 the only VHF station able to broadcast during this period: they'd maintained a backup transmitter on the Empire State Building.

All the other stations used direct feeds to maintain cable service on Manhattan. Several used other methods to maintain over-the-air service: WNBC-4 uplinked its signal to a C-band satellite, and also to WLW-21, a PBS station on Long Island. WWOR-9 and WPIX-11 also uplinked to satellite to feed outlying cable systems; and WPIX was able to use an LPTV (presumably W17AC) to carry its over-the-air signal. Bill Nienajadly writes that WABC-7 was carried on the New Jersey Network PBS stations, channels 23/50/52/58. A number of FM stations were also affected; Bill says WNYC-93.9 was off completely.

Broadcasting reports rumors (denied both by WCBS management and by a former chief engineer of WNJU-47) that the Empire State backup transmitter was actually the result of two employees forgetting to stop the renewal of a 10-year lease for the site, an oversight that got them fired... had it been a true story, I know of two people who'd get their jobs back fast!

The legals continue to be few & far between, with the HDTV freeze keeping things slow. The number of "4-letter LPTVs" (see KVMD and Springville-67 above) seems to be growing-- one colleague speculates these are folks who want to lock up a channel for when digital HDTV takes over, and TV channels may have some increased value, potentially for data transmission. (much as many early FM licenses were taken out not to provide FM service, but to make money off subcarriers)

The construction permit for WATC-57 Atlanta has been sold by ACORN (a non-commercial community group) to Community Television Inc., licensee of TBNs WGS-16, WGSE-43, and KMCT-39. WATC, however, is unlikely to end up a TBN due to the presence of TBN-owned WHSG-63 in the Atlanta area. More likely, WATC will end up an independent religious station.

Also sold was WTZH-24 Meridian, Miss., to the owners of WTV-9 Tupelo. This could mean WTZH is to become a satellite of WTV-9, although the stations are affiliated with different networks. The National Association of Broadcasters has come out in favor of an FCC proposal to require stations applying for license renewal to state whether they're on the air. Further, the NAB has called for the Commission to refuse renewal to stations which have been off the air for more than 6 months.

Hubbard's USSB direct-satellite broadcast (DBS) venture has signed agreements with a number of major cable program services, including HBO, Cinemax, Showtime, MTV, and Nickelodeon. This deal gets USSB over probably the biggest hurdle faced by DBS; access to popular programming. A USSB 18" dish & associated receiving equipment will cost about \$700, with a continuing monthly charge for certain programming.

With regard to the Cable Act, on March 11, the FCC was to set the exact wording of the must-carry and retransmission-consent regulations. At that time, they were to set a date on which TV stations would need to decide whether to require carriage, or negotiate for retransmission consent. Also to be determined is the definition of an "Area of Dominant Influence" (which decides which TV stations will receive must-carry protection on a given cable system), and what to do with cable systems that cover more than one ADI.

Of course, these provisions are still being challenged in court. Oral arguments were heard in early March, and a decision on the constitutionality of must-carry and retransmission consent is expected in late March. (I'm writing on March 16, and no decision has yet been announced)

The FCC may hope that the provisions are overturned. The Office of Management & Budget denied a FCC request for additional staff to write & administer the new cable regulations. They are allowed to hire private contract workers (temporaries), but Commission personnel don't believe temporaries can be trained within the time deadlines in the Act. The Commission may, however, get some additional cash: \$20million has been requested although no one thinks they'll get that much.

Bill Clinton's economic plan may be a two-edged sword for broadcasters. On the one hand, a proposed investment tax credit would substantially reduce taxes on broadcasters who install new HDTV, DAB, or other improved equipment. On the other hand, it's likely that tax deductions on advertising for alcoholic beverages and children's products will be eliminated.

Fox has purchased WATL-36 Atlanta, making it their 8th owned-and-operated station. Also, they've announced plans to go to a 7-day-a-week network in June. This step will cause Fox to officially become a network for the first time. (under FCC regulations, a network that programs 15 hours or fewer a week isn't really a network!) In early 1994, 6 months after Fox surpasses this limit, they'll have to either cut back their programming hours, or sell their syndication business & financial interest in their programs. Unless (as may well happen) the financial interest/syndication regulations are repealed by then.

As predicted last month, NHK has pulled their Narrow-MUSE, the only remaining analog HDTV system, from consideration in HDTV tests.

President Clinton has appointed Commissioner James Quello to serve as chairman of the FCC on an interim basis after the resignation of Alfred Sikes. A nephew of Allen B. DuMont, founder of the DuMont TV Network & co-inventor of the picture tube, is under consideration to fill an opening on the Commission. Bruce DuMont of Chicago, president of the Museum of Broadcast Communications and a radio talk show host, has been approached.

A division of cable TV firm TCI has purchased the Home Shopping Network. No changes are expected.

I think I screwed up last month, implying that the WVT-18/WCGV-24 deal was the first TV LMA. At least 5 other such deals exist, and a similar situation is right under my nose (or more accurately, over my head!) here in Nashville, between WXMT-30 and WZTV-17. Two of these deals involve straight simulcasts (WTT-21 on WDBB-17 and WNAL-44; and WNRW-45 on WGGT-48); the other 3 involve dominant independents leasing airtime from their competition.

Just curious -- do any members in Wisconsin know what happened to WHBL-28 in Sheboygan? I know they appeared in the 1987 Yearbook, and were indeed on the air (I received them once during a visit to that city) but they've disappeared from the FCC database and the Yearbook, and last time I was up there, I saw nothing on 28.

Finally, a sign of how far cable's influence has come. "Broadcasting" Magazine is no more: it's changed its name to "Broadcasting & Cable"...

FORUM:

BILL NIENAJADLY, CLIFTON NJ:

As mentioned earlier, WCBS-2 had a lock on the NYC ratings in the aftermath of the World Trade Center bombing; Bill sent some clippings from the NY Daily News and (now defunct?) NY Post on the subject.

From the Post: "Nielsen ratings from 1:30pm to midnight Friday will be excluded from the official Viewers in Profile report that is due to be published..." WCBS General Manager Bud Carey told the paper his station received two types of complaints about his station's coverage: one from those who wanted WCBS to preempt the Friday night entertainment programs for more news, and the other from soap opera fans upset about the preemption of their soaps...

And the Daily News says WCBS was *not* the outright ratings winner during the time period-- they tied with "other". (which is a combination of out-of-market stations, cable, and LPTVs) Between 9:45 and 10:00PM, during CBS's presentation of "Wizard of Oz", "Other" actually beat WCBS, with 56% of all TV homes watching something other than full-power TV stations.

DAVE SINCLAIR, VANCOUVER BC:

Dave sends along a clipping from the Globe & Mail, and an ad for an electronic "Antenna Multiplier". This unit claims to use microcircuitry to enhance AM, FM, TV, and shortwave reception. It connects to your TV's antenna terminals & simply sits atop the set. And doesn't require a power source.

To be honest, it seems to violate most known rules of antenna theory. My best guess is that this unit has some kind of internal small battery (as is used in watches) and a preamplifier, and uses the lead-in as an antenna. In which case I'm not sure I see where it would work all that well-- but I told myself the same thing about a shortwave antenna called the IsoLoop; 130 countries later, I've got to admit it works!

As for the Globe & Mail, the article is titled "Cable TV targets deathstars". A rather interesting way to look at direct-broadcast satellites! Prompted by U.S. firm DirecTV's announcement of DBS service to Canada in April 1994, Rogers Cablevision fears that unless action is taken, Canadian cable systems may lose subscribers, or at least premium-channel subscribers, to DBS.

Currently, Canadian cable systems are allowed to carry two U.S. specialty channels for every one Canadian channel, up to a limit of 8 U.S. channels; some U.S. channels (including the popular Discovery, USA, and Sci-Fi channels) cannot be carried. (the paper doesn't give a reason for this except CRTC regulations) As DBS programming originates from outer space, the CRTC really can't regulate the watching of U.S. DBS channels in Canada; Rogers wants the CRTC to lift the restrictions on cable systems to allow them to compete.

Rogers also plans to compete with digital video compression, which allows a 50-channel cable system to expand to 200-300 channels. President Colin Watson says compression will allow cable systems to offer "near-video-on-demand", where 10 popular movies will run continuously every 15 minutes. (both of these projections seem a lot more practical than U.S. predictions of unlimited video on demand and 500 channels...)

PAUL SWEARINGEN, TOPEKA KS:

The National Radio Club's DX News editor writes with an article from the Topeka Capital-Journal about the disappearance of K15BQ. The station, owned by River City Broadcasting (licensee of LPTVs K51DN, K55FS, and a new one on channel 53 in Wichita) appeared in early 1992 carrying Nostalgia Television, and announcing plans to

begin pay-per-view and live local programs. But the station disappeared before June, the reason given being transmitter failure.

Owner Ron Nutt told the reporter "We put it back on the air, but when we started having troubles with the transmitter, we realized that the actual license we were assuming was wrong... Even the tower coordinates were actually 1/4 mile west of where the license said." The transmitter wasn't the same one listed on the license. The cost of correcting the license and/or upgrading the equipment would have been too high. Nutt said he was considering buying now dark K17CK from the Jukebox Network. Further action awaits completion of his LPTV on 53 in Wichita.

STEPHEN WEST, GLEN MILLS, PA:

Stephen also sends a clipping about the World Trade bombing.

JOHN COMBS, ORLANDO, FL:

And finally this month, from the Miami Herald: "THIS JUST IN: MICE INVADE CHANNEL 4 STUDIO. FILM AT 11." WTVJ-4 reporter Susan Wallace told the paper "I was just sitting in my office a week ago, during the noon show, when two little creatures came running across my foot. I screamed so loud that the anchors looked at me. I threw my sandwich in the air. Then I went flying from the studio. Bob Mayer (one of the anchors?) had to apologize." Geez, only mice? We once found a bat in the WISC-TV studio...

MATT SITTEL, TALLAHASSEE, FL:

Matt writes several times via the internet computer network. Most concerns several LPTVs in the area, which I'll list for the benefit of other Southern DXers who may be keeping track of such things:

W23AQ Lake City, Fla., TBN
W31AQ Mobile, Ala., HSS
W53HI Valdosta, Ga., WTLH-49 (Fox) translator.

Matt visited Valdosta to track down that last one; he says the strongest TV there is PBS 8 (WXGA-TV Waycross), NBC 10 (WALB-TV Albany), and Fox 31 (WFXL Albany); also, CBS 6 (WCTV Thomasville) was seen. "Don't know what they'd watch ABC on." Probably local WVGA-44, except it went dark a few

months back. These days, either cable or WTXL-27.

If anyone else out there is on the Internet, I can be reached at 72777.3143@compuserve.com; if you're on Compuserve, write 72777.3143.

CONVENTION:

We now have a site. (see Tom Bryant's article for more information) I know, you say "what?!! A convention downtown?? The cost! The aesthetic complaints! The intermod!" Believe me, we've taken them into consideration...

The cost: Cost was our third concern, behind only the existence of a meeting room, and not being under a transmitting tower. This is indeed a reasonably-priced motel. There will be a registration fee for the convention itself, but this too will be minimal.

The aesthetics: We've discussed antenna plans at length with motel management, they know what we're doing & have no problems. Indeed, the ventilation fans up there are considerably uglier than any antennas!

The intermod: Well, this won't be Dunkirk, with the nearest transmitters 20-30km distant, but we will be at 6-8km from the nearest towers. There are only two transmitters in downtown Nashville: an LPTV, and a 1kW AM.

This may be your only chance to DX with antennas atop a 100foot-plus tower! Besides, the view from up there-- especially at night-- is incredible... And, it's got easy access to the downtown historic sites (like the Ryman Auditorium, original home of the Opry), to tour buses, and to the Opryland theme park/new Opry House. Make your plans now! Feel free to contact either myself or Tom Bryant for more information.

I hope everyone else enjoyed Andrew Tett's article in March as much as I did...

73 Doug



SUBMITTED TO THE VHF/UHF DIGEST BY TOM BRYANT,
849 TODD PREIS DRIVE, NASHVILLE, TN 37221-2607

Even if you don't know much about transmitter tubes, you'll enjoy the intricacies of this very special design. At first glance it looks very technical; but as you go on you'll quickly learn that it doesn't take a rocket scientist to appreciate the UMAC 606 Phantatron. Go for it!

Umac

TECHNICAL DATA

606

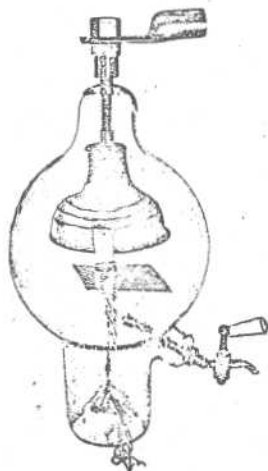
PHANTATRON

DESCRIPTION

The Umac 606 is an infernal anode, helical beamed phantatron having a dissipation rating. The unique vacuum in the phantatron is of the double-pumped type, permitting a clear view of the non-emitting triple-processed plunger-type plate. Because of its unique self-flushing construction, this tube will remain usable throughout its useful life.

The grid is constructed of a rare metal senileium chosen for its total lack of emission.¹ Primary, secondary, and tertiary electrons are fully suppressed by a left-hand inclination toward the ecliptic extending from the nadir to the zenith. This also compensates for aberrations in azimuthal displacements common in tubes of previous design, wherein the focal point was improperly focused due to chromatic sphericalism.

The urinated tungsten filament is unique. This process is secret.² The uranium used for the urination is of the triple distilled, single isotope variety with all neutrons removed. This material is obtained direct from the AEC-Los Alamos.



GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

ELECTRICAL

Filament Urinated Tungsten
Voltage } { Adjust until half as
Current } { bright as flashlight
Direct Interelectrode Capacity ... 8.874 gallons

MECHANICAL

Maximum Overall Dimensions
Length 1.076 cubits
Diameter 0.643 cubit
Net Weight 0.069 stone
Shipping Weight Not shippable

APPLICATION NOTES

COOLING -- In operation, the 606 requires a minimum air flow of 5000 cubic feet per second through, around, and above the base. This air flow must be passed through the base in both directions in such a manner that none of the

seals can exceed a temperature of -20° Kelvin. The pressure drop measured at the hole is equal to three fingers of Old Crow. Forced air cooling of the blank is recommended at all frequencies above 60 cycles. Ordinarily a fan

NOTES:

1. Refer to page 42, paragraph 6, "Notes from the 12U Conference" translated from Russian by A. Popoff.

2. See LS/MFT report, "Secret Process -- One Shovel Full to One Shovel Full".

continued.....

TIME TUNNEL -- "UMAC 606 Phantatron" -- continued....

APPLICATION NOTES

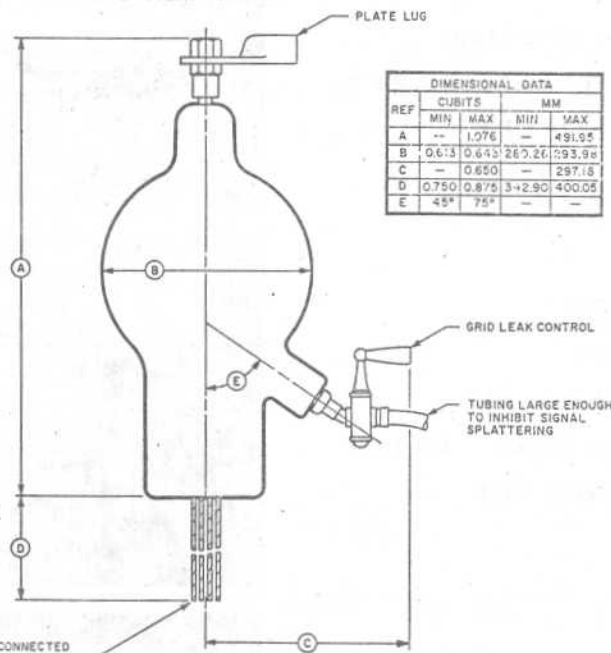
with an 8-foot blade 6 inches from the tube will suffice for envelope cooling. At high altitudes, special precautions should be taken in regard to cooling. Any tube failure is probably due to insufficient cooling and is undoubtedly the customer's fault.

OPERATION -- Because of its unique construction, the 606 can serve as an oscillator, modulator, or amplifier. It usually serves as all three simultaneously. No specific operating conditions are available. Ratings will be avail-

able however, as soon as our competitors issue their catalogue. Exhaustive tests in our advertising department have shown that the 606 will give 50 per cent more output than you will obtain. In case of tube failure, our tests show that you have exceeded the safe limit, regardless of output. In such cases, more air is recommended.

BIAS VOLTAGE -- To prevent splattery signals, a large leak is recommended.

OUTLINE DRAWING



FLEXIBLE LEADS INTERNALLY CONNECTED TO PRODUCE 1/2 FLASHLIGHT BRIGHTNESS

3548 11/70 © Eimac-McCullough, Inc. 1950, EIMAC Division of Varian 1970

Printed in U.S.A.

EIMAC division of varian / 301 industrial way / san carlos / california 94070

The technical gurus in our midst probably picked up on the funny-business right away...UMAC, of course, is not a real name...but it does bear a strong resemblance to EIMAC. The fine print at the bottom reveals that it was indeed the Eimac folks who came up with this colossal hoax...and even had the guts to take credit for it! I've had this jewel kicking around in my files for a long time; and knew that eventually there'd be an appropriate place to use it...like here and now...APRIL FOOL!

NEXT MONTH: '....and the winner is....WESTINGHOUSE.'

Jeff Kadet-Macomb, Illinois is our reporter. Equipment: ICOM R7000 with video adapter; Zenith N1310 13" color set. Screened Channel Master 7" dish and RDX UA-900 UHF preamp, feed is .500" aluminum hardline, antenna up 85 feet. Channel Master 1110 Quantum with Winegard PA-1975 VHF preamp, feed is .500" aluminum hardline, antenna up 80 feet. Winegard 5 element lo-band yagi (vertically polarized) with RG-11 feed, antenna up 18 feet.

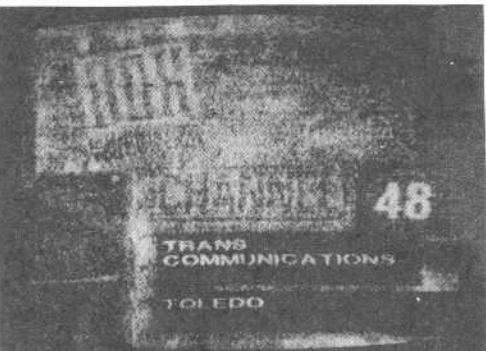
W19??
Defiance
Ohio

350 mile tropo
seen October 12, 1992
at 0200 CDT




W48AP
Toledo
Ohio

390 mile tropo
seen October 12, 1992
at 0200 CDT



W67CA
Lima
Ohio

344 mile tropo
seen October 12, 1992
at 0335 CDT



Thanks Jeff, hope to see more from you soon.

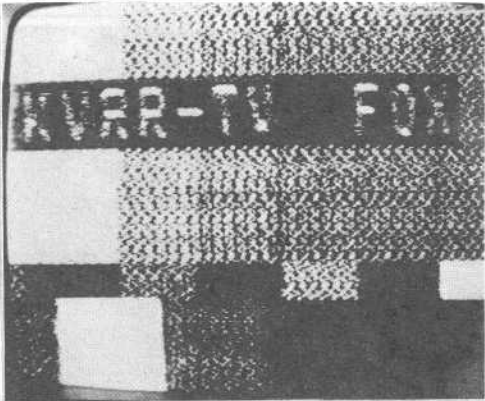
Robert Kramer-Chicago Illinois is our next reporter. Equipment: 1978 RCA 19" b&w, Sony 19" color set, Mitsubishi HS-422UR Stereo VCR, Archer U-120 UHF at 60' and V-185 VHF at 50', both antennas fed with RG-11 coax. Three Archer 15-1113A adjustable preamps. Alliance HD-73 rotor. Camara equipment: Ricoh XRM 35mm loaded with Kodak T-Max 400 ASA b&w film.

KRWF-43
Redwood Falls
Minnesota

418 mile tropo
seen August 9, 1992
at 0623 CDT

In KSTP-5 St. Paul/Minn. station family rebroadcasting KVRR-15 Fargo, ND


(ed.: probably gets KSTP's feed from K14AD Wilmar, MN; direction close to that of FOX-15 Fargo, ND. djn)



WFIE-14
Evansville
Indiana

267 mile tropo
seen August 10, 1992
at 0452 CDT

"thru local police calls"



KPTM-42
Omaha
Nebraska

438 mile tropo
seen September 4, 1992
at 1900 CDT

more from Robert next month.

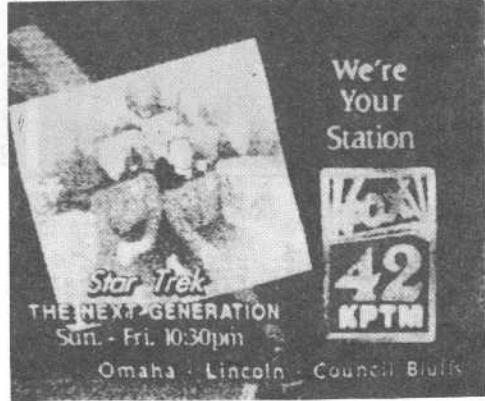
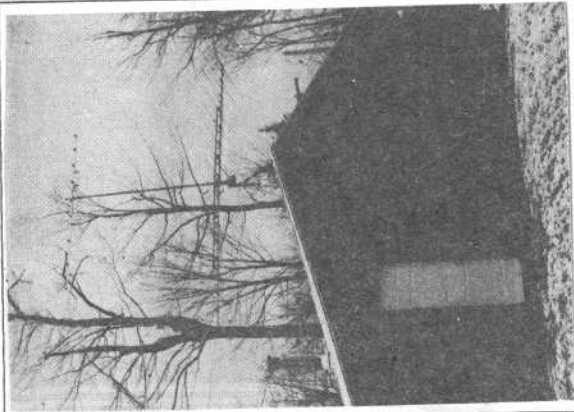
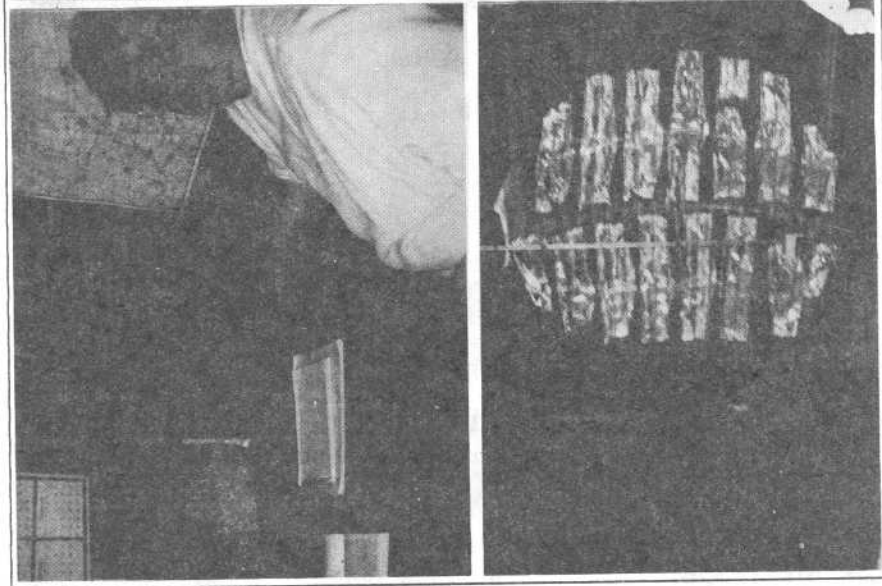


PHOTO-NEWS

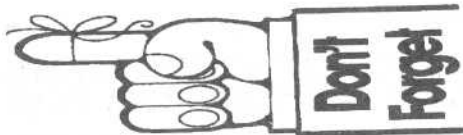
PAGE THREE

APRIL 1993

Dave
Nieman-Rock
City, New
York
Equipment:
RCA 9" b&w
TV, Channel
Master 3617B
VHF at
15.5 FM Carver
TX-11 tuner
IF filter
modified
Antennacraft
FM-10 at 25',
RG-6 coax
and Radio
Shack rotor
for both.
Antennacraft
P-7 UHF with
DX Tele Lab
EU-4S
preamp at
ground level
(for now),
RG-11 coax.



Yes, that's you editor (photo top right) at the controls of my mountain top DX setup. Not much activity on TV or FM at the time. Mounted inside (photo bottom the UHF temporarily isom the antenna and preamp I put some aluminum foil on the reflector elements to increase gain. Photo at (top right) is a look at the back of the "shack" and Channel Master 3617B VHF and Antennacraft FM-10 on a 3 foot tripod.

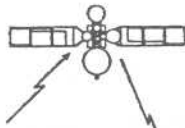


to include on a separate sheet of paper (preferred) or the backs of your photos; all the information about that photo. Call channel location distance propagation date time optional

Till next time,

DAVE

SATELLITE NEWS



George W. Jensen
4604 Anntana Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21206-4220

Time again for another report on satellites and the changes keep coming hot and heavy and I'm having a tough time just keeping up with them. I think Spacenet 2 continues to have troubles. Cornerstone and Empire Sports both are weak today (3-15) with Empire not even bothering with the VC2 system. XPDR 5 is now a Spanish News Channel from NBC full time and I don't know where Channel America has relocated.

Discovery West is G5-12 - Discovery East is now C4 - 2. Aurora 2 - the Alaska Bird has had feeds of the Dog Sled races on XPDR 13 a US zone beam in quite strong.

A review of C1 indicates the following newer services -
7 - Prime Ticket
12 - Sports Channel America
13 - Sports Channel Chicago
15 - Sports Channel CFO (whatever that is)
21 - Continuous Hits PPV

On C4 - Z TV - Christian Music Video Channel
On G1 - 16 - Showtime 2 (temporary?)

TVN Theater 2 and the promo channel have been floating around on T2 on varying transponders.

On M2 - 16 - ZAS has been replaced by Multi Deporte a sports channel - where Zas has gone ?????
On C3 - XPDR 14 - NESN Sports Channel
RTP - Lisbon, Portugal is now on G3-5 in VC2
Also on G3 - 21 - MBC - Movie Network (Afro-American Films and programming)

I found the In-Store Music Servoces on Spacenet 3 - 18
On the Intelsat at 53 West - XPDR 16 - The BBC World Service in Leitch Encryption.
RTP - Azores can be found on G6 - transponder varies at 7PM Eastern in NTSC (our) color system.
On the Intelsat at 27 West - XPDR 14 - The Audio Service carried when the ABC London feed is inactive is not Capitol radio but now Jazz FM London.

Thats all for this month - Good DX till next time

George
BULLETIN:- Channel America located on ASC1 XPDR 20.

QSL Corner & Logos Run

Thomas J. Yingling, JR
221 Pinewood Road
Baltimore, MD 21222-2345

- AL WQZX 94.3 Greenville.** 204 West Commerce, zip 36037. Letter not on stationary, but business card from Mark Ritchie. (Coniglio)
- AL WKKN 95.9 Greenville.** P. O. Box 369, zip 36037. Letter & stickers from Mike Morris, Station Manager. (Coniglio)
- CO KRXY 107.5 Denver.** 7075 West Hampden Ave, zip 80227. Nice letter with plenty of info on station, plus an interest in the hobby (mentions getting ch. 3 from "Regina" on June 19, and getting phone calls from Detroit, MI, Ohio & Mexico City!). I send him a sample VUD; hope he joins Reply from Gerald Westerberg, Technical Director. (Coniglio)
- KS KBUZ 99.1 Wichita.** 400 North Woldlawn, zip 67208. Friendly unverifying letter, coverage map, media info from Steve Davis, PD "Metro Media". (Coniglio)
- LA KSLU 90.9 Hammond.** Box 783, zip 70402. Reply in 1 1/2 months with letter from Ron Nethercutt, GM mentions hearing from other DX'ers. Also send stickers, newspaper article photocopies about the station. Writer is Ham familiar with E's, and mentions having trouble receiving the NPR station in Baton Rouge in Austin (tropo I guess). (Coniglio)
- MA WPLM 99.1 Plymouth.** P. O. Box 1390, zip 02362. Received stickers, promo material, coverage map, marketing info from Robert E. Monahan, Jr. Business Manager. (Coniglio)
- MI WMBN 96.3 Petroskey.** Box 286, US 131 South, zip 49770. **OR 104 South Union,** Suite 211, Traverse City, MI 49684. Letter & coverage map from Melinda Bellis, Programming Dept. (Coniglio)
- MI WMQT 107.5 Ishpeming.** zip 49849 (no address given), Letter, coverage map, & stickers from Jim Koski, PF. (Coniglio)
- MS WHJT 93.5 Clinton** P. O. Box 4246, zip 39058. Letter, media kit folder & stickers from "Rusa"! (Coniglio)
- MS WGCM 102.3 Gulfport.** 2200-15th Ave, zip 39501. Nice letter from Howard Yund, CE. (Coniglio)
- NC WNHV 92.5 Nags Head.** 2402 Wrightsville Ave., zip 27959. Letter & stickers from this very unusual 8-23-92 opening. I was at that station just only 2 days before, on my vacation to the outer banks! Letterhead show 92.3, even though the frequency is really 92.5! Reply from Charles Fetters. (Coniglio)
- NY WNNR 103.5 Newark.** Box 1420, zip 14513. Nice letter mentioning "skip" interference with the station in its listening area (though the offender was CIDC, so it was tropo). Also send window sticker and an copy of its FCC license. All send from Ted Berlot. (Coniglio)
- OK KKBI 106.3 Broken Bow.** 617 South Park Dr., zip 74728. Nice letter from Tracy Miller, PD. I was glad to get this verie back, since it was only an tentative logging. I heard this station since move to 106.1, which is another good reason to get this. (Coniglio)
- TX KUT 90.5 Austin.** Communications Building "B", University of Texas At Austin, zip 78712-1090. Received an handwritten letter, with September Program Guide & sticker from "Betsy". (Coniglio)



reinstall everything again. Also with the lack of new items to use for the qsl's. I hope things can get back to normal again. 73's for now.



- PA 48.40 MHz. KGH-464 Altoona.** Letter back from G. W. Jacobs, Superintendent-Division Operating of the Pennsylvania Electric Co. I heard this via F2 propagation. Reply after two letters. He mentions that they are located at the top of Wopsomonock Mt., transmitter is a Motorola Micor, antenna is a ground plane at 70 feet, and power is 100 watts. (Webb)
- FL 48.20 Mhz. KID-592 Port Saint Joe.** Letter back from John B. Wood, Telecommunications Engineer of the Florida Power Corp. after second letter. They use an GE Master II transmitter, an folded dipole at 251 feet, with 100 watts. (Webb)
- WV 37.48 Mhz. KIC-696 Galax.** Letter back from Paul J. Kehrer, ars: KM4TT, Telecommunications Engineer in 2 weeks for the Appalachian Power Co. They use an GE Master II transmitter with an Celwave PD128 antenna at 68 feet with 100 watts. (Webb)
- MD 48.30 Mhz. KGA-278 Cambridge.** Letter back from Barry D. Sakemiller, Supervisor of Electric Testing & Communications in 23 days. They use an GE Master II transmitter, an Db Products antenna at 115 feet with 100 watts. (Webb)
- The above qsl items just came in the mail before I finished up this column. I hope to get more of this type of qsl items in the future. Since Bill Hepburn is reviving the VHF-UHF Utilities column, members that qsl them will report more often. These qsl items came from Brian Webb of Thousand Oaks, CA (a new reporter).

KHIT 104.5 FM
Reno's 12 in a row hit country station!



NORTHERN FM-DX

GREG CONIGLIO
5100 GLENWOOD DRIVE
WILLIAMSVILLE, NY 14221

For DXers in: MA, NH, VT, CT, MA, RI, NY, PA, NJ, OH, MI, IN, IL, WI, MN, IA, NE, SD, ND, MT, WY, ID, WA, OR, AK, Canada
APRIL 1993 → DEADLINE: The 5th → LOG CUTOFF: 2 months from postmark

TX KRVL 94.3 Kerrville, 301 Junction Highway, Suite 333, zip 78028. Received letter from Rick Phillips, GM for qsl. (Coniglio).

TX KKKK 99.1 Midland, Box 60375, zip 79711. Letter, coverage map, stickers, & program sked from Becky Hill, CM. (Coniglio).

CT WJMJ 88.9 Bloomfield, St. Thomas Seminary, Zip 06002. Letter from Robert Geckler, Asst. CE. Transmitter is located on Johnnycake Mtn in Burlington, CT with erp of 7.2kw. (Holbrook)

DE WXN 105.9 Lewes, P. O. Box 193, zip 19958. Letter from Greg Bryce, GM. (Holbrook)

PA WGTY 107.7 Gettysburg, P. O. Box 3179, zip 17325-0179. Letter from Rod Burham, VP & GM mentions using an 4 bay circular polarized antenna, pole mounted on an towered self-supporting tower. (Holbrook)

MD WTMD 89.7 Towson, Towson State University, Media Center, zip 21204. Nice hand written letter from Dick Rader, CE who mentions 10kw Harris transmitter up 235 ft above average terrain. (Holbrook)

NJ WXNJ 94.3 Avalon, P. O. Box 94, zip 08202. Letter from Sid Friedman, President. He says "I am thrilled to know that you are monitoring fm stations. You dedication to radio is truly an inspiration to all broadcasters." (Holbrook)

NJ WSKR 102.7 South Vineland, P. O. Box 2246, zip 08360. Letter from Bridget Langley, Office Manager. She mentions slogan is "Score" and carries WIP-AM 610khz radio sports plus own programming. (Holbrook)

NJ WFNN 98.7 Rio Grande, P. O. Box 144, zip 08242. Letter back from Leesa Peters in 3 months. (Holbrook)

VA WRCY 107.7 Manassas, 7900 Sudley Road, Suite 901, zip 22110. Letter from Sydney A. Abel, President. Reply in 2 weeks. (Holbrook)

VA WVES 99.3 Accomac, P. O. Box 390, zip 23301. Letter from an unreadable name title in Operations Manager. Reply in 13 days. (Holbrook)

VA WCVE 88.9 Richmond, 23 Sesame St, zip 23235. Letter from another unreadable name, title is Chief Engineer. Reply in 2 weeks. (Holbrook)

MA WBMX 98.5 Boston, 3 Fenway Plaza, zip 02215. Form letter back from Larry Bruce, CE. A lot of stations don't seem to qsl anymore and I wish more would use an form letter then not answering at all! Reply in 5 days. (Holbrook)

MD WMYJ 106.5 Pocomoke City, P. O. Box 810, zip 21851. Form letter for qsl back in 10 days from Wayne Powel. (Holbrook)

OH WMVO 93.7 Mount Vernon, Broadcast Center, zip 43050. Letter from Dave Henry, Director of Eng. Who says "I just found this letter in my desk drawer, it had never been entered as qsl'ed in my log. As of today 11-18-92 10 years later now is officially qsl'ed. I logged the station on 7-9-82, letter was dated 7-15-82. (Holbrook)

PA WGTW 48 Philadelphia, 642 North Broad St, zip 19130. Letter from Rose M. Johnson, Public Affairs Director. Remarks-officially went on air 8-13-92. WGTW means Good Television to watch. Antenna height 12,000 ft (?) erp 5 million video. (Holbrook)

NJ WTTN 96.1 Margate City, % 2922 Atlantic Ave., Suite 201, Atlantic City, NJ 08401. Letter from Don Brook (?). (Holbrook)

NJ WKTU 98.3 Ocean City, Box 826, zip 08226. Letter from Richard Farsen (?) reply in about 2 weeks. (Holbrook)

Reporters this time are Greg Coniglio, and Hank Holbrook. I must say at this point that I'm sorry for missing a few issues again. This time the computer hard drive had to be replaced, and then

for missing a few issues again. This time the computer hard drive had to be replaced, and then

for missing a few issues again. This time the computer hard drive had to be replaced, and then

for missing a few issues again. This time the computer hard drive had to be replaced, and then

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for missing a few issues again. This time the computer hard drive had to be replaced, and then

As you can see by this small column, not very much going on. The January meteor shower activity was described as disappointing by many, and over much of the northern U.S. and Canada conditions have hardly been conducive to tropo-openings. And no off-season e-skip openings to report since the late-night December 20th/21st opening. If you have had any DX recently, why not share it with us? Let's hear from you today!...

DAVE NIEMAN-12284 NICE ROAD-AKRON, NEW YORK 14001-9529

Equipment: Carver TX-11a tuner, Channel Master Stereo Probe 9 at 36 feet AGL on crankup tower, (826 feet ASL). Alliance HD-73 rotor and RG-11 coax.
New loggings are underlined. New call (KXXX). New propagation mode WWW.

FEBRUARY 1993 DX

4 Groundwave
09:00 WJZ 105.9 NY Rochester, ID+; "North Coast 105.9". js 50
9 Tropo
11:03 WPHD 94.7 PA Tioga/Elmira(NY) /Corning (NY), ID, rps 102
21 Troposcatter
08:21 CKMS 100.3 ON Kitchener, es, es. 94.5 it times over open carrier of CKRZ Oshweken, ON 109

FEBRUARY 1993 DX

23 Troposcatter
10:28 WYMX 99.1 MS Greenwood, S "...on WABG..." 910



695 Delaware Ave.
Buffalo, NY 14209

Kind of a slow start to the 1993 DX season. Weather here in Western NY has been cold and snowy with few high pressure systems passing over. Dave

DAVE NIEMAN - HO STA GEH - ROAD-ROCK CITY, NEW YORK

Equipment: Carver TX-11 tuner IF filter modified. Antennacraft FM-10 at 25 feet AGL, (2415 feet ASL), RG-6 coax and Radio Shack rotor.
New loggings are underlined. New call (KXXX). New propagation mode WWW.

February 1993 DX

7 Tropo
09:09 CISS 92.5 ON Toronto, "Kiss-FM" new to air, ks 122
10:30 WCBE 103.3 OH Cleveland, ID, gs over WUEX Buffalo 171
10:59 WLER 97.7 PA Butler/Grove City, ID, mrs, over CHTZ St. Catharines 106

FEBRUARY 7, 1993 Tropo DX continued

12:15 WLTE 106.5 OH Cleveland, "Lite Rock 106 1/2", rms, over WYRK Buffalo 173
12:18 (WXR) 104.7 PA Pittsburgh, "The Rebel 104.7" ks, ex. WEZE & WORD 132
13:08 WJZ 105.9 NY Rochester, "North Coast 105.9". js 91

Not many weekend trips to the mountain DX site this past month. Too much snow sleet and ice. Summer coming soon I hope! Dave

STATION NEWS: WVBF 105.7 Framingham-Boston has switched calls to WCLB, and format to country and "the Country Club". CKQT 94.9 Oshawa now has the calls CKGE to go along with their format change to a/c and slogan to "The Edge". WDCZ 102.7 Webster-Rochester, N.Y. is now on the air, with religion. They sometimes simulcast WDCX 99.5 in Buffalo. In Las Vegas, 97.1 is now a "rock/AC" format, with the calls KKPT I believe, and a slogan of "The Point". The Pittsburgh FM dial gets yet another change as suburban WLSW 103.9 moves to a top 40 format and "Power 104" slogan. In the Memphis area, WODZ 94.3 Germantown is a another convert to the ever-popular country format. The slogan is "Froggy 94". 92.7 Riverside, Calif. is KAKT "The Cactus". KVST in Huntsville, Texas is now on 103.7, with 25 kW reportedly. In Denver, adult top 40 "Mix 107.5" (Lakewood) does not change format, but takes on the calls KWMX to better reflect their slogan. In Kansas City, KBEQ 104.8 drops top 40 for, you guessed it-country. "Young Country" to be specific. Taking over the top 40 slot in that metro is 107.3 Lexington, Mo., which switches to KISF "Kiss-FM". In Pittsburgh again, the WORD religious format, recently kicked off 104.7 in favor of country, has migrated down the dial to 101.5, uprooting longtime WPIT-FM. Over in Salt Lake City, Utah, KCPX 98.7 changes call letters to KVRI. Yet another convert to country: This time it is KSNB 98.1 Eugene, Ore., now KGNU. In Atlanta WSTR 94.1 Smyrna moves into a more mainstream top 40 approach. In the St. Louis area, KFXB 105.7 is now KPNT, and modern rock. In Central Texas, KMXX 98.3 Killeen has become country, and "Lone Star 98". WDJX 99.7 Louisville reportedly is moving towards a more adult top 40 direction. Taking the same approach is KNOE 101.9 Monroe, La., now "Mix 102". WHTK 99.7 Port Royal, the widely heard meteor scatter station which as reported last month changed to country, has new calls: WNCK. WBCN 104.1 Boston now has Howard Stern at night, and WRQI 95.1 (and its powerful 95.5 translator) also add Stern, but in the morning. Thanks Paul Mount, George Greene, and Matt Sittel.

Ric Schwartz
KN8D-TV
8330 Engineer Road
San Diego, CA 92171

W S K Z



JEFF FALCONER - BOX 63 - CLINTON, ONTARIO CANADA NOM 1L0

Equipment: Magnum Dynalab FT-101A, Probe 9 at 27' with rotor, RG-11 feeding, Magnum Dynalab 205 preamp.

NOVEMBER 1992 DX

26 TrS
1813 WPKF 91.9 KY Louisville, stong c#, ID 430
1821 WHVT 90.5 OH Clyde, g# 176
30 MS
0143 WSOC 103.7 NC Charlotte, "WSOC FM 103
and Break Magazine present Cathy Mattea..." 580
0149 KEYN 103.7 KS Wichita, "...KEY..." 924

DECEMBER 1992

17 GW/TrS
1358 (WOWF) 99.5 MI Detroit, r#, ex WDFX 117
19 TrS/Es
1551 WYSE 89.3 OH Maumee, g#, Yes FM,
ID with Toledo 172
1609 CBVG 88.5 PQ Gaspe, CBC EE mono 891
1610 CBGA10 89.3 PQ Gaspe, CBC FF mono 891
1623 WCGY 93.7 MA Lawrence, ad for
Saugus in stereo 527
1700 WCID 89.1 NY Friendship, g#, ID 198
1732 WMCU 89.7 FL Miami, ID# 1236
1743 WYUU 92.5 FL Safety Harbor, o#, U92 1082

DECEMBER 21 Es/TrS

0316 KHHT 97.1 ND Minot, r#, K-Hit 97 1002
0326 KXXL 92.9 ND Grand Forks, r#, XL93
today's hottest music 805
1100 WJIS 88.1 FL Bradenton, g# 1116
1103 WMNF 88.5 FL Miami, j#, ID 1084
1200 WBCY 89.5 OH Archbold, g#, ID 280
1503 WNZN 89.1 OH Lorain, up tempo SS
music#, legal ID?? in SS only 152

JANUARY 1993

7 TrS
1946 WKHR 88.3 OH Bainbridge, r#, request
line number was given 131
2008 WMRT 88.3 OH Marietta, c#, ID 290
23 TrS
1659 WXML 90.1 OH Upper Sandusky, g#,
ID, new station on the air 212
30 TrS/GW
0017 CISS 92.5 ON Toronto, k#, "The New
92.5 Kiss FM", new station 105
73 and good DXing, Jeff.

dBRUCE HALL - 5 STIRTON AVE - BRANTFORD, ONTARIO CANADA N3T 1E2

Equipment: JVC JR-S201 receiver with 3 110kHz filters, Sleuth 205 amp, probe 9 fed with RG6 at 50 feet above ground level, crown rotor (distances are in kilometres)

JANUARY 1993 DX

26 GW
1300 CISS 92.5 ON Toronto, k#, Toronto's only
country FM# 92.5 Kiss-FM 94

FEBRUARY 1993 DX

7 Tr/TrS
1048 WKQZ 93.3 MI Midland, op, KQZ "live from a
3 bedroom mobile just north of Puseyville, MI, 93
KQZ rocks the farm" 324
1156 CKLP 103.3 ON Parry Sound, m, LP103 249
8 Tr/GW/TrS
0839 WWVZ 103.9 PA Mercer, k, I104, jingle, "29
degrees at 1-104" 209
0901 CHRY 105.5 ON Toronto, sr, "You're listening to
CHRY 105.5 - celebrating Greek History Month" 94
0931 WEGW 107.5 WV Wheeling, op, Eagle 107 339

A touch of irony, Toronto gives birth to it's first all country FM radio station mere hours after K.D. Lang, Canada's former Queen of Country, wins the American Music Award for favourite new adult contemporary artist for her pop music album. Also heard on CISS-FM playlist are Canada's "Barenaked Ladies", a favorite of the modern rock stations. Go figure, eh? Other "Great White North" strange happenings, an easy-listening CKQT 94.9 Oshawa's former "Quiet" non-ID is reborn as "The Edge" (CKGE are the new calls-gc), but their rebel moniker seems out of skew with their playlist which includes Whitney Houston, Phil Collins, and Michael Bolton. You know I was just saying the other day "Can you ever get enough Mike Bolton on the radio these days?" Not!!!

BILL NIFNAJADLY - PO BOX 2999 - CLIFTON, NEW JERSEY 07015

Equipment: Fisher FT660 (mod. with McVey Circuit) + 6 element antenna (mileages from Fred Nordquist's distance printouts)

DECEMBER 21, 1992 E-skip

0024 KDVL 102.5 ND Devils Lake 1316
0026 KSJZ 93.3 ND Jamestown 1292
0031 WYTRQ 92.1 MN Little Falls 1078
0039 KXDL 99.7 MN Browerville ?
0041 KYTY 92.9 ND Bismarck 1390
0228 CITI 92.1 MB Winnipeg 1278
0311 KXKL 92.9 ND Grand Forks 1231
0404 CITI 92.1 still in!!! Tired, went to zzzzz
JANUARY 9, 1993 GW/TrS
locals 92.3, 96.3, 97.9, 98.7, 99.5, 104.3, others all off!
0123 WPKX 97.9 CT Enfield 100
0139 WLZW 98.7 NY Utica

Comments: The strangest and best December opening yet! I never have experience a 4 m e-skip before, this goes down in my record book. I became a General Class ham operator and hope to become Advanced Class by the time the 1e read in the VUD. Thankx for all past support to ETVDX, please give the new editor the same support too. Let's hope '93 is better for all. 73 Es Gooding OM de N2QJ/JAG.
Bill N.



ALAN R. MILLMAKER - 2714 LAKE ROAD - CENTRALIA, ILLINOIS 62801

I have several things to report. KTJJ 98.5 SCS is now a dead carrier, with no audio. I last reported that talk net was on, but it only lasted a few weeks. There is now only one frequency for the Fox in St. Louis, WFXB 101.1, they dropped 105.7 (which is now KNPT and modern rock I believe-gc). WOZ 99.9 Harrisburg, Illinois has switched music format, from oldies, to country. They still use the slogan of Z100. My total stations now stands at 188, my last two entries are KKFA and KPNT... (Second report-ed)... On the morning of 2/27/93 I happen to tune my SCS adapter to another frequency, and all indications are, I found 92 kHz. KEZK and KSD St. Louis were simulcasting the same light rock music. WCRC Effingham had switched from X tones to light rock music. WMDX and KGMO had the same computer tones, and I believe it to be the stock market, etc. Boy was I thrilled to find this frequency. My SCS adapter came from an article in a 1977 September/October issue of Elementary Electronic. The local library may have a copy of this magazine for anyone that wants to build one, but I don't know about the availability of the IC chips, or amp NE531-T and a phase lock loop NE565A. The other parts are available from Radio Shack, there are no coils in the circuit, but runs on a bipolar power supply +/- 6 to 9 volts. (Alan's third report-gc)..... This is a postscript. I connected my FM to the Winegard TV antenna up 30 to 35 feet with a 20 dB gain AMP and heard WIKY with light rock on 92 kHz. WFMB, WIKY, KEZK, and KSD all had the same music at the same time. Evidently, their music comes from the satellite.

GREG CONIGLIO - 5100 GLENWOOD DRIVE - WILLIAMSVILLE, NEW YORK 14221

Equipment: Carver TX-11 tuner (3-150s) and Pioneer TX9100 tuner (1-150, 3-180s), Stereo Probe 9 FM antenna roof mounted = 27' AGL, CAC 11 and RG6 coax used, Archer Rotor, 2-capacitor phase box used during openings w/ Jerold 10-el TV

JANUARY 1993 DX

15 MS
0930 WYFB 90.5 FL Gainesville, legal IDI 942
23 Tr
1900 (WYYS) 98.9 NY Cortland, ex: WYNY, WOKW 129
heard over local CKFM Toronto

26 GW
1306 CISS 92.5 ON Toronto, finally on the air with
programming, country music#, 92.5 Kiss FM, stronger than
other local and closer WBEI! 59

FEBRUARY 1993 DX

3 GW
1730 WJZR 105.9 NY Rochester, j#, North Coast
105.9 slogan, weak station! 57

11 TrS
2100 WQEZ 100.9 PA Milton, legal over WOIX 165
12 GW
2300 WQY 88.9 NY Canandaigua, legal, g#
WQOT 90.9 NY Jamestown, Family Life
Network, finally logged these new locals! 67

WZOZ 103.1 FM

As you can see, not much activity going on, other than new locals signing on the air! I have had enough of that... There has been little chance for any tropes to set up, with this wintry weather pattern we have been in: successive low pressure systems hitting the northeast with snowstorms, will it ever end?! Not much chance for Tr under these conditions but there have been some interesting TrS events occasionally. I am typing this during what may go down in history as "The Blizzard of '93". Thanks to Matt Sittel and Dave Nieman for sending in logs.

REPORT TO THE VUD!

WESTERN TV-DX

Fred McCormack
PO Box 65666
St. Paul MN 55165-0666

(612) 735-6860

Deadline: 05-06-93

Cut-off: 02-01-93

April 1993

February was marked by very little TV-DX. No E skip was reported and the only 500 mile plus tropo reported was caught by Jeff Kruszka on the 28th.
As for older DX, I want to call your attention to Fernando Garcia's report of trans-Gulf super tropo on December 11-12.

New ___ New Mode _ _ Tent. - t Unidentified - unid S/On - + S/off - -
ID Color Bars - # Unid Color Bars - % Misc. Test Patterns - &
Parallel Programming - // MTS Stereo - \$

CU Coahuila

Fernando Garcia, Apartado 30, Suc. B, Cd. Guadalupe, N.L., 67181, Mexico

HCM

Equipment:

Sony 27EXR15, Archer V-185 and V-8 UHF array at 30', Archer 15-1108 amplifier and rotor.

December 1992

11 tr 2057 KRIV 26 TX 410
most Houston Us
2058 KITU 34 TX 491
2059 KLPB 24 LA 584
2100 KLTL 18 LA 522
2101 KEDT 16 TX 224
2120 KADN 15 LA 584
2200 KVHP 29 LA 522
2215 KXXV 25 TX 447
2220 KXAM 36 TX 354
2222 KXAM 14 TX 392
2225 ~~MLRW~~ 17 FL
2230 ~~WBFS~~ 33 FL 1227
2232 ~~WDZL~~ 39 FL 1227
2235 ~~WSCV~~ 51 FL 1227
12 tr 0425 WSVN 7 FL 1227
0428 ~~WSCV~~ 51 FL 1227
0430 ~~WKCF~~ 18 FL 1212
0435 ~~WPBF~~ 25 FL 1237
0436 KBMT 12 TX 491
0440 WNOL 38 LA 640
0445 KADN 15 LA 584
0450 ~~WFLX~~ 29 FL 1237
(See Note # 1)
0452 ~~WBFS~~ 33 FL 1227
0453 ~~WDFL~~ 35 FL 1155
0455 KALB 5 LA 606
0500 WFTX 36 FL 1125
0505 WYHS 69 FL 1227
0508 KTRK 13 TX 410
0510 ~~WLTW~~ 23 FL
0512 KHOU 11 TX 410
0513 WFTS 28 FL 1088
0516 ~~WHFT~~ 45 FL 1227
0525 WGNL 26 LA 640
0545 ~~WVLA~~ 33 LA 640
0546 K21DM 21 LA 584
(Lafayette VJN)
K82DW 62 LA 584
(Lafayette CHA)
0555 ~~KLAX~~ 31 LA 606
0556 K47DF 47 TX 224
(Corpus Christi LPTV)
0557 ~~WMAH~~ 19 MS 752

12 tr 0558 \$KLTJ 22 TX 404
0626 WLRN 17 FL 1227
0630 ~~WBBH~~ 20 FL 1144
0700 ~~WXEL~~ 42 FL 1237
0701 ~~WTTA~~ 38 FL 1085
0715 KLTL 18 LA 522
0730 KTAB 32 TX 479
0735 ~~WTVX~~ 34 FL 1231
0750 KVHP 29 LA 522
0755 unid ch 21 FOX
0810 WLPB 27 LA 640
0820 WBHS 50 FL 1088
0830 ~~WTMY~~ 32 FL 1125
0845 unid channel 30
(See Note # 2)
0900 ~~WTVT~~ 13 FL 1088
(See Note # 3)
0905 WFTS 28 FL 1085
(Over local)
1100 ~~WSFP~~ 30 FL 1144
1101 ~~WJUS~~ 16 FL 1088
(See Note # 4)
1130 WXXV 25 MS 740
1145 unid ch 14 HSC
1200 ~~WWSB~~ 40 FL 1085
1202 ~~K46CRt~~ 46 LA
(Baton Rouge VJN)
1205 ~~WNPL~~ 46 FL 1131
1210 WMPV 21 AL 845
1230 ~~WCLF~~ 22 FL 1089
1240 KATC 3 LA 584
1305 unid ch 33 HSC
1330 ~~WTDG~~ 44 FL 1085
1359 WLAE 32 LA 640
1426 ~~WPMI~~ 15 AL 845
unid ch 38 AL
(See Note # 5)
18 tr 0245 KXXV 25 TX 447
0255 \$KTBC 7 TX 354
0300 KLTJ 22 TX 404
0305 KLRN 9 TX 283
0315 KWKT 44 TX 447
19 tr 0635 KXAM 14 TX 392
0640 KTAB 32 TX 479
0810 KPEJ 24 TX 460

19 tr 0812 ~~XH--~~ 46 CU 229
(Piedras Negras XEW)
0815 KMLM 42 TX 460
Es 2150 unids 2 & 3 CBS
20 Es 1500 WESH 2 FL 1184
1505 unid ch 3 audio
(Over local)
1530 ~~WDIQ~~ 2 AL 930
21 tr 1855 KLTJ 22 TX 404
1856 KRIV 26 TX 410
2208 KWEX 41 TX 283
2215 KXXV 25 TX 447
29 tr 0736 KCBN 11 TX 572
0745 \$KJTV 34 TX 572
0755 \$KPEJ 24 TX 460
0758 KLBK 13 TX 572
0805 ~~KOCV~~ 38 TX 572
0820 KMLM 42 TX 460
1835 KOSat 7 TX
1840 ~~KTPXt~~ 9 TX
1955 KXAM 14 TX 392
2050 KTAB 32 TX 479
30 tr 0800 KMLM 42 TX 460
0815 \$KPEJ 24 TX 460
1445 unid 23 nw XEW
2205 KXAM 14 TX 392

January 1993

4 tr 2015 KLTJ 22 TX 404
5 tr 0600 KITU 34 TX 491
0610 KTMD 48 TX 404
0615 KVHP 29 LA 522
1900 KRIV 26 TX 410
1930 KAVU 25 TX 283
2020 KLPB 24 LA 584
2220 WLAE 32 LA 640
6 tr 0540 KXLN 45 TX 373
0555 KPLC 7 LA 522
1855 KWEX 41 TX 283
8 tr 2215 K47DF 47 TX 224
2220 KRIV 26 TX 410
11 tr 2200 KPEJ 24 TX 460
2201 KTAB 32 TX 479
2205 KMLM 42 TX 460
2215 KXXV 25 TX 447

Western TV-DX

April 1993

Fernando Garcia (continued)

13 tr 0620 WXXV 25 MS 740
17 tr 0300 KRIV 26 TX 410
0315 KXXV 25 TX 447
0605 WMAH 19 MS 752
0730 KVUE 24 TX 354
0610 KLPB 24 LA 584
0615 WMPV 21 AL 845
22 tr 0250 KHOU 11 TX 410
0300 KBMT 12 TX 491
22 tr 0318 KLAXt 31 LA
0320 KADNt 15 LA
0615 KPLC 7 LA 522
0705 KVUE 24 TX 354
23 tr 0730 KPEJ 24 TX 460

Note #1 - My longest UHF catch to date came blasting in on a super Gulf tropo.
Note #2 - NBC, ID as HST-"13".
Note #3 - SAP with weather radio.
Note #4 - SAP with public radio.
Note #5 - ID for Mobila.

John Ebeling, 9209 Vincent Avenue South, Bloomington MN 55702 (218-345-6718)

Back from Barbados. This year, I did not detect much trans-equatorial skip, and I hope it's not an omen for this summer. The only skip I noted was on two days:

Feb 9 - Channels 2-6 (1900-2200) with channels 2 and 5 best.

Feb 10 - Channels 2-6 (1800-2100) with a little bit of Spanish audio on channel 3.

This was a far cry from last year when there was skip just about every evening.

(John mentioned that his Zenith transistorized set listed in the February column as dating from about 1954 (!) actually dates from about 1974. My mistake. fm)

William Draeb, Ellis St., Rt. #2, Kewaunee WI 54216 (414-388-2350)

CST

Equipment: See February 1993 Western TV-DX.

The whole month of February has been rotten for DX. Unsettled weather and cold have been a problem all month.. By cold, I'm talking about nighttime lows in the single digits above and below zero and daytime highs mostly in the teens. When the weather warmed up, it snowed, significantly at times (8+ inches).

January 1993

12 Es 1217 unid channel 2+
21 Es 1813 unid channel 2+
22 gw 1933 ~~W40AY~~ 40 MI 90
23 tr 0715 WCET 48 OH 400
WKON 52 KY 430
WKMR 38 KY 480
WOSU 34 OH 375
WSFJ 51 OH 405
W64AK 64 OH 385
(Conneaut WVIZ-25)
(Garbled audio)
WNEO 45 OH 415
WEAO 49 OH 375
WYMT 57 KY 550
WBNxt 55 OH
WPBO 42 OH 455
W68BDt 66 IN
(Fort Wayne WINM-63)
(See Note # 1)

February 1993

3 tr eve W24BO 24 MI 195
(Kalamazoo WCLJ-54)
W29BE 29 MI 110
(Muskegon TBN)
W19BA 19 MI 140
(Grand Rapids TBN)
W61Bxt 61 MI
(Grand Rapids TAB)
1922 WHME 46 IN 210
(See Note # 2)
1934 W15AM 15 MI 130
(Grand Rapids LPTV)
(See Note # 3)
W25BM 25 MI 180
(Berrien Springs TAB)
W40AKt 40 MI
(Muskegon CHA)

4 tr 1825 W618X 61 MI 130
W24BO 24 MI 195
W19BA 19 MI 140
W29BE 29 MI 110
W40AK 40 MI 110
W40AY 40 MI 90
(Traverse City WGKI-33)
W15AM 15 MI 130
(See Note # 3)
1830 W69BJ 69 MI 195
(Lansing WAQP-49)
W69BT 69 IN 200
(South Bend WCUI-26)
W69AV 69 MI 95
(Leland WCML- 6)
2045 W23AT 23 IL 175
(Chicago Polish)

Note #1 - Strong, but antenna heading seemed to be further east. Cleveland Us also very strong and others from north Ohio.

Note #2 - Carrying WSBT-22 news delayed.

Note #3 - Not parallel to WHME-46. 2/3 @ 1934 - carrying the old "Robin Hood" series from the 50s. 2/4 @ 1825 - carrying "Ozzie & Harriet" reruns followed by "National Weather Network" weather at 1829, World Harvest Television ID at 1830. At 1830, "Sargent Preston" rerun (1956 episode) and at 1900, "Crossroads" (another ancient rerun).

DX should be picking up in March as warmer temperatures are on tap for the beginning of the month, anyway.

William Eckberg, 1032 Sterling Road, Dixon IL 61021

CST

Equipment: See February 1993 Western TV-DX

February 1993		4 tr 0212 W44BF 44 WI 169		4 tr 0450 K41-- 41 ??	
4 tr 0035 KSAX 42 MN 404	(La Crosse TBN)	(Unknown STV)			
0105 K52-- 52 ??	0245 K55FJ 55 MN 220	0500 K43DH 43 MN 220			
(Unknown TNN)	(Austin STV)	(Austin LIF)			
0106 K57EU 57 MN 220	0250 K49DB 49 MN 220	7 tr 1800 KXNE 19 NE 402			
(Austin STV)	(Austin TBS)	KHNE 29 NE 464			
0120 K51CY 51 MN 220	0310 K53DI 53 MN 220				
(Austin USA)	(Austin SHO)				
4 tr 0210 W19BH 19 WI 70	0445 K39-- 39 ??				
(Janesville TBN)	(Unknown movie)				

On February 4th I had tropo to the northwest. Many of the scrambled Austin MN translators were snow free. TV and Cable Factbook No. 59 lists them as owned by Teleview Systems of Minnesota but does not list stations on channels 39, 41, and 52. These channels had the same scrambled pictures. Channel 52 is puzzling. Could they put another one between their channels 51 and 53? It could have been spillover, but I think the programming was different than the adjacent channels. Anyone know about the three additional channels from Austin. (I doubt if those three were from Austin. Channels 39 and 41 could perhaps be from Lake Wilson, but I don't know that they are on. Channel 52 may have been Alexandria, but I don't know what that one carries. fm)

An article entitled "Make a Better Mousetrap" in the February issue of Forbes was of great interest to me. Drake of Miamisburg, Ohio has come out with the new R8 shortwave receiver. It is said to have great selectivity, etc. To quote excerpts from the article, "The best at any price.", "The Drake R8 however comes with 5 bandwidth filters already installed. Each filter pinpointing the signal more precisely than the last. It is able to do so because Drake redesigned an obsolete type of filter to give better performance at a dramatically reduced cost." I have also seen an evaluation of the receiver in the March 1992 issue of QST.

With the recently available VHF converter it will get most of the spectrum except the TV and FM bands. Using this radio to tap the 41.25 MHz sound off the VHF-TV tuner offers some interesting possibilities for the TV DX'er. Drift might be a problem. Has anyone used this receiver? The receiver and converter sell for \$979 and \$199 respectively and is American made.

Jeff Kruszka, 2824-E Steamship Circle, Harahan LA 70123 (504-733-8539)

CST

Equipment: See February 1993 Western TV-DX.

February 1993		22 tr 0636 Montgomery 20,		28 tr 2045 WBBH 20 FL 554	
	32, 45 strong	2100 WBSV 62 FL 505			
9 tr 0630 Houston Us	0643 KTMD 48 TX 303	2111 WSFP 30 FL 554			
22 tr 0636 WAAV 31 AL 393	WAFF 48 AL 392				

As of March 5, 1993, I will be living at my new address in Baton Rouge (7706-M N. Jefferson Place Cir, Baton Rouge LA 70809 (504) 923-0196). I hate to end my New Orleans log. I feel like there's quite a bit more to add (if we'd just have one decent E skip season!). WBRZ along with New Orleans, Lafayette and Alexandria on channels 2-6 will probably wipe out most chances for E skip. Oh well, we can't let that interfere with a good job opportunity, right? My final TV log total in New Orleans stands at 272.

CHA Channel America	TBN Trinity Broadcasting
HSC Home Shopping Club	TBS Turner Broadcasting
LIF Lifetime	TNN The Nashville Network
SHO Showtime	USA USA Network
TAB 3 Angels Broadcasting	VJN Jukebox Network

CONVENTION INFORMATION --- continued from PAGE 2

GRAND OLE OPRY TICKETS: Several members have inquired about Opry tickets. For them, and others who might be interested, here's the info. All seats for all performances (including matinees) are reserved. It may be possible to get unclaimed tickets immediately prior to shows, but don't count on it. To make phone reservations, call 615-889-3060 during business hours. There is no toll-free number. Major credit cards OK. An average Opry show runs 2 1/2 to 3 hours. Although the matinees will give you the general flavor of the Opry, the broadcast segments (two Friday night and two Saturday night) are preferable.

COMING UP: As convention particulars are firmed up, we'll pass them along in upcoming issues of VUD. In the meantime, please remember that the convention is set for what is traditionally a peak tourist period in Nashville; and we can't emphasize too strongly the need for early action. If you have questions, comments, or suggestions; be sure to contact either of your hosts:

Doug Smith
14 Brookside Court
Nashville, Tn 37209
(615) 356-8305

Tom Bryant
849 Todd Preis Drive
Nashville, Tn 37221
(615) 646-2000

GET YOUR RESERVATION IN NOW...AND BE A PART OF THE TV / FM DX'er EVENT OF THE YEAR-----JULY 23, 24, and 25.

STATION BREAK

WTFDA Stationbreak
P.O. Box 514
Buffalo, NY 14205-0514

WTFDA member ads only. Items may be edited to conserve space.

FOR SALE - Pioneer TX 9100 with modified IF, \$120.00. Pioneer TX 9500 with modified IF, \$120. Pioneer TVX 9500 with modified IF \$60. I need space and will pay shipping on the above. All Antennacraft antenna and preamplifier products at dealer prices plus UPS. Send large SASE for catalog. No collect calls. Doug Allen - PO Box 5646 - Woodland Park CO 80866 (719) 687-3549

IN SEARCH OF - Club members who are interested in old rock'n'roll as well as c & w, hard rock, and pop. Send me your "want list" of songs and I will tape those I have, and you do same for me. This saves cost of buying records. Would like to correspond with members who are interested in anything nostalgic, including old movies, TV shows, etc. Gus Mancuso - 5615 Inwood St. - Hyattsville MD 20785

FOR SALE - Yamaha TX 930 AM/FM tuner, super DX machine AM and FM. Tunes in .01 MHz steps on FM / 1 kHz steps AM. IF has been modified (very selective, no distortion), excellent sound quality, 2 antenna inputs, 24 presets, alpha-numeric display, includes remote control. Inter-channel muting has been defeated. New cost \$450, asking \$325. Bill Nollman - 35 Nye Road - Glastonbury CT 06033 (203) 633-2883

YOUR non-commercial ad can appear in the VUD free of charge! Got a piece of DX gear you'd like to sell? Looking for something? Advertise in STATION BREAK. This feature appears on a space available basis. WTFDA and the VHF-UHF DIGEST assume no responsibility for any claims made by advertisers--our trust is implicit, as fellow DXers.