



DX NEWS

*the magazine of the
National Radio Club*

SINCE 1933

VOLUME 50 ISSUE 13

JANUARY 13, 1983

STATIC FROM HQ

NOW THAT THE ENTIRE STAFF IS BACK FROM THE HOLIDAYS, MAYBE THINGS WILL GET BACK TO NORMAL AROUND HERE. MAIL HAS BEEN SLOW FOR THE FIRST TIME!

FROM THE MAILBAG - VIA RADIO AUSTRALIA, A NICE ARTICLE WRITTEN UP ABOUT THE NRC. THANKS GENTS FOR THE KIND WORDS. MUCH APPRECIATED.

FROM THE PROMOTIONAL DEPT. DOWNSTAIRS - WE HAVE AVAILABLE AN NRC LOG BOOK OR SHOULD I SAY A PACKET OF 110 SHEETS OF LOG SHEETS AVAILABLE FOR A MERE \$3.00 PLUS POSTAGE OF \$1.80 FOR THOSE OF YOU WISHING TO REDO YOUR LOGS OR FOR THOSE OF YOU JUST STARTING OUT, THIS JUST MAY BE THE PERFECT SOLUTION. SO...SEND YOUR \$4.80 TO NRC HQ YOU CAN'T GET IT ANY CHEAPER ANYWHERE!!!

AND AS LONG AS WE'RE TALKING SHOP...ANOTHER ITEM FROM THE PROMOTIONAL DEPT., NRC STATIONARY... 100 SHEETS FOR \$3.00 THAT'S 3¢ A SHEET, YOU CAN'T GET IT DONE AT A FAST PRINT SHOP FOR LESS THAN 5¢!!! SO...SEND \$3.00 PLUS POSTAGE OF \$1.80 TO NRC HQ. (EVEN WITH POSTAGE INCLUDED THAT'S STILL ONLY 4.8¢ A SHEET!!!!)

PUBLICATION CENTER IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS NOW AFTER THE HOLIDAYS. IF YOU WERE HOLDING YOUR ORDER AS INSTRUCTED BY US HERE BEFORE, YOU CAN NOW SEND IT TO THE PUB. CENTER AND ORDER YOUR FAVORITE BOOKLETS AND SUCH.

LATE WORD LAST ISSUE: I TALKED TO WFFDA CLUB (THE FM CLUB) AND THEY HAVE ASSURED ME THAT YOU WILL RECEIVE A JANUARY ISSUE, AS THEIR PUBLICATIONS ARE NOW BEING DONE BY THE BUFFALO NY CREW. (I HOPE YOU GUYS DO A BETTER JOB THAN THE LAST CREW).

FROM THE WAREHOUSE COMES WORD THAT WE HAVE AVAILABLE, IN LIMITED NUMBERS, BACK ISSUES OF DXNEWS STARTING WITH VOL 49 ISSUE 28 TO PRESENT. FOR 50¢ EACH. SEND TO NRC HQ ALSO INCLUDE THE VOLUME AND ISSUE NUMBER AND HOW MANY YOU WANT. IF THE ISSUE YOU HAVE ASKED FOR IS NOT IN STOCK, YOUR MONIES WILL BE RETURNED.

CPC TESTS (TIMES ARE E.L.T.)

MYSTERY TEST STATION OF DECEMBER 27TH WAS WHIM-1110 KHZ. THE ADDRESS TO WRITE TO FOR A VERIE IS: CRAIG HEALY - P.O.Box 182 - CUMBERLAND,RI 02864.

1/15 SUN. W8ZT-1130 WAYNESBORO,PA 0100-0130 MOSTLY TONES, THIS TO BE THE ANNUAL POP TEST. REPORTS TO: LOUIS SCALLY, CE, W8ZT-RADIO, BOX 309, WAYNESBORO,PA 17268 ARRANGED FOR THE NRC BY BOB BINAU.

1/16 SUN. KALM-1290 THAYER,MO 0101 - 0116 USING 1000w. SPECIAL TEST FOR NRC. USING TEST TONES, VOICE ID'S, CODE 10'S & A TAPED CONVERSATION W/ TERRY KLAEX ABOUT THE NRC. PHONE CALLS,PREPAID ONLY, TO: 314-264-7211 (IF SOMEONE IS THERE TO ANSWER THE PHONE) \$ASE REQUIRED. REPORTS TO: BILL MARTIN,CE, KALM RADIO, POBox 15, THAYER, MO 65791 ARRANGED FOR NRC BY TERRY KLAEX & RICHARD EDDIE.

WELCOME :

CHESTER AUSTIN OF PENNSYLVANIA AND TO HANK BRADBURY OF THE STATE OF IOWA. Huse and Support the columns.

RENEWALS: Our Hat off to: TAYLOR, MCINTOSH, ADAMSON, KEMP, KREJNY, MOREHOUSE, HERMAN, ROMSTADT, FALCONER, SAYEN, STONEBRIDGE, MAC HARG, BEZILLA'S, SABELLA, BEISEL, SCHIRRUFFER, PETRICK, KUDLEMYER, GUSTAFSON, NORQUIST, OULUN DX-KLUBI, FREGEAU, ENGBERG, SCHULTZ, LAMB, ARRUDA, KENNEDY, BRANN, BARTON, SHAHEEN, ALEXANDER, HOUDEK

Thanks for your continued support!!!

LOOK INSIDE:

- 2...AM SWITCH
- 3...DDXD
- 6...IDXD
- 9...IC-R70 RADIO REVIEW
- 16...BANDSCAN
- 17...ICF-6500W
- 20...MUSINGS
- 24...YOUR NAME

Mike Sue

THE WORLD'S OLDEST AND LARGEST ALL MEDIUM-WAVE DX CLUB

LAST CALL FOR CALENDAR ORDERS !!!

② AM SWITCH

JERRY STARR
c/o WSRD RADIO
401 N. BLAINE AVENUE
YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO 44505

CALL LETTER APPLICATIONS:

Present call:	Seeks:	Old call:	New call:
660 *New Santa Ynez, CA	KGDP	1340 KPON Pampa, TX	KSNZ
1320 WENN Birmingham, AL	WAGG	1510 WITS Boston, MA	WMRE

Call letter note: Despite a report or two to the contrary, the new call in Madison, TN (ex-WJRB) is WNKZ as reported here previously, this verified by telephone call to the station.

APPLICATIONS FOR NEW STATIONS:

640 El Paso TX 10000/1000
660 West Fargo, ND 10000/1000
750 Clint, TX 25000/1000
El Paso, TX 10000/5000
830 Bluffton, SC 50000/1000
Hanrahan, SC 5000/2500
Saint Andrews, SC 10000/1000
1030 Worthington, OH 2500 D
Point Pleasant, WV 10000 D
1120 Oil City, PA 250 D
1590 Sun Valley, NV 2500 D

APPLICATIONS FROM EXISTING FACILITIES:

600 KIIK Fort Collins, CO to Wellington, CO 1000/500 U4
1090 WKFI Wilmington, OH to 1030 with 2500 D1
1220 KLIP Fowler, CA to 1210 with 10000/500 U5
+1240 WPRN Butler, AL to 1330, change hours of operation to daytime 5000
+1330 WJDQ Meridian, MS to Marion, MS on 1240 kHz with 1000/250 U1.
1440 WEZJ Williamsburg, KY power to 2500, no other changes
*****Basically the situation above on 1240 and 1330 consists of a swap in frequencies between WPRN and WJDQ. Meridian and Butler are about 40 miles apart on the AL/MS border.

GRANTS TO NEW STATIONS:

660 Santa Ynez, CA 10000/1000 U5 (directional day, non-DA night)
1510 Lajas, PR initial decision issued to grant 1000/1000 U3

GRANTS TO EXISTING FACILITIES: None

OTHERNESS:

820 State College, PA application for 50000/5000 here was dismissed by FCC
850 KEYH Houston, TX application listed here a few weeks ago as 840 turns out to actually be for B30 50000/1000 U4.

COMMENTS: Concerning source material, it's interesting to see how a mistake of typo gets into the mainstream from a single source. Trouble is knowing where that source is. Example: In the past month or so, identical screw-ups have appeared in two separate sources of broadcasting information, one the listing of KVEG application for 5000 on 1400 instead of 1410 and the misspelling of Goldendale, WA as "Golendal". These mistakes were IDENTICAL in both sources. So is one source snitching info from the other, or is the FCC making the mistakes and both sources are getting their misinformation from them? Who knows. All we can do is pledge to try to sort out the bad stuff before it reaches you.

73 and Good DX,

Jerry & BKF

Jerry Starr & Buffalo K. Foonman



FROM ROCHESTER (NY) TIMES UNION 11/7/82

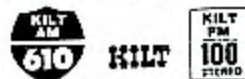
Newscaster Chris Shirer of WHAM was surprised to get a genuine Hawaiian aloha the other day. A listener on the island of Oahu, Robert Hivak, called to report that he heard the 50,000-watt station for about 15 minutes around 8 in the morning while listening for Hurricane Iwa's...
via Jerry Starr

1490 am **WOLC** 96.7 fm stereo
PORT JERVIS, N.Y.

DOMESTIC DX DIGEST

③
DAVE SCHMIDT
42 CHELWYNNE RD.
CASTLE HILLS
NEW CASTLE, DE 19720

Here is the official NRC column which is almost as exciting as listening to the adventures of Chickenman! When sending your items in, please type or neatly write, skip a line between items, one side of the paper, EST, etc. As not to cause eye strain, we're back to the bigger type, now on to the real BRAIN STRAIN:



DX TESTS:

1240 WBEJ MD Heard: JB-NY.

THE RADIO STATION

SPECIAL:

1010 WSID MD BALTIMORE - 12/25 1630 noted w/MOR/oldies format, many mentions of 92.3 FM, "Your Star", s/off 1645 w/legal ID/jingle. Ex-WSID. (DS-DE)
1170 WDTB MI DIMONDALE - This new station has been on since mid-October using CNN-2 all news format, usually ID's as Lansing. (BY-MI)
1510 WYNI AL MONROEVILLE - 12/26 1745 noted w/s/off equal w/nullified WLAC, quickly faded, no SSB noted, new station now on air. (MAP)
1590 WASY ME GORHAM - Per verie letter rec'd 12/27, address of station is 5 Main Street, Gorham, ME 04038. (DS-DE)

MIDDAY - MIDNITE:

620 KMNS IA SIOUX CITY - 12/19 2015 noted w/Micky Gilley show, CW music. (DBJ-NE)
850 KEYH TX HOUSTON - 12/6 1810 Spanish music, talk, ID's au Radio Qui, s/off 1830 w/English ID. (DLR-KY)
860 KKOW KS PITTSBURG - 12/18 1750-1800 a tremendous signal w/CW music, remote broadcast from grocery store announcing winner of 100 chow chips (phew!), Christmas music til power/pattern change! (KG-PA) A real smell station! (DS)
910 WTOY VA ROANOKE - 12/18 1655 o/all w/Pop music, s/off at 1700, pulled big switch 1701 before s/off was done! (KG-PA)
920 KYST TX TEXAS CITY - 12/7 1857 rock music, ads, ID mentions stereo on AM. (DLR-KY)
990 WABO MS WAYNESBORO - 12/11 1747 ads, ID, B/Sol format. (DLR-KY)
1070 WJKK WV BECKLEY - 12/18 1715 s/off good o/everything! (JB-NY)
WINA VA CHARLOTTESVILLE - 12/19 1653 good w/weather, mention of winter storm warning. (JB-NY)
WAPI AL BIRMINGHAM - 12/18 1738 very strong w/ID during break in football game, "AL's station for sports!" (JB-NY)
1080 WKGX NC LENOIR - 12/18 1714 s/off good w/no sign of WTIC. (JB-NY)
1130 WSJP KY MURRY - 12/19 2000 good w/ID, AP news. (MK-WI)
KWKH LA SHREVEPORT - 12/18 1718 good w/CW music, ID. (JB-NY)
1150 WGGH IL MARION - 12/18 1740 way o/all w/Christmas music and clustered ads for Marion businesses. (KG-PA)
1180 WKKE MS PEARL - 12/19 2225 MS news, Big Band music, fair signal. (MK)
1210 WKNX MI SAGINAW - 12/19 1650 atop WCAU w/rock Christmas song, ads, ID, more rock music. (DLR-KY)
1240 KFOR NE LINCOLN - 12/17 2334 rock music, ads, local sports scores, weather report. (DBJ-NE)
1260 WNXT OH PORTSMOUTH - 12/12 1817-1821 alone on freq. w/sports news, weather, ID, into E2L music. (KG-PA)
1290 KIVY TX CROCKETT - 12/7 1815 weather, s/off w/mention of FM. (DLR)
1300 WIMG NJ EWING - 12/25 1707-1726 in strange WFBR null w/rock music, couple of ads, w/prevaling auroral conditions. (DS-DE)
1330 WQVC FL TALLAHASSEE - 12/19 1743 atop WSWL w/s/off. (DLR-KY)
WSWL FL MILTON - 12/19 1747 CNN news, ID, s/off w/mention of 5000 watts. (DLR-KY)
WASA MD HAVRE DE GRACE - 12/19 1629 good w/ID during break in Colts football, used slogan "The sports voice of NE MD." (JB-NY)
1350 WBLT VA BEDFORD - 12/12 1645-1700 w/religion, s/off w/full data, to return 0600, no SSB. (KG-PA)
WLLY NC WILSON - 12/14 1655-1659 w/CW music, s/off was a unique routine of putting "Willy" to sleep until 0600, no SSB. (KG)
WKCW MS CORINTH - 12/18 1745 atop w/s/off w/mention of 94.3 FM (DLR)
WYLS AL YORK - 12/9 1743 Disco type music, ID w/s/off, SSB. (DLR-KY)
KTYJ TX JASPER - 12/13 1815 atop WSHB w/s/off, no SSB. (DLR-KY)



From.. 1090 AM 101.9 FM STEREO
KNWS RADIO
4880 LaPorte Road
Waterloo, Iowa 50702

4

1380 WNSI FL ST. PETERSBURG - 12/11 1750-1830 o/all w/Q105 rock music programming, clustered ads every 2 hour, many Q105 ID's, WNSI ID on hour. (KG-PA)

WGUS SC N. AUGUSTA - 12/12 1707-1715 w/CW music, ID's as AM 138, no data s/off w/promo for PM 102, Christmas greeting from "Us at Gus!" (KG-PA) Corn! (DS) 12/18 1716 atop w/s/off, no SSB. (DLR-KY)

WYSH TN CLINTON - 12/9 1730 atop w/s/off, ID, no SSB. (DLR-KY)

1390 WLAN PA LANCASTER - 12/19 1626 very strong in WFBL null, ID'ing as "Adult Radio." (JB-NY)

WFIW IL FAIRFIELD - 12/11 1730 tentative w/ad for business in Fairfield, then faded. (NAP-AL)

1400 WKWK WV WHEELING - 12/17 1750-1800 strong in WEST's null w/MYL, female anc'r w/weather, ads. (KG-PA)

1410 KCLO KS LEAVENWORTH - 12/18 1730 suddenly atop w/local ID, ads, mention of local counties, then faded very quickly. (DLR)

WIEH WI LACROSSE - 12/8 1643 local ads, ID, weather. (DLR-KY)

1420 WLET GA TOCCOA - 12/12 1728 atop w/s/off, no SSB. (DLR-KY)(DLR-KY)

1440 KETX TX LIVINGSTON - 12/11 1814 s/off w/mention of 92 FM, no SSB.

1460 WROY IL CARMi - 12/20 1728 fair w/others w/s/off w/mention of FM.(MK)

DIXON - 12/20 1730 fair in s/off w/others, didn't know if they had SSB or not, was noted. (MK-WI) See what happens when you have to proof-read and DX at the same time? (DS)

KRNY NE KEARNEY - 12/14 1810 atop briefly w/local sports, mention of "High School Player of the Week", local mentions. (DLR)

1480 WKKO NC FAIR BLUFF - 12/13 1714 sports, ads, ID, weather w/WRDM.(DLR)

KTHS AR BERRYVILLE - 12/14 1758 atop w/s/off w/SSB. (DLR-KY)

WRDM GA AUGUSTA - 12/12 1720-1725 on top w/Top music, Teacher of the Week promo, local ads, "Super RDM" ID's. (KG-PA)

1500 WSMX NC WINSTON-SALEM - 12/18 1650-1700 good w/religion o/WTOP.(JB)

1510 WMRE MA BOSTON - 12/10 1735-1845 w/MYL type music, "Remembrance" music, clustered ads, 5 minute newscast at :55. (KG-PA)

1550 WKBA VA VINTON - 12/18 1603 strong o/WGGR w/"the songs you like in Roanoke", ID. (JB-NY)

WYNX GA SMYRNA - 12/18 1730 good w/anc't on up-coming power reduction, used slogan "Family Radio." (JB-NY)

1560 KRJN LA CROWLEY - 12/7 1825 local ads, ID, gospel music. (DLR-KY)

KXXA AR MONETTE - 12/16 1755 AR network news, local ads, s/off w/mention of FM 107. (DLR-KY)

WIGB NC JOHNSON - 12/12 1715 noted w/s/off, no SSB. (HAT-NY)

WTNS OH COSHOCTON - 12/18 1606 very strong at end of AP news w/baseketball promo later on in day on WTNS-FM. (JB-NY)

1570 WTLK NC TAYLORSVILLE - 12/12 1716 good w/s/off, SSB. (HAT-NY)

Rich, let's stay w/the program...EST time only, please? (DS)

1580 WEYY AE TALLADEGA - 12/17 1743 atop w/long, drawn out s/off about wanting to stay on later, to write senators, s/off w/mention of WHTB 93 FM. (DLR-KY)

KTLU TX RUSK - 12/18 1810 sports w/talk on Texas games, ads, weather, into s/off. (DLR-KY)

1590 WHPY NC CLAYTON - 12/12 1700 s/off w/"this is 159 Country", ID.(HAT)

1600 WRBN GA WARNER ROBINS - 12/13 1728-1733 on top w/MYL, weather, GA network news. (KG-PA)

WEUP AL HUNTSVILLE - 12/13 1715-1728 on top w/black gospel singing, ID's as the "Gospel Powerhouse" (amen, brother!). (KG-PA)

12/18 1710 good w/funeral home ad, ID. (JB-NY)

KCRI AR WEST HELENA - 12/17 1801 atop w/s/off, no SSB. (DLR-KY)

WKGK VA SALTVILLE - 12/18 1648 strong w/ad for local bank, ID. (JB)

WIMX MD ROCKVILLE - 12/19 1639 on top w/fair signal using slogan "The Station of the Stars." (JB-NY)

MIDNITE - MIDDAY:

540 KNOE IA WEST MONROE - 12/17 0315 poor w/CW music. (DBJ-NE)

550 WKRC OH CINCINNATI - 12/20 0233 briefly atop w/ID into oldie then faded, WGR in long, deep fade. (DS-DE)

570 WFLP FL PINELLAS PARK - 12/19 0310-0406 fair in WMCA null w/Best of King, local breaks. Again 12/20 0255 w/religion, followed by local talk show. (KG-PA)

*WGMS MD BETHESDA - 12/20 0255-0323 conducting an ET w/various TT, ID w/greeting to DX'ers! (KG-PA)

KNAX SD YANKTON - 12/17 0353 w/CW music, ID. (DBJ-NE)

600 WSJS NC WINSTON-SALEM - 12/18 0013 good w/promo for Talknet. (JB-NY)

WREC TN MEMPHIS - 12/20 0236-0242 very strong w/MYL type programming, ID for "AM 60 WREC" then music, gone at switch back to nite pattern. Very rare. (DS-DE)

660 *WNBC NY NEW YORK - 12/20 0135 noted on w/various TT, conducting a PoP ET this AM. (DS-DE)

680 KPEQ MO ST. JOSEPH - 12/18 0358 w/comedy LP cut, ID, CBS news. (DBJ)

850 WYDE AL BIRMINGHAM - 12/20 0122 on top w/jingle/ID, Christmas music, signal fading badly. (JB-NY)

UNID 12/20 0050-0111 someone here w/TT then brief CW music and off w/no ID, way o/Spanish/WEA2. (DS-DE)

890 WES IL CHICAGO - 12/20 0245 noted silent this AM. (DS-DE)

910 WRCQ CT NEW BRITIAN - 12/20 0029 noted ending Big Band selection, weather for Hartford, quickly faded u/Spanish, WSBA nulled.(DS)

930 WKY OK OKLAHOMA CITY - 12/20 0256 tentative u/WBEN w/MoR, ID into CBS news, weak w/WFMD/WGNT/WPAT gone. (DS-DE)

950 *WPEN PA PHILADELPHIA - 12/20 0020 noted w/various TT this AM w/PoP in progress, carrier off later leaving Spanish/WKA2. (DS-DE)

960 CPAC AB CALGARY - 12/20 0023 w/ID, KMA nulled. (DBJ-NE)

1230 WBOX LA NEW ORLEANS - 12/20 0108 3 ID's within 8 seconds, w/music, weather...has to be a record-hi! (MK-WI) No, they're little things w/big holes in 'em! (DS)

1240 WIMZ TN KNOXVILLE - 12/20 0223 fair w/others w/rock music, "weather central forecast". (MK-WI)

WJTN NY JAMESTOWN - 12/12 0129 good w/legal ID during break in talk show. (JB-NY) Superglue fixes broken things good!

1260 CIHI NB FREDERICTON - 12/20 0227 very strong w/rock music, female anc'r, guess it's time for their annual pattern drift! (DS-DE)

1340 KHUB NE PREMONT - 12/18 0000 w/ID, rock music, weather. (DBJ-NE)

WROD FL DAYTONA BEACH - 12/26 0119 top dog w/MYL, break w/ID, anniversary mention, ads, very strong signal. (DS-DE)

1350 WKGE SC DARLINGTON - 12/13 0601 on top w/full data s/on, ID's as "The Big E" then signal faded. (KG-PA)

WGSW SC GREENWOOD - 12/13 0610-0624 gospel music program w/time, weather, ads, then into CW music w/"13 Country" ID's.(KG-PA)

1390 WVON IL CHICAGO - 12/20 0259 weak u/WFBL w/ID. (JB-NY)

1400 CJFP PQ RIVERDE LOUP - 12/25 0100 surfaced briefly w/Christmas music, female anc'r in French w/greeting, this was the only French Canadian heard this year! (DS-DE)

1480 WAME NC CHARLOTTE - 12/26 0125 w/weather break, ID, religious music, fading but mostly atop. (DS-DE)

1490 WPEX VA HAMPTON - 12/15 0236 w/CW music, Christmas music, weather, "X 15 Country" ID's, nicely atop. (DS-DE)

1520 WKBW NY BUFFALO - 12/20 0115 noted off this AM. (DS-DE)

KOMA OK OKLAHOMA CITY - 12/20 0220 very detailed weather, ID, CW music u/WKBW OC. (DS-DE) 12/20 0214 weak w/ID w/WKBW off this AM. (JB-NY) Should've had WCHE on-hi! (DS)

1550 WAAY AL HUNTSVILLE - 12/20 0056+ very strong all AM w/rock music, must've been on day power again (still?). (DS-DE)

1580 WLIM NY PATCHOGUE - 12/13 0550-0650 on early w/snow info and closings, MYL type music, Christmas songs. (KG-PA)

1590 WSRW OH HILLSBORO - 12/21 0600-0611 o/all w/SSB, brief s/on and weather, then into AP news, local ads, farm news w/female anc'r. (KG-PA)

PIRATES:

1620 WQSR NY BROOKLYN - 12/8 1800 s/off w/mention of transmitter being in Brooklyn, NY, very strong signal. (HAT-NY)

RANDUMBS:

One small favor to ask, please use Eastern Standard Time in your tips when you send them in, it is very confusing to have some changed and some not, especially if they're on one page of contributions! This really helps when I'm flying thru the column with a last minute type up job, which seems to be happening more frequent lately.

This is EVERYTHING rec'd up til 12/27, guess next weeks will look like IDXD!

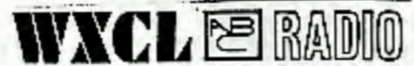
THE SWELL SEVEN (not counting me-hi!):

- MK-WI Mike Knitter, Cambridge, WI ICR70, SM2
- DY-MI Dave Yocis, E. Lansing, MI RF2600
- HAT-NY Rich Hatfield, New Hartford, NY
- DLR-KY Dave Reitz, Fern Creek, KY DX160, Superadio
- DBJ-NE Dan Bartek, Jr., Nahoo, NE TRF, SM2
- NAP-AL Neal Perdue, Falkville, AL R390A, SM2, RF2900
- KG-PA Kermit Geary, Walnutport, PA HQ180A, SM2, LW
- DS-DE The guy named at the start of the column! HQ180A, SM2, LW, Superadio

Special thanks to Neal Perdue who phones in the WYNI-1510 reception!

73's - Good DX

WDE



KATZ
RADIO 1600 FOR ST. LOUIS

INTERNATIONAL DX DIGEST

Times are GMT. For EDT subtract 5 hours. Deadlines are usually Monday.

CHUCK HUTTON
1035 LATHAM ROAD
DECATUR, GA 30033
(404) 633-1198
BEFORE 2300 EDT

- 164 FRANCE 0436 12/19 ALLOUÏS WEAK W/MAN IN FF. (CONNELLY)
185 WEST GERMANY 0437 12/19 SAARLOUIS POOR TO FAIR W/POP MX. (CONNELLY)
2187 MONACO 0445 12/19 TALK, WEAK WITH DRM FROM "IHM" BEACON. (CONNELLY)
580 JAMAICA 0506 12/19 POINT GALINA XLNT WITH PROMO/AD IN CARIBBEAN EE FOR
DRIFTERS AND STYLISTICS CONCERTS IN MONTEGO BAY, THEN RJR ID;
PROGRAMMING //720. SIGNAL WAS DOMINANT, ATOP SEVERAL SS LA'S.
(CONNELLY)
580 PUERTO RICO 2304 12/18 SAN JUAN WKAQ LOUD W/R. RELOJ ID; 4 PIANO NOTES
TO TUNE OF OLD MKAR JINGLE, THEN SS TALK-WAY O/WTAG AND CANADIANS.
(CONNELLY)
595 DOMINICA ROSEAU 0025 12/20 W/EE TALK ABOUT SONGS PRESENTLY POPULAR IN
DOMINICA, LIVE CONTEST OF SOME TYPE. (PERDUE)
600 COLOMBIA 0512 12/19 BARRANQUILLA HJHJ XLNT W/R. LIBERTAD ID; SS TALK
MENTIONING BARRANQUILLA. (CONNELLY)
610 COLOMBIA 0523 12/19 BOGOTA HJKL LOUD W/FAST SS TALK AND RCN MENTIONS.
(CONNELLY)
630 PUERTO RICO 0522 12/19 SAN JUAN WQBS GOOD O/WPRO AND OTHER SS LA'S;
UPTempo MX; ANNCR SHOUTED "FELIZ NAVIDAD" THEN "SALSA SESENTA Y TRES"
JINGLE. (CONNELLY)
640 CUBA 0050 12/19 SS TALK BY MAN AND WOMAN; R. PROGRESSO ID; ATOP YVQO
AND OTHERS. (CONNELLY)
650 ALASKA ANCHORAGE KYAK 0831 11/18 GOOD O/KORL WITH SPORTS UPDATE THEN
INTO C&H. (TOMER)
650 VENEZUELA 0527 12/19 MARACAY YVLH GOOD O/OTHER LA'S; REVERBERATED
RADIO VISION MARACAY" ID AND CHUBBY CHECKER MUSIC. (CONNELLY)
650 MEXICO LOS MOCHIS XETNT ASSUMED SOURCE OF LUD RANCHERA MUSIC 0112
12/41 HEARD OFTEN IN WINTER AT SUNSET. (TOMER)
660 CUBA 0528 12/19 SAFRICA-FLUENCED SS MX //640. THE 660 CUBAN WAS O/U
W/BC. (CONNELLY)
660 MEXICO MEXICO CITY XERPM 0110 12/4 0000 WITH "66, LA TROPICAL DE ORO"
SLOGAN. (TOMER)
670 VENEZUELA CARACAS YVLL 2254 12/14 SS TALK, RUMBOS ID, BIG SIGNAL.
(HAKIEL)
690 0052 12/19 JAZZ, SS TALK, LIKE A LOCAL, NO CBF. (CONNELLY)
700 COLOMBIA 0055 12/19 CALI HJXC POTENT W/ORCHESTRAL MX, SUTATENZA-CALI
ID; CHRISTMAS MX-ATOP YVMH AND OTHERS. (CONNELLY)
700 GUATEMALA 0537 12/19 GUATEMALA CITY TQHR GOOD W/CIRCUS/CARNIVAL-TYPE
ELECTRIC ORGAN MX, R. MUNDIAL ID; SS ROCK. (CONNELLY)
710 VENEZUELA 0057 12/19 CARACAS YVKY O/U WOR: HALL AND OATES THEN R.
CAPITAL ID.
720 JAMAICA 0509 12/19 KIGSTON VERY GOOD/DOMINANT W/RJR ANNCR, DRIFTERS
SONG //580. (CONNELLY)
720 VENEZUELA-PORLAMAR YVOE 0157 12/16 MUCH SS TALK, "RADIO VISION
ORIENTE" ID; GOOD. (HAKIEL)
725 SURINAM 2217 12/18 PARAMARIBO XLNT W/SOUL VERSION OF "WE'VE ONLY JUST
BEGUN", THEN DD TALK. (CONNELLY)
730 COLOMBIA HJCU BOGOTA 0423 12/12 LA MX; VOCALS, R. MELODIA ID, GOOD.
(HAKIEL)
730 COSTA RICA SAN JOSE 0700 12/1 TIBB, CAUGHT THE ID IN PASSING AS "RADIO
RELOJ DE COSTA RICA", GOOD. (HAKIEL)
730 SOCIETY ISLANDS, R. TAHITE 0720 12/11 FAIR SIGNAL W/TAHITIAN PROGRAM.
(TOMER)
730 UNID 1517 12/3 MAN AND WOMAN TALKING IN WHAT SOUNDED LIKE KK, MAYBE IT
WAS HLKG, SOUTH KOREA. (TOMER)
730 UNID 1540 12/12 VOCAL MX ROUGHLY SIMILAR TO WHAT IS HEARD ON R.
MALAYSIA SHORTWAVE STATIONS, GOOD SIGNAL BRIEFLY, LOOPING FARTHER
SOUTH THAN THE USUAL JJ/KK SIGNAL PATH, PERHAPS THE PHILIPPINES OR
THAILAND. (TOMER)
750 NICARAGUA MANAGUA YNX GREAT SIGNAL UNDER KXL NULL 0535 11/19, MENTION
OF MANAGUA AND RADIO SANDINO. (TOMER)
750 VENEZUELA 0540 12/19 CARACAS YVKS BOMBING IN W/JOE JACKSON, THEN
CARACAS MENTION. (CONNELLY)
760 CUBA 2320 12/19 R. RELOJ DOMINANT O/YVQQ/HJAJ/WJR; USUAL SS NX AND
TIME CHECK SHOW. (CONNELLY)
770 PANAMA CHITRE HOL47 0900 12/17 WABC NULLED COMPLETELY, XLNT SIG WITH
ID. (HAKIEL)
780 BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS 2223 12/10 ROADTOWN ZBV1 FAIR W/US TYPE SOUL
MX. (CONNELLY)
780 COLOMBIA 0547 12/19 CALI HJZG XLNT W/SS ADS FOR MANY BUSINESSES IN
CALI AND LA PLATA. (CONNELLY)
800 NETHERLANDS ANTILLES 2224 12/10 PJB XLNT W/SS. (CONNELLY)
- 815T ECUADOR 0437 12/12 LA MX, SS TALK, WEAK, NO ID HEARD. (HAKIEL)
820 ALASKA KCBF FAIRBANKS 12/15 0357 EZL MX, 0400 ID THEN NX, EX 900, NO
IDEA HOW LONG IT'S BEEN ON 820. (VERNGN) LOOK WHO'S BACK!
846 KIRIBATI TARAWA GREAT SIGNAL 0645 12/6 W/NATIVE SINGING. (TOMER)
820 COLOMBIA 0549 12/19 CALI HJED JUST O/GROUL: CARACOL ID HEARD.
(CONNELLY)
825 PANAMA 0551 12/19 MACARACAS HORSE GOOD W/SS DISCO. (CONNELLY) 0701
12/2/82 HORSE A LITTLE BIT OF "JINGLE BELLS"; R. PENINSULA ID THEN
BACK TO LA MX, GOOD SIGNAL. (HAKIEL)
825 ST. KITTS 2225 2/18 BASSETTERE XLNT W/RELIGIOUS TALK IN EE BY WOMAN.
(CONNELLY) WEAK 0225 12/17 RELIGIOUS HYMNS. (TOMER)
828 UNID 1550 12/10 WEAK VOCAL MUSIC HERE LOOPING TOWARDS S.E. ASIA;
PERHAPS WAS DXCC, PHILIPPINES WHICH HAS BEEN HEARD ON THE WC
RECENTLY. NONE OF THE USUAL JJ OR KK TP'S IN THIS AM. (TOMER)
830 MEXICO CULIACAN XEVD 0155 12/17 FINE SIGNAL W/RANCHERA MX, PLENTY OF
ADS, ID'S AND S/OFF ANCT. (TOMER)
830 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC 0557 12/19 SANTO DOMINGO HIJB FESTIVE MX, SANTO
DOMINGO MENTIONED OFTEN IN ANNC'S WHICH FOLLOWED. (CONNELLY)
830 UNID 0215 12/8 VERY WEAK SIGNAL WITH CLASSICAL MX, LOOPING TOWARDS
MEXICO/CENTRAL AMERICA. PROBABLY WAS XELA, MEXICO CITY, ALTHOUGH I
HAVEN'T HEARD THEM IN SEVERAL YEARS O CAN'T ASSUME THEY ARE STILL
CLASSICAL. (TOMER)
834 BELIZE R. BELIZE 0137 12/8 WEAK W/EE POP. (TOMER)
835 UNID WEAK CARRIER PUTTING A HET ON BLEIZE 0137 12/8, LOOPING S.E.
(TOMER)
840 CUBA 0600 12/19 DOMINANT W/R. HABANA ID, SS TALK BY WOMAN, SOFT MX.
(CONNELLY)
840 CUBA 0559 12/16 SUDDEN FADE-IN O/HAS THEN R. HABANA CUBA ID BY WOMAN.
IS THIS CMH? (TOMER) MOST LIKELY-CH
850 COLOMBIA BOGOTA 0707 12/2 HJKC MANY MENTIONS OF CARACOL AND LA VOZ DE
LA NOCHE, XLNT. (HAKIEL)
860 COLOMBIA 0602 12/19 ACCORDION MX, INTERVAL SIGNAL WITH 4 ASCENDING
NOTES, THEN LV DE CAYAGUATE ID-LOUD, NO TRACE OF CUBA, BRAZIL OR
ANYONE ELSE AT THE TIME ON 860; THE HJ WAS TOTALLY DOMINANT.
(CONNELLY) 0725 12/21 EASY LISTENING COLOMBIAN ACCORDION MX, ID; XLNT.
(HAKIEL)
864 UNID 1545 12/12 S.E. ASIA LOOP DIRECTION, GOOD CARRIER WITH SOME WEAK
HEARD INDONESIA HERE SEVERAL YEARS BACK. (TOMER)
890 UNID 154 12/15 PLAYING STANDARDS AND CHRISTMAS VOCALS; NO ID OR BREAK
AT 1600. I ASSUME IT WAS ADAK, ALASKA AFRS; LOOPED THAT DIRECTION.
(TOMER)
894.2 UNID CARRIER LOOPING S.E. 0205 12/8 WITH SOME WEAK TALK, POSSIBLY A
RELIGIOUS BROADCAST, AGAIN AT 0215 12/17 JUST A WEAK CARRIER, WHO
MIGHT THIS BE? (TOMER) (HAITI OR ECUADOR, EITHER OF WHICH WOULD BE AN
XLNT CATCH FROM CALIFORNIA...CH)
950 VENEZUELA 0105 12/10 CARACAS YVGG STRONG ND ALONE DURING HEAVY AU CX;
SEVERAL MENTIONS OF MARACAY NOTED. (CONNELLY)
990 GRENADA 0040 12/19 ACCENTED EE TALK, STEEL BAND CALYPSO TUNE JUST
ATOP FILE OF OTHER STATIONS. (CONNELLY)
1000 VENEZUELA 0613 12/19 MORGON YVMH LOUD W/MUNIDAL MIL ID WAY O/WCLF.
(CONNELLY)
1020 VENEZUELA 0618 12/19 LA ASUNCION YVRS GOOD W/UPBEAT MX, MUNDIAL
MARGARITA ID, EASILY TOPPING KDKA. (CONNELLY)
1025 UNID 0230 WEAK CARRIER LOOPING S.E. (TOMER)
1030 MEXICO MEXICO CITY XEQR 0230 12/8 GOOD SIGNAL W/SS VOCAL, WHISTLE
SLOGAN. (TOMER)
1035 HAITI CAP HAITIEN 4VEH 0950+ INSTRUMENTAL MX TO SET OF CHINES NEAR
THE HOUR; THREE BELLS HEARD THREE TIMES THEN MALE ID FOR 4VEH. PGR
WHO GRM. (HARDESTER)
1070 COLOMBIA 0623 12/19 BOGOTA HJCG HEARD W/RADIO SANTA FE ID, ACCORDION
MX W/SS VOCAL, JUST O/TWO OTHER SS LA'S. (CONNELLY)
1030T CUBA 0623 12/19 SS TALK, SEVERAL HABANA MENTIONS; RISING O/HAITI AND
HTIC. (CONNELLY)
1030 HAITI 0626 12/19 PORT-AU-PRINCE GOOD W/FF CHRISTMAS HYMS "IL EST
NAIT, LE DIVINE ENFANT"; ATOP HTIC AND SS LA'S. (CONNELLY)
1100 ANTIGUA ST. JOHN'S ZDK 0119 12/10 AND 2237 12/18 CHRISTMAS MUSIC DONE
IN REGGAE AND DISCO STYLES. (CONNELLY)
1100 COLOMBIA 0633 12/19 BARRANQUILLA HJAT LOUD/DOMINANT O/W/NE; R. RELOJ
ID, TIME CHECK, BARRANQUILLA MENTIONS THEN TYPICAL ACCORDION MX, HJAT
IS THE RADIO RELOJ HEARD OVER 95% OF THE TIME ON 1100 HERE ON CAPE
COD; THE OTHER 1100 RELOJ'S DON'T SEEM TO GET OUT SO WELL. (CONNELLY)
1100 ANTIGUA GREENVILLE 2202 12/16 US POP MX, ID GIVEN. (HAKIEL)
1121 UNID 0330 12/11 LA MX, SS TALK, ID SOUNDS LIKE R. PONSILLA. (HAKIEL).
(IT'S R. TONCHALA, HJTI FROM 1130-CH)
1125 UNID 0155 12/8 WEAK CARRIE LOOPING S.E. (TOMER)
1134 UNID 1545 12/15 WEAK INDO-SOUNDING TALK, LOOPING S.E. ASIA. I HEARD S
RR) INDONESIA HERE 3 OR 4 YEARS AGO. (TOMER)
1165 ANTIGUA 0118 12/10 ST. JOHN'S C.R.L. XLNT ON CAR RX DURING AU CX;
SOUTHERN US PREACHER. 2239 12/18 GOOD W/RELIGIOUS PROGRAM. (CONNELLY)
1170 HAITI PORT-AU-PRINCE 4VRS 0230 12/12 WOMAN TALKING IN A FRENCH
SOUNDING LANGUAGE NOT FRENCH, PROBABLY CREOLE. THIS STN NOT HEARD
OFTEN. DOMINANT ON CHANNEL BECAUSE OF AURORA. (HAKIEL)

- 1175.3 COLOMBIA LOCATION UNKNOWN 0212 12/12 BOUNCY COLOMBIAN MX, TODELAR NETWORK. MATT STUTTERHEIM SAYS STN IS HJKK. NEW STN? GOOD SIGNAL. (HAKIEL) (AFFIRMATIVE ON THE NEW PART-CH)
- 1200 CUBA SANTIAGO DE CUBA CMJL 0304 12/15 LA TUNES, SS TALK, FAIR-GOOD. (HAKIEL)
- 1210 VENEZUELA 0642 12/19 BARCELONA YVQZ GOOD, ROLLING O/WCAU: "WOMAN" BY JOHN LENNON, R. ANZOATEGUI ID, THEN SS SONG. (CONNELLY)
- 1220 COLOMBIA BARRANQUILLA HJVF 0130 12/13 ID "LV DE COLOMBIA" HEARD O/CUBAN, GOOD. (HAKIEL)
- 1225 UNID 0315 12/1 SS MX, SS TALK, DEEP LONG FADES, POOR-FAIR. (HAKIEL)
- 1250 COLOMBIA BOGOTA 0300 12/8 HJCA MUCH SS TALK, R. CAPITAL ID U/MANY DOMESTICS. (HAKIEL)
- 1270 CUBA CANAGUEY CHHD 0422 12/7 R. RELOJ, TYPICAL NEWS FORMAT, FAIR. (HAKIEL)
- 1345T ECUADOR AMBATO HCPB6 LA MX, FEMALE SINGING BALLADS 0100 12/13, SS ANNCR, NO ID HEARD. POOR-FAIR SIG THEN FADE-OUT. (HAKIEL) THIS STATION HASN'T BEEN HEARD FOR ABOUT 4 YEARS AND BEFORE THAT WAS REPORTED EVERY SO OFTEN. I THINK THEY MUST BE OFF THE AIR-CH
- 1370 COLOMBIA BARRANQUILLA HJBO 0501 12/3 COLOMBIAN MX, R. PILOTO ID, DUG OUT FROM A MESS OF STATIONS. (HAKIEL)
- 1375 ST. PIERRE ET MIQUELON 0145 12/6 FF TALK, NA, S/OFF. (HAKIEL)
- 1395 UNID 0548 2/5 FF TALK THEN "LA MARSEILLAISE" AND S/OFF. (HAKIEL)
- 1404 GUINEA 0055 12/20 CONAKRY NOTED W/BITS OF CHANTING AND POTENT HET AGAINST 1400 KHZ DOMESTICS. (CONNELLY) 0043 12/12 AA TALK, AA MX W/BONGO DRUMS, FAIR. (HAKIEL)
- 1420 CUBA GUANTANAMO 0636 12/2 CMMQ TYPICAL CUBAN MX, R. PROGRESSO ID. (HAKIEL)
- 1430 CUBA MORON CMIN 0402 12/3 LA MX, SS TALK, R. SURCOS ID U/MANY DOMESTICS. (HAKIEL)
- 1460 TURKS AND CAICOS, GOVERNOR'S BEACH 0031 12/12 VOA PROGRAM OF "COUNTRY MUSIC USA", ID AT 0030. ON TOP OF CHANNEL, XLNT SIG. (HAKIEL)
- 1520 COLOMBIA BARRANQUILLA HJLQ 0030 12/3 RANTING AND RAVING BY MAN, R. MINUTO ID, CAN'T SEE HOW THIS STATION MAKES IT HERE W.SUCH STRENGTH! WAY OVER EVERYTHING-XLNT SIGNAL. (HAKIEL)
- 1530 COLOMBIA CHIQUEQUIRA HJOD 0002 12/2 CARACOL, COLOMBIA MENTIONS UA BIG MESS OF STATIONS, REINA DE COLOMBIA ID. (HAKIEL)
- 1530 CUBA MORON CMIN 0025 12/8 SS TALK, R. MORON ID, ROOSTER STILL CROWING, GOOD SIGNAL. (HAKIEL)
- 1539 WEST GERMANY MAINFLINGEN 0029 12/11 NICE PLEASANT MUZAK TYPE MX, NICE HIGH BAND OPENING TONIGHT, GOOD. (HAKIEL)
- 1540 BAHAMAS NASSAU ZNSI 2233 11/30 ADS FOR NASSAU MONGERY, WHATEVER THAT IS! ALSO PROMOTION FOR TV CHANNEL 13. ON TOP OF THE CHANNEL, XLNT. (HAKIEL)
- 1555 CAYMAN ISLANDS GEORGETOWN 0235 12/3 US POP MX, WQXR, INTERFERENCE NULLED BY LOOP, GOOD SIGNAL. (HAKIEL)
- 1566 SOUTH KOREA CHEJU HLAZ 1610 12/12 FAIR WITH CHRISTIAN JJ PGM. (TOMER)
- 1564 TUNISIA SFAX 2242 12/10 WOMAN ANNCR HEARD BRIEFLY, AU CX WITH A INDEX OF 48. PEAKED UP LOUD FOR A COUPLE OF MINUTES. (HAKIEL)
- 1575 THAILAND BEN PACHI 1550 2/12 BEST SIGNAL EVER HEARD HERE, JUST ABOUT EQUAL TO DOMESTICS W/EE BROADCAST AND MENTION OF VOA. I GUESS THIS S STATION COULD BE CONSIDERED THE INDICATOR STATION FOR S.E. ASIA OPENINGS. (TOMER)
- 1580 ANTIGUA VOA 0117 12/1 VOA CARIBBEAN NXREPORT, XLNT. (HAKIEL) 0004 12/10 ST. JOHN'S XLNT W/VOA NX IN EE: POWERHOUSE SIGNAL. LOW BACKGROUND HETS PRESENT: ONE ABOUT 50 HZ, THE SECOND ABOUT 500 HZ. (CONNELLY)
- 1580 COLOMBIA BARRANQUILLA HJQZ 2329 12/1 SS LOVE SONG BY MALE, R. PRINCE ID. (HAKIEL)
- 1593 WEST GERMANY LANGENBERG 0017 12/11 US POP MX, GG TALK, GOOD. (HAKIEL)
- 1610 ANGIILLA CARIBBEAN BEACON 2337 11/30 FERVENT PREDICATOR IN RELIGIOUS PROGRAM, XLNT. (HAKIEL)

AND THAT IS THAT FOR YET ANOTHER IDXD ISSUE. I HAD THE DISTINCT PLEASURE OF HEARING A FEW NEW LA'S VERY EARLY CHRISTMAS DAY. CONDITIONS WERE TRULY XLNT TO ALL AREAS OF LATIN AMERICA! IN CONJUNCTION WITH STATIONS STAYING ON THE AIR ALL NIGHT FOR CHRISTMAS THINGS WERE INTERESTING. HOPE SOME OF YOU OTHER HUYS WERE ABLE TO CATCH SOME OF IT.

STATION DU JOUR: 1560 HAS BEEN TAKEN OVER BY A NEW CUBAN WHO IS CURRENTLY ONLY PARTIALLY ID'ED HERE. THE SLOGAN IS "RADIO MUSICAL AVENIDA" OR "RADIO MUSICAL AVELIDA" OR SOMESUCH, LOCATED IN CIEGO DE AVILA. MAINLY MUSH MUSIC WITH ID'S FEW AND FAR BETWEEN WITH SOMETIMES EVEN NOTHING ACROSS THE HOUR! THAT IS A REAL RARITY FOR CUBANS.

MARK CONNELLY-CAPE COD, MA ICF2001, SM2
 GEORGE HAKIEL-W. ISLIP, NY R7A, 4' LOOP, LW'S
 MIKE HARDESTER-HAVELOCK, NC FR67, R. WEST LOOP
 NEAL PERDUE-FALKVILLE, ALA R390A, SM2, LW
 RANDY TOMER-ARCATA, CA. SPR4, H0180A, LOOP, 100' LW
 BRIAN VERNON-CAMSELL RIVER, NWT FRG7000, 300' LW

ICOM IC-R70 RECEIVER REVIEW

By Vincent J. Pinto

The newest Entry in the digital readout communications receiver market is the ICOM IC-R70. ICOM already has a fine reputation as a manufacturer of Amateur transceivers. This is their first entry in the general coverage receiver market, at least in the U.S.A. It should be noted that two of their recent transceivers boast general coverage receiver sections, however, so they are not treading on entirely new grounds. List price of the IC-R70 is \$750 net. Most dealers are selling for just under \$700. If you can't get it for less than \$680, keep shopping; I bought an R-70 almost as soon as it came out, as a backup receiver to my Drake R-7A, which had to go back to the factory for a few days for warranty work. No previously available receivers in the under \$1000 category had any of the features I wanted, so I took a chance on the IC-R70, since it offered most of these features, and at an attractive price. In addition it offers microprocessor control of many functions--something no communications grade receiver under \$1000 offers. I guess the only doubt in my mind was would it turn out to be communications grade or semi-pro grade--or would it turn out to be a big toy? You see, the low price scared me. You wonder how much they can pack into a receiver for that price. To give you a sneak preview answer before the rest of the article--this receiver is packed with features, the box is packed with components, and the schematic is one of the most complex I have seen in a long time. And performance-wise--overall--it works well. There are several of what I feel to be shortcomings, but those features have to go with a \$700 receiver. I mentioned that the box is closely packed with components. There are a number of available receivers in the \$220 to \$650 list price range with very little inside the box. And less shielding to boot! I have now used the IC-R70 stand alone for 10 days, and next to my Drake R7A for 3 weeks on a comparison basis.

The IC-R70 is a tough, complex receiver to evaluate. Much more so than any others in its price class. Moreover, for the purposes of this review, I will be comparing it to an R-7A by Drake, which lists for more than twice as much. Yet I must compare it to the Drake, for it far outstrips anything in its own price class, and the next rigs up the ladder are the NRD-515 and the R-7A. I don't have an NRD-515, so it was the R-7A or nothing. And it stacks up pretty well. But please bear in mind when you see side by side comparisons in this article that seem to slightly downgrade the ICOM, that it lists for \$750, and my Drake, with its options, lists for almost \$1200.

First off, bare facts and specs. Since the IC-R70 is so new and as yet little advertised, I will cover the basic specs. Nominal 50 ohm ant. input, unbalanced, all bands. Extra connector for optional low freq. longwire. Coverage 100 khz. to 29.999 Mhz. Pushbutton selectable cont. general coverage, or ham bands only (incl. WARC). 10 Hz step CPU controlled synthesizer (PLL), quadruple conversion, Upconversion. Optional FM detector. 6 digit freq. readout to 100 Hz. Claims of very high stability. *L.T. 30 Hz per hr after warmup! CPU controlled options, Dual VFO memory. Optical shaft encoder tuning. Button choice of three tuning speeds, RF preamp, Attenuator.

Passband IF tuning. Notch filter. Noise blanker with dual blanking widths. 2 A.G.C. speeds plus off. RTT (RCVR. incremental tuning). 500 Hz., 2.3kHz. and 6 kHz. filters stock (at 6 db. points). RF gain, Squelch, tone control. Modes: AM, SSB, CW, RTTY. (RTTY AF output on back panel acc. jack...) Monitor output for transceiver monitoring. Front panel monitor volume control, 13.8 vdc. input on acc. jack for mobile work. (As with most communications receivers, there is no provision for internal batteries). As with the Japan Radio NRD-515, there is an extensive accessory socket on rear providing for future options such as remote memory and keyboard tuning.

The receiver has an all-metal cabinet. Well shielded from the outside world. Headphone jack, recorder jack and speaker jack. Built in front panel speaker.

The receiver is very compact and quite sturdy and solid. As far as I can tell, the receiver I bought met all published specs listed in the operators manual.

Discovering how to use a microprocessor aided general coverage receiver was a pleasant surprise. Like tune fast. Or move quickly from, for example, the top of one tuning range to the (contiguous) bottom of the next highest tuning range. These "chores" are a pleasure, and instantaneous, on the IC-R70.

* Less than

The 6 digit readout is a high intensity blue fluorescent display. Very easy on the eyes. There is a front panel dimmer switch for display and S-Meter backlighting.

All tuning is via a CPU controlled step synthesizer, with user selectable steps of 10 Hz., 100 Hz., or 1 kHz. This receiver is fairly clean with regard to synthesizer phase noise (or noise sidebands) on the local oscillator signal. I do not have the necessary spectrum analyzer to go inside the rig and measure actual L.O. phase noise--but in actual day to day use there is little in evidence. (Using the 500 Hz CW bandwidth, and tuning CW signals on a quiet band, there are occasional weak secondary 'beats' observed as you tune across the signal.) So the IC-R70 should be considered quite clean in this respect. As you probably know, synthesizer phase noise is an abundant problem in any fully PLL synthesized receiver, transceiver or transmitter. And its only lately that many manufacturers are getting it under control. Yet even now, even the best fully synthesized receivers in the under \$6,000 price range still exhibit much more phase noise than most "tunable L.O." type rigs from much cheaper price classes. In this regard, and it may be a quirk of just my unit--my rig shows one anomaly that may be either a "Birdie" or noisy L.O. When tuning in CW mode, there is an occasional high pitch, fixed-pitch "second heterodyne" present in the audio. When present, the pitch does not change with tuning.

Stability of the receiver is phenomenal. Even after a 30-40 minute warmup, there is no user detectable drift for hour after hour. I wish I could say the same for my R-7A--which altho it does not drift badly, does drift, and more than a \$1700 receiver should. I love the main tuning knob on the ICOM. It's hefty, and the finger-spinner detent on the knob is big enuf and deep enuf for easy use. (Are you hearing me, DRAKE?) I already mentioned the ICOM has three selectable tuning speeds. In 10 Hz. step, one half turn of the tuning knob equals about 600 Hz. In 100 Hz. step, one-half turn equals 5.3 kHz., and in 1 kHz. steps, one half turn of the knob passes 53 kHz. These steps are selectable via three vertically arranged pushbuttons next to the main knob. (For comparison, my R7A, which is not fully synthesized, uses a permeability tuned oscillator--PTO--with only one tuning rate--approx. 12.7 kHz. per half turn of tuning knob. It is a good compromise, but it can't equal three different speeds.)

The ICOM tunes in 1 MHz. bands. Band is stepped up or down via up and down pushbuttons. This entire receiver is electronically tuned via the CPU. No preselector or bandswitch knobs. Over a hundred PIN diodes under CPU control choose appropriate synthesizer dividers and parameters, IF Filters, and front end bandpass filters. More on these PINS later.

There are two "VFO's". Really this is just a catchall phrase for an A memory and B memory. A and B VFO are chosen via an in-out pushbutton. An appropriate "A" or "B" is displayed to the left of the freq. readout. So if VFO A is set on 194 kHz., and VFO B is set on 7560 kHz., you can switch from one frequency to the other at the push of a button. This, coupled with selectable rate tuning means you can scan the bands almost as fast as your mind can keep up. I would like to see about another ten memory frequencies, and I assume this (an external memory/access unit) will be offered in the future as an option.

The IC-R70's RIT, when chosen by button, will change frequency by plus or minus 800 Hz. In keeping with most modern amateur transceivers--this change is not shown on the freq. display. I have never seen the sense in this "invisible" frequency change--and would much rather it be reflected in the display.

There is a very convenient tuning lock pushbutton which disables the main tuning knob.

There are function pushbuttons for AM, USB, LSB, RTTY, and CW wide and CW narrow.

When in each mode you are 'married' to the manufacturers choice of filter for that mode. In AM mode you are stuck with a 6 kHz. filter (and, worse, with a shape factor of 3:1!), and in SSB with a better shaped 2.7 kHz. filter. Now this AM filter is a disaster. It's the only real disaster in the ICOM. 6 kHz. is just too wide for any serious Mx or SW work. Altho there is the 2.3 kHz filter for SSB it uses a different center freq., and anyway is not available in AM mode. (At this point let me interject that 2nd IF center freq in AM is 9.0100 MHz., SSB is 9.0115 MHz., and CW is 9.0106 MHz.). Now the manual downplays the BW limitation by pointing out that AM BW is really adjustable down to 2.7 kHz. via the PBT control. That may be so, but I have three points I wish you to con-

sider. Even 2.7 kHz is far too wide for many of today's crowded bands. Secondly, using the PBT for this receiver to its fullest extent requires judicious coordination of PBT and the main tuning knob. Third, and most damning is the skirt shape of the AM filter and the next filter downstream the IF in mode. (This also applies to some extent to the broad skirted 500 Hz. CW filter, too) Its just too broad and sloppy. Usage bears this out. However, with judicious use of PBT under rough conditions, the receiver is usable and workable. But it does leave something to be desired. The owners manual points that user installed optional CW and SSB filters of narrower bandwidth are available. No mention is made of a narrower AM filter. You cannot just solder in an SSB filter because the IF center freq is different (altho this option is not entirely impossible. Look at the specs. A center frequency difference of only 1.5 kHz. will still allow signals to fall well within the passband of subsequent tuned stages. The only problem is that the center freq. will be 1.5 kHz off.) I don't know if ICOM makes a narrower AM filter with the exactly correct center freq. I am also not sure whether the existing filters in the receiver are ceramic or crystal filters. The best impression I can get is that most stock filters are ceramic. Now for an anomaly in AM mode only, which is not serious in actual use, but is certainly interesting. In ANY particular MHz. range, you are actually not tuned to the displayed freq. (in AM mode) when the receiver is tuned from X.000.0 thru X.001.4, inclusive. (Where X can be any MHz from 0 to 29. Its kind of like a foldover. At first, when I noticed this anomaly, I assumed that the receiver was tuned to 'nothing' when in this 'ICOM Bermuda Triangle'. However, I am a suspicious guy and some bench tests with a digital RF generator proved that what we're really tuning in that 1.4 MHz. range, no mans land is really 1.4 kHz a whole MHz. higher. So for example, if you're tuned to 4.000.0 MHz your receiver is really listening to 5.000.0 MHz. And so on. If you tune 2.001.1 MHz., you are really hearing 3.001.1 MHz. And as you pass the magic demarcation point between the 1.4 kHz digits and the 1.5 kHz. digits, there is a tiny "click" and you're back where you belong. I first suspected that this was a flaw in my receiver only, but I have since heard that other R-70 owners notice the phenomenon, too. What then, transpires here? It is a quirk of CPU programming and synthesizer loop programming. Its apparently directly related to the fact that the 2nd IF center freq in AM is 1.5 kHz lower, than SSB. (There is also a smaller, similar quirk, when in CW mode.)

Now for SSB mode. Short and simple. Very good. You're stuck with the 2.3 kHz. filter, and its a good choice. Specs show a nice tight skirt shape, and tests bear this out. In practice its a pleasure to use in SSB. I'm sure this is partly due to its superior stability. When you touch the SSB button, mode selected is automatically LSB if displayed freq. is below 9.0 MHz, and USB if over 9.0 MHz. Incidentally, mode selected is displayed by a single letter at the left of the fluorescent display. i.e.: U, L, A, C, R. (The R is for RTTY). If you wish USB reception below 9 MHz, or LSB above, you first tap the "function" button, the tap SSB button. Selectivity, ease of tuning, and signal clarity in SSB are all very good. One wierdie. If you are TUNING in AM or LSB mode and happen to pass an USB signal, and, in the due course of things, press the button to select USB, you'll not only get USB but your displayed freq. (and actual freq will jump down by 3.0 kHz. VERY disconcerting till you get used to it! Similarly if you go from USB to LSB or AM, you jump up 3 kHz. This happens on a smaller scale with CW, if you enter CW while in AM or LSB, your freq. goes down by 600 Hz. In order for the receiver to accurately display CARRIER frequency while listening in SSB or CW, this little "quirk" was tolerated. This behavior is rather common in some Amateur transceivers, and not so alarming in them, since it is not so common to tune rapidly and then switch modes often on Amateur bands. In any case, this is hardly a "problem"--more of a curiosity.... As I mentioned before, in CW you can choose either the 500 Hz., or 2.3 kHz. filter. Performance on CW is quite good in my opinion. The 500 Hz filter DOES have broad skirts according to the manual, but in practice this rarely a problem unless a very strong signal is a few hundred hertz away. In RTTY mode mark frequency of the RTTY signal is displayed when tuned in. RTTY audio output is available on the rear panel. Normal RTTY BW is the 2.3 kHz. filter, but, via a switch inside a little door atop the receiver you can select the 500 Hz. filter

PIN diodes, and unless used in a properly designed circuit and well biased, they can be a disaster in a receiver. They can be a source of feedthru, and unintentional nonlinear operation and mixing. Not so here in the ICOM. Remarkably clean, even when faced with very strong signals. Even with the 20 db preamp on I have never seen the ICOM overload or create spurs in day to day use. ICOM has addressed some of the worst problems of receivers in the under \$1000 range and done a great job at it. This is not to say that receiver dynamic range or spurious rejection is as good as the Drake's. My lab bench tests proved that the dynamic range, and various related factors, are not close to the specs of the Drake R-7A. Same for ultimate selectivity. *But it's good!* One particular point I could make is that the Drake uses separate shielded compartments for all IF and RF stages. This provides a tremendous advantage in ultimate selectivity, feedthru, and spurious response. The ICOM is more or less all built on one circuit board with much less stage to stage isolation than the Drake. This shows up when trying, for example, to receive a weak signal near a very strong BC station. Altho the BC station may be theoretically just out of the filters 60 Hz passband, there is still a certain amount of feedthru present around filters and tuned stages which limits ultimate selectivity. It is in a crunch like this where the very high ultimate selectivity of the Drake pulls thru, and holds it head and shoulders above many others. Again I say, re these specs-ICOM did a great job for the price.

The specs start the low end at 100 khz. It was only natural to wonder, since it works so well on longwave, if I could cheat and go below the specs (100 Khz) and still get decent performance on Longwave. After all, we low frequency nuts have all done this at one time or another with varying success on other receivers. In short, the answer is NO. When ICOM says 100, they mean 100Khz. So when the manufacturer of a highly complex, fully synthesized receiver tells you the bottom is 100 Khz, you better believe him. I tried going lower and it was full of spurs, garbage, birdies, and even a kitchen sink or two. As you tune up from zero, receiver becomes very marginally useful at about 80 khz, OK at 100 or so and quite good above 130 or so. (So there IS a droop off just at the bottom 30 khz or so (spurs, not sensitivity, is the problem), but I consider it hardly serious.)

Audio is very clean in all modes. Very good quality audio. Much better than most communications receivers. Internal front panel speaker is more than adequate for normal listening, and is what I use day to day. I can't even suggest any audio improvements, this section is so nice. There ARE two rather novel front panel controls on the IC-R70. These are the audio tone control, and squelch! Both struck me as unusual extras. First off, the audio tone control is VERY effective, and this, unaided, can often eliminate QRM or QRN. It has a wide range of action, and altho new to me, I now cannot do without it. It almost removes the need for the 'sophisticated' external audio filters, even in rough reception conditions. What a nice extra! The squelch was new to me, too, and it works fine. It is fully adjustable from 'Zero' squelch to squelching on very strong signals. So its the same squelch you find on scanners, and business radios. I will admit that I never use the squelch, I just cant get used to it. More importantly, I prefer to hear the background noise when tuning for signals, and even when monitoring a channel. I feel the 'noise' offers many clues about weak signals, band conditions, and nearby signals-and that these clues are a very necessary part of using a receiver such as this. I can see the need for squelch, however, for single channel monitoring, and for tuning for stronger signals. I should mention audio power is rated more than two watts-and more than enuf for any speakers in my shack. You will notice I have not discussed the receiver's sensitivity, save on low frequencies. That is because almost all modern receivers have more than adequate gain and sensitivity, at least at frequencies above 500 khz. And, as I said, this receiver has very good sensitivity right down to 100 khz. And, as expected, on MW and SW this receiver is HOT! Any particular location or antenna problems can be helped by the preamp. Altho HOT, this receiver did not overdo it in the gain dept. at MW and SW, which separates it from so many of the cheaper receivers. For far too long, critical decisions about receiver performance and utility have been based upon 'sensitivity' (of which most receivers have too much). In reality, the criteria which select a good receiver are nearby signal selectivity (i.e.: selectivity at 1,3,5 and 10

khz. away from your desired signal); freedom from spurious response (i.e.: audio from three local AM signals showing up at some wierd spot such as 7.932 MHz.); and ultimate selectivity (i.e.: how well does the receiver reject strong signals anywhere in its range while youre listening to your favorite signal). Some additional refinements to look for are passband tuning and notch, of which this receiver has both. Overall I feel that this is a fine receiver, and one well worth the price. I will go further and say that it is better than any modern under the price class of the NRD-515 (about \$1300 list) that I've ever used, and I've used quite a few. My favorite features are the stability, CPU assisted rapid tuning, VFO memories, the little 'extra' refinements, and the phenomenal (for the price) dynamic range. On the down side, my biggest complaint is lack of user flexibility in choosing the different filters for different modes. This is really only critical on the AM mode where 6 khz. is just often too wide. If PBT can not get the AM mode signals 'clean' enuf, (it is often adequate), the advanced user can simply choose the desired sideband in SSB mode (taking advantage of the narrower filter) and zero beat, then adjust PBT for either pleasing tone or minimum interference. Due to the phenomenal stability of the receiver, retuning should not be necessary. And the relatively sharp SSB filter and excellent SSB detector allow quite good performance on AM signals in this 'exalted carrier' mode. (Myself, ultimately I think I will replace the existing AM filter with the SSB filter, despite the 1.5 khz difference.) This receiver is very good. Obviously, it did not live up to the very rigorous and demanding specs of my R-7A (except stability and ease of rapid tuning, where it exceeded the Drake), but then again it lists at less than half the price of my R-7A package, and is worth every penny of its \$750 list and then some!!!

I find that for really tedious weak signal work (in any mode), or when tuning near powerhouse stations for very weak, QRM'ed stations, nothing can beat the Drake. But for MW or SW tuning for a majority of desired signals, even fairly weak or moderately QRM'ed, I prefer the ICOM. It does the job, and it is just so easy to tune.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

Hey, here we go with page two of the great St. Louis Daytime Bandscan. BANDSCAN / 2

1380 KWX St. Louis, Mo. L	1520 KMPL Silkeston, Mo.
1390 WFWN Fairfield, Ill. D	WHOW Clinton, Ill. D
FJFW Waynesville, Mo. D	1530 KPGR Bowling Green, Mo. D
1400 KJCF Festus, Mo.	WKY Cincinnati, Ohio *
1410 WFM Taylorville, Ill. D	1540 WSMI Litchfield, Ill. D
1420 WIMI Murphysboro, Ill. D	YCEL Waterloo, Iowa *
1430 WIL St. Louis, Mo. L	1550 KESW Cape Girardeau, Mo. D
1440 WQEM Quincy, Ill.	KKJO St. Joseph, Mo. *
1450 KPTW Fredricktown, Mo.	1560 WPAD Paducah, Ky.
WVVS Springfield, Ill.	KVUI Sullivan, Mo. D
1460 KIBL St. Louis, Mo. D L	1570 WCKZ Alton, Ill. D L
1470 WMBD Peoria, Ill.	1580 KTOR Columbia, Mo. D
1480 WJEM Jerseyville, Ill. D	WBA Pittsfield, Ill. D *
KPIA Ironton, Mo. D	WDQW DeQuoin, Ill. D *
1490 WESL East St. Louis, Ill. L	1590 WAIK Galesburg, Ill. D
KTTR Rolla, Mo. *	KCIH Rolla, Mo. D
1500 WPMB Vandalia, Ill. D	1600 KATZ St. Louis, Mo. L
1510 WIMV Highland, Ill. D L	There is the DAYTIME scan from St. Louis, and soon we will try to get a night scan.
WLAG Nashville, Tenn. *	

Well that's it for the first ever bandscan column. I have a very interesting scan from the North West Territory plus whatever scans I receive from you. I believe that I will leave some space for HQs space fillers- hi, Good DX to all & C U next time.

BANDSCAN

TERRY A. KLASEK
9720 VICKIE PLACE
ST. LOUIS, MO 63136

SONY's ICF-6500W---THE PERFECT PORTABLE?

Gerry Thomas

17

I know it is a little hard to get used to a separate column for Bandscans; however it will be much easier to read them in this format rather than literally crammed into the list. This way we will be able to list the locations of the stations, and gain more readers of the Bandscans performed by the membership. I hope many of you will send in your Bandscans to me soon to show the members what you are hearing all the time. If possible some logos of the locals would be appreciated as filler material. Since this is my very first effort to be a columnist for a major club please bear with me as I attempt to learn how to use this crazy typewriter. Hey, margin problems already. All I really ask is that I can read your Bandscan; I can read plenty of bad handwriting, but try to type or print, and NO ERRORS.

Here is a Daytime Bandscan from St. Louis, Missouri. This was done by Richard T. EDDIE, and ye editor. Both using Hammarlund HQ-180A's with amplified loop antennas. The bandscan was taken during November 1982, and is generally what is heard in St. Louis on the AM Dial.

D is daytime only L is Local post ST is share time stations * is difficult catches

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 540 KWT Ft. Dodge, Ia. D | 920 WGRU Granite City, Ill. L |
| 550 WEXN Clarkesville, Tn. * | 940 WJIX Mt. Vernon, Ill. |
| 550 KGD St. Louis, Mo. L | 950 KLIK Jefferson City, Mo. |
| 560 EWTG Springfield, Mo. | 960 KJIR Cape Girardeau, Mo. |
| 560 WNSQ Memphis, Tn. | 970 WMAI Springfield, Ill. |
| 570 WKYX Paducah, Ky. | 980 KSGM Chester, Ill. |
| 580 WILL Urbana, Ill. D | 990 WCAZ Carthage, Ill. D |
| 580 WIDW Topeka, Mo. ST * | 1010 KXEN St. Louis, Mo. L |
| 580 KSAG Manhattan, Mo. ST * | 1020 WCIL Carbondale, Ill. D |
| 590 WRTN Wood River, Ill. L | 1040 WNO Des Moines, Ia. |
| 600 WMT Cedar Rapids, Ia. | 1050 KNIS Fortageville, Mo. D |
| 610 WREO Memphis, Tn. | WJZ Decatur, Ill. D |
| 610 WDAF Kansas City, Mo. | 1060 WACL McLeansboro, Ill. D |
| 620 WJZE Knoxville, Tn. | 1070 KPRQ Hannibal, Mo. |
| 620 WTMZ Louisville, Ky. | 1080 WFOK Pontiac, Ill. D |
| 620 WTMJ Milwaukee, Wi. * | KYMO East Prairie, Mo. D |
| 630 KXOK St. Louis, Mo. L | 1090 WGRA Effingham, Ill. D |
| 640 WOI Ames, Ia. * | 1110 KPAB Omaha, Mo. |
| 650 WSM Nashville, Tn. | 1120 KMOX St. Louis, Mo. L P-E-S-T |
| 660 KORO Omaha, Mo. | 1130 WISW Milwaukee, Wis. |
| 670 WMAQ Chicago, Ill. | 1140 WVEL Peoria, Ill. D |
| 680 KFES St. Joseph, Mo. | KFWS Piedmont, Mo. D |
| 680 WFPS Memphis, Tn. | 1150 WOOH Marion, Ill. D |
| 690 KSTL St. Louis, Mo. L | KRMG Osage Beach, Mo. D |
| 700 WLN Cincinnati, Oh. | 1160 WJJD Chicago, Ill. |
| 710 WHE Kansas City, Mo. | 1170 XJAS Jackson, Mo. D |
| 720 WGN Chicago, Ill. | WLBH Mattoon, Ill. D |
| 730 KNRE Warrenton, Mo. D L | 1180 WLDG Jacksontown, Ill. D |
| 740 WVLN Olney, Ill. D | 1190 KHAD DeSoto, Mo. D |
| 740 KRMV Tulsa, Ok. * | 1200 WCAI San Antonio, Texas |
| 750 WSB Atlanta, Ga. * | 1210 WILY Centralia, Ill. D |
| 750 WDR Detroit, Mi. * | 1220 KLPW Union, Mo. D |
| 770 WEN St. Louis, Mo. L | 1230 WHCO Sparta, Ill. |
| 780 WBSM Chicago, Ill. | 1240 XPMO Flat River, Mo. |
| 790 WKMS Beardstown, Ill. D | WTAX Springfield, Ill. |
| 800 KREI Farmington, Mo. D | 1250 KBTC Houston, Mo. D |
| 810 KCMO Kansas City, Mo. | 1260 WIEV Belleville, Ill. L |
| 810 WJWV Johnson City, Ill. D | 1270 WHPF Rock Island, Ill. |
| 820 WAT Chicago, Ill. | 1280 KYRO Potosi, Mo. D |
| 820 WSWI Evansville, In. | 1290 WERL Peoria, Ill. |
| 830 XSCA Kennett, Mo. D | 1300 WFRX West Frankfort, Ill. D |
| 850 KFUO Clayton, Mo. L | 1320 KSIW Clayton, Mo. D L |
| 850 WSON Henderson, Ky. | 1340 KXEO Mexico, Mo. |
| 870 WFL New Orleans, La. | WHPI Herrin, Ill. |
| 890 WLS Chicago, Ill. | 1350 WJBD Salem, Ill. D |
| 900 XPAL Fulton, Mo. D | 1360 KJBS Mountain Grove, Mo. D |
| 910 WLCN Elytheville, Ia. D | 1370 WFRG Lincoln, Ill. D |
| WAXO Lawrenceville, Ill. D * | |

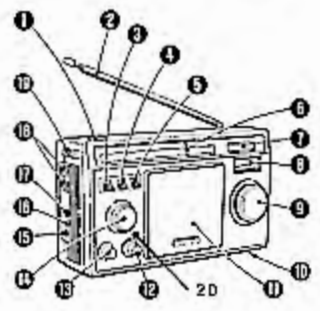
CONTINUE ON PAGE 15

My quest for the perfect MW DX portable has been going on now for several years and has taken me to such radios as TRF's, the GE Supradio, and the Sony ICF-5900W as well as "loaner" tests of the ICF-S5W, RF-2200, RF-2600, etc. To date, however, I've always been less than totally satisfied despite extensive sundry modifications to the portables I've owned.

Because my principal DX obsession is chasing foreign splits, my needs in a portable are somewhat specialized and undoubtedly more stringent than the average radio consumer's. High on the "features" list of my ideal receiver are such things as digital read-out (preferably LCD for lower power consumption) with resolution to 1 kHz, switchable selectivity with a sufficiently narrow passband (i.e., around 3 kHz at -6 dB and about 5-7 kHz at -60 dB), a BFO for detecting weak carriers, and, of course, excellent sensitivity. My ideal portable would also have such conveniences as vernier fine tuning, an S-meter, a tone control, an external antenna jack, a dial light, and low power consumption. And, if I were really in a dazed state, I'd also ask for SW coverage for program listening and WWV checks and a good sounding FM section. Oh yeah, I'd also want the radio to be compact and inexpensive. Ahem, obviously I've had to make some compromises in my DX life so far but, at last, things are looking up. The Sony ICF-6500W (with just one modification) comes very close to fulfilling my dreams.

General characteristics

The 6500 is a five-band receiver covering FM, SW in three bands-- 3.9 - 10 MHz, 11.7 - 20 MHz, and 20 - 24 MHz -- as well as MW (the range is internally adjustable; mine now covers 517 - 1654 kHz). It is fairly small in size (11.5" x 6.75" x 4.2") and weight (4 lbs. 1 oz. with its six C-cells) and possesses all of the aforementioned "dream features" except narrow selectivity (which can be remedied). The receiver itself is a single-conversion (dual on SW) superhet with a naked front end (i.e., no tuned stage or RF amp). A discrete FET handles the mixing and the IF is passed through a ceramic filter (a muRata CPU-455H -- 6 kHz at -6 dB, 18 kHz at -40 dB) before IC amplification and diode detection. Audio power is about 1 watt going into a 4-inch speaker and is adequate but not overpowering.



- 1--Momentary light button (illuminates LCD & tuning meter)
- 2--Whip antenna for SW & FM
- 3--Power switch
- 4--RF attenuator for MW & SW
- 5--BFO (fixed frequency)
- 6--Analog dial scale (changes with bands) & pointer
- 7--LCD frequency counter for MW, SW, & FM (MW & SW resolution is 1 kHz)
- 8--Tuning meter (scale is 1 - 10; not an S-meter)
- 9--Tuning knob (push for fast; pull for slow)
- 10--Battery compartment
- 11--4-inch speaker
- 12--Tone control labeled "Music" (treble) & "News" (bass)
- 13--Volume control
- 14--Band selector switch
- 15--DC jack for supplied onboard 9 VDC transformer or optional car battery transformer (DCC-120)
- 16--Earphone jack for supplied dinky phone
- 17--Recording jack (might require optional RK-69A attenuating patch cord, depending on recorder)
- 18--Screw-type external antenna and ground terminals for MW & SW
- 19--Anchors for carrying strap (supplied)
- 20--Location of wide/narrow selectivity switch

From Recorder (NY) Dispatch
And Chicago-Ed
12/1/82
1/18/82

Station offers free commercials to businesses that create jobs
Associated Press
BUFFALO -- Radio Station WGR offered \$5,500 worth of free commercials yesterday to any western New York business that creates 50 full-time jobs or any new business that creates 20 full-time jobs.
"It's a unique opportunity for area businesses to help solve the employment puzzle and be rewarded at the same time," said John Soller, the station's vice president and general manager. "This plan is certainly not the total answer to the area's serious unemployment."

problems, but it is a step in the right direction should even one business take advantage of the free advertising offer.
WGR said the offer was modeled after a similar program that Radio Station WOWO has in Fort Wayne, Ind.
WGR said it will limit its offer to the first 55 employers who sign up. The employer will be able to use the free advertising over a period of one year.
The unemployment rate in the Buffalo area is currently 13.6 percent.

VIA JERRY SCOB

Overall performance

The 6500 is really a joy to operate with its digital frequency read-out and its fast/slow tuning knob. Despite the fact that it isn't a "TRF," no unusual overloading problems occur at my location (this might not be true everywhere). (Nonetheless, I happen to like tuned RF stages and wish Sony's engineers did also.) Spurs do occur at about a half-dozen places on SW but MW is relatively free (there are weak birdies on mine at 540 and 910). Current draw on the 6500 at half volume is about 35-40 mA (70 mA with the momentary dial light on) which puts it about even with a stock TRF (but twice the drain of a Superadio). The owner's manual somewhat surprisingly predicts a battery life of 24 hours with heavy duty cells -- I've got over 75 hours on my alkalines and they're still strong. The tone control is a single knob affair with full counter-clockwise providing bass, clockwise treble -- 'tis adequate but my ears prefer even less bass in the full treble position. Finally, the digital read-out on my sample is accurate to within a couple of hundred Hz despite the fact that the owner's manual says read-out could be off by as much as 3 kHz.

MW performance

Before beginning this section, I'd like to say that early on I decided that the 6500 needed better selectivity in order to dig out the splits I enjoy chasing. Therefore, I added a switchable muRata CFS455J ceramic filter (3 kHz at -6 dB, 9 kHz at -70 dB) in cascade with the stock wide muRata and the improvement is quite satisfying on both MW and SW. The CFS455J costs between \$25 and \$40 depending on your supplier (Gilfer carried them in the past; Dan Moran, 6815 12th Ave., Edmonton, AB T6K 3J6 also handles them) but is well worth it, in my opinion.

The comparisons I made follow and involve head-to-head duels among the 6500, a 12-655 TRF, and a Superadio. All three were optimally aligned (the 6500 was right on the money off-the-shelf) and compared for selectivity and sensitivity first on late afternoon 10 kHz spacing stations, then on early evening splits.

Even channel DX

- *WSB-750 is my usual sensitivity sans selectivity test and all three pulled it in with little trouble. The Superadio's more powerful AF section provided stronger reception at the ear.
- *WVOG-600 is a 1 kW'er in New Orleans about 180 miles to the west and "doesn't exist" next to local slopper WHYM-610 if sensitivity and selectivity in a radio are lacking. All three brought in WVOG but the Sony was a hair better than the others in its "wide" selectivity position and still better in the "narrow" mode.
- *WNSI-1380 is my high-band checkpoint. Next to local 5 kW WCOA on 1370 this 5 kW'er out of Tampa (about 350 miles) is usually audible but its degree of readability is the critical metric. Again the 6500 provided the best reception with the TRF close behind. For some reason the Superadio was having trouble here and was a distant third. With the narrow passband switched in, the Sony improved further.
- *Anguilla-1610. Arrival time in the late afternoon of this one indicates high-end sensitivity so with all three radios tuned to 1610, I sat and waited. The first to produce audio was the 6500, followed about 5 secs later by the TRF, and about 15 secs later by the Superadio. Very close, all told, but the edge goes to the Sony.

Latin American splits

- *Dominica-595 at a listed 10 kW is generally at a fair level at my location but interference from Cuba on 600 makes its logging moderately challenging. The TRF produced a clean, crisp signal with only a weak het while the Superadio exhibited intelligible Cuban slop and a heavy het. The 6500 in the "wide" position too produced a het but the Cuban splatter was unintelligible; the "narrow" position produced a clean, easily readable Dominica.
- *Honduras-705 at 1 kW is usually very tough here with WLW-700 booming in on the backside of the loop. It was not detectable on any of the stock radios at the time of testing but the narrow passband on the Sony revealed a weak but readable signal.

- *Belize-834 is very easy and came in at a good level with 4 kHz hets on all radios except the Sony in the narrow mode.
- *Anguilla-1505 is a 1 kW'er and usually makes the trip to Florida in the early evenings but was audible only on the Sony in the narrow bandwidth position at the time of testing.

From the preceding comparisons, domestic DX on the three stock radios was pretty equivalent with the narrow mode 6500 the best of all configurations. I'm a little surprised at the my Superadio's performance on these tests; it's usually a better performer on the high end (maybe it's getting old). In the splits department, the stock TRF 12-655 was the best performer of all the out-of-the-box portables but was a clear second to the Sony with the narrow passband (incidentally, the narrow muRata filter can be installed in the TRF---see IRCA's tech manual).

SW performance

Sensitivity on the SW bands is very good, even when using only the built-in whip. The 6500's shortcoming (like most consumer SW portables) is in the selectivity arena. Any kind of moderately serious SW listening absolutely demands a narrower filter than the stock one---the narrow muRata works fine and "magically" makes stations appear where none previously were detectable (e.g., 5 kHz away from the powerhouses). SSB is marginally listenable and requires a very fine touch.

FM performance

Because the 6500's AFC is non-defeatable, serious FM DX'ing is not likely; program listening is fine though.

Miscellaneous observations

1. The LCD read-out produces absolutely no (at least to my ears) RFI to compete with DX. (Sony uses an OKI MSM5527RS chip, similar to the one Chuck Hutton recommended for use with the TRF.) Also, if your display is off frequency, correcting it is a fairly major operation (i.e., changing the value of C203 which is tucked away behind the LCD and under three layers of shielding) so you might want to test a sample before purchase.
2. The RF attenuator is about as useful on the 6500 as it is on most radios incorporating one, i.e., not very.
3. Optimal IF alignment is almost impossible because one of the transformers is inaccessible (it's located under a switching bar).
4. The external antenna jack for MW works better than most (especially at midday; it isn't needed at night) because Sony chose to use direct coupling (the external antenna terminates on a tap on the ferrite bar's windings) instead of the indirect (a wrap of wire around the rod) method most makers use. No shift in frequency occurs but signs of overloading can (i.e., many weak birdies on the low end). Incidentally, the 6500's ferrite rod measures 6-1/2" x 3/8"---about the same as the TRF's, shorter than the Superadio's.
5. Band changing is accompanied by dial face changing (as in the ICF-SSW and some Grundigs) and analog read-out is accurate but coarse.
6. The 6500 comes with a relatively worthless owner's manual but a nice little 120-page book entitled "Wave Handbook" which includes MW, SW, and FM logs as well as other information.

Concluding remarks

Clearly, the Sony ICF-6500W with the narrow muRata filter is the closest a radio has come to my ideal portable. A highly modified TRF 12-655 would also fulfill most of my requirements but would provide extras such as SW and FM bands and vernier fine tuning. Also, after outfitting a TRF with a muRata filter, BFO, dial light, S-meter, digital read-out, a Shotgun, etc., the cost would be very near the price of an unmodified Sony (\$139.95 from 47th St. Photo in NYC; list is \$199.95). All in all, the 6500's not perfect, but it comes close. 73's---GT

Reference TRFCS - 12/13/78

DJ's take station hostage

ORLANDO, Fla. — Three disc jockeys who learned they would be fired when their radio station switches to country music took the station "hostage" for three hours Tuesday night and played "beautiful music."
They locked themselves in the control booth and urged listeners to call the station and complain about the switch from "easy listening" music.

The DJs and the management both claimed the episode was not a publicity stunt.
Disc jockeys Gary Schaffer, 41, Ron Kecher, 23, and Lon Wagner, 33, said they ended the takeover in exchange for two extra weeks' severance pay, letters of recommendation and management's promise not to blackball them. The station agreed not to seek Federal Communications Commission charges, general manager Robert Longwell said. — AP

MUSINGS

PAUL SWEARINGEN
21629 COTTONWOOD AVE.
RIVERSIDE, CA 92508

The opinions expressed in this column are those of the individual members, and do not necessarily reflect those of the editors, publishers or NRC.

MARTIN ON MARTI

GENE MARTIN - 3303 East Evans Ave. - Denver, CO 80210 - 12-19-82

I read in the papers that Congress is not going along with Ronald Reagan's plan to establish a Spanish-speaking propaganda station in the Florida Keys to broadcast into Cuba. If that is correct, then I say "Hurray for Congress", at least on this occasion. The proposed station, Radio Marti, was a lanebrained idea at best, for it held the potential of opening up a kind of radio war with Cuba which the U. S. could never win. Inasmuch as Cuba lies south of the U. S., its stations will always be able to invade the U. S. AM radio spectrum much more easily than American transmitters can invade the Cuban spectrum. Señor Castro delivered us an example of that one night last September. Furthermore, he can do that on any frequency he chooses and shift high-powered transmitters from one frequency to another on any given occasion. Radio Marti would have operated on one frequency, thus lacking the flexibility available to the Cubans. I think U. S. radio stations were all aware of the harm that might come to them in any kind of radio war with the Cubans. That's why they opposed Radio Marti from the beginning. Not only that, Reagan was seeking ten million dollars to establish Radio Marti -- a sum at least four times more than any reasonable amount for building such a station. The idea for Radio Marti deserved to be shot down on the basis of cost alone. Not only that, the Voice of America transmits Spanish language commentaries into Cuba on various short-wave frequencies, and VOA-marathon on 1180 duplicates this in the medium waves. Reagan, from all indications, would like to unseat Castro or lure him away from his allegiance to, and dependency on, Moscow. Now, there have been many indications over the years that Castro is not truly comfortable with his relations with Moscow, that he views them as necessary on account of the past 20 years of unrelenting hostility from Washington. It is not unthinkable, except perhaps to Reagan with his anti-Communist paranoia, that the U. S. and Cuba might be able to reach some diplomatic accord that would write an end to the present strained relations between us.

SIDNEY HEARS SOUTHERN STATIONS

SIDNEY E. MARSHALL - 7224 Pam Dr. - Killington, TN 38053 - 12-19-82

First off, many thanks to ERNIE COOPER for the many years of faithful service as Musings editor. My thanks also to those who volunteered for the job and to PAUL SWEARINGEN who got it (like the flu, hi - pls). As this Mase won't be in print until after the holiday season, I hope everyone got the equipment goodies they wanted Santa to bring them! DX'ing conditions since my last Mase in mid-November have been quite good, with several new ones logged to bring my station total up to 1,069 heard. Newies are as follows: On 11-22 at 6:30 am WGPS-1430, GA surfaced with ID and into NX. Evening at 11-24 brought me WAAK-570, AL at 5:28 pm in with excellent signal for several minutes. Due to splatter from semi-local WHEQ-560 it is rare that I'm able to catch anything on 570! On 11-26 at 6:29 pm KANI-1500, TX was in strong with local spots, wx for Wharton, and ID. On 11-28 I caught the s/off of WPYK-1010, AL with no sign of KLRA which is very unusual for this time of day. Then on 11-30 a brand-new west Tennessee station, WJED-1410, was in at 6:00 pm for about 20 minutes. A call to the station revealed this was their second day of official operation and they will sign off at 10:00 pm (local time) each night. Also on 11-30 at 6:15 pm KDBS-1410, LA surfaced with s/off heard. Then on 12-3 at 6:47 pm KADS-1240, OK boomed in with wx, time check, ID, and into mx before fading out. This is GY'er #91. On 12-7 at 6:00 pm WXXX-1310, MS surfaced over the jumble with full s/off announcement heard. Nothing else new until evening of 12-17 at 5:23 pm when WSNL-1330, FL (ex-WFGS) was in for several minutes with a local-like signal! That's all for now, so till next time best of DX'ing to all.

HOLD ONTO YOUR SEATS DX'ERS FOR RICH NEWS IS HERE

TERRY A. KLA SEK - 9720 Vickie Place - St. Louis, MO (314) 868-7274 (Prepaid only; wife is still insistent) The NRC has a perennial institution known as (among other things) RICHARD T. EDDIE. Many of you know RICH for being a chronic convention attendee, and a loyal member of the

(KLA SEK, cont.) NRC since 1967 or so. Blabbermouth that I am I let out the news that ol' Rich has a girlfriend in the past few months; however, imagine my surprise when out of the blue clown suddenly asks me to be the best man at his WEDDING!!!!!! I was struck dumb for the first time in my life, and NO comments from the peanut gallery. I have no idea of how it happened, but I have talked with her, and WOW, GOLLY GEE, my mind (or what is left of it) got blown away. His girl approves of his DX'ing, and, get this, friends, wants to learn more about it. She is reading many of his club bulletins to try to understand his hobby. To think some of you thought Rich a little shy, but he was looking to find a woman who approved of DX'ing, and he found one. AMAZING to say the least. Rich and Norma Jean are looking to be married in the general vicinity of June, 1984. I will blab the exact date as soon as I know it, so keep tuned into this frequency for further developments. I sure hated to shock all of you so early in the new year, but this may ease your coronary come Income Tax time, hi. As to other news I have heard 4 out of 6 DX tests thus far this season, and will be trying for all of them to try to keep my batting average up to the current level. RICH EDDIE and I have sent out some 110 CPC letters recently (Wow! And what are you other non-CPC members doing? Let's give Terry and Rich a helping hand, -pls) with only one reply so far. I hope to have plenty of tests during the second half of this season for you all to try for, but we will see soon. As many of you know by now I will be doing a Handscan column in DX News. I thank Mike Knitter for allowing me to try the column, and I hope he sends those incriminating photos that he told me about to assist me in accepting the position. Does everybody really know how much Mike videotaped at Louisville? Hi. Believe it or else there will actually be some DX in my next muse, hi. (Do you JX while you're typing all those CPC letters, Terry? -pls) Great DX to all and ??'s de TAK. G U in 7.

STEVE LEAVES WGAP

STEVE FRANCIS - 1620 Lodge Street - Alcoa, TN 37701

Here's a single-spaced Musing for the Museman! (No problem; your writing is easy to read -pls) MW 12-6 - three newies beginning w/ long-sought RJR-770, heard weakly 2:20 u/ WABC, // 550, 580, and 720 w/ cover version of "Wedding Bell Blues." Gleans up Jamaica here except for 620, which I'll probably never hear. The new KFKZ-1560 TX rough 2:25-3:00 u/WPAD /XSPAJ w/ signed WXL and "K-Texas" plugs, AP mx at 3. 8 am, WYNI-1510 AL covering sLAC w/ instrumental mx solo by s/on; they said it was their first day on the air! SM 12-12 - I clean forgot about the WJEJ-1240 test, but local AOR blaster WIMZ would've surely killed it here, anyway. At 6:07 am, local WNOX-990 was noticed off w/ transmitter trouble, allowing CWAC-1000. They were way u/ WCFL w/ R. Suana program, // the 1010/1020/1030/1090 pests, but quite a bit weaker. The 990 outlet was also noted w/ average signal. 7:30, WVMR-1370 wv fair w/ s/ on by woman, CP for 2 1/2 kw. is on per she. MW 12-13 - with WNEWS nulled, sweep tones and CID's from the KCEE-790 test made it fair/poor u/WAKY/WGC. The CID's at 4:00 were especially noticeable; thanks, BILL CROGHAN! MW 12-20 - Unn WSWW-1590 test doing well in WJSO null around 1:25 w/ VID's and CID's. At 2:05, new AN'er WCMR-1270 in atop ending wx for Elkhart, then "1270 Country Lane" plug (and you thought "K-Texas" was silly!) and into (what else) c/w, u/o WMBF. At 7:35 am, the new WGMW-1520 NC noted w/nx and local spots, fair signal. CP's for WCCZ-1550 and WJJG-1270 are on per s/on and s/off, respectively. To update last Musing, I'm no longer with WGAP. Best of DX in '83!

GUY LOGS LONG-DISTANCE DX ON SHORT DAYS

GUY KUDLEMYER - 1314 City View #1 - Eugene, OR 97402

Each year, on the shortest day of the year (or in this case, the Sunday closest to the shortest day of the year), I sit down at the old PROG-7 at high noon and try to see just how far away I can hear during daylight hours. My targets are the 50 kw clear that are strung throughout the West and Midwest. Here are the results of this year's efforts: First place goes to KDOWN, which I calculate to be about 675 airline miles from here. In years past, Las Vegas has been the furthest heard and this year is no different. Indeed, it was an S-2 signal (or less), but, in a phenomenon I call Reverse Murphy, it faded up (that's right, UP!) at 10 time, so there is no room for doubt. Second place belongs to KSL, in w/ S-6 and quite readable. I calculate Salt Lake City to be about 585 miles from Eugene. KOPI takes 3rd place with a very readable S-8+ signal at 495 miles. Fourth place was KRCW at 345 miles with S-4 or so. KBDI rounds out the top 5 at 335 miles and S-7. Honorable mentions include Spokane, 2 from Sacramento and a couple from Vancouver, BC, not to mention the usual plethora of garbage from Seattle and San Francisco. KPI, KNX, KOB, KOA, KTWQ, and KRVN are all understandably absent from this list, but I tried anyway, just in case, hi. In the What-New-Stations-Have-You-Logged-Since-Last-Muse department, I have 2: 12-17 brought me KRXN, Tremonton (Tree-MON-ton), UT @ 4:00 pm PST w/ s/off (Bear River Broadcast Co.) They

Support the Columns

22 (KUDLEMYER, cont.) play CW. KJUN was mysteriously absent. Haven't heard KJUN since. On 12-19, KLWJ Reverse Murphysed KING's Seahawks/Patriots game for about 3 minutes @ 3:33 pm, PST w/ female announcer, REL/SUB and a spot for Tel-Cities (Richland, Kennewick, Pasco) Crisis Assistance Center. Been hunting this one for an awful long time. In other news: KFLI has become almost nightly now, when I get a good null on KFLY. KFLI's CW is a stark contrast to KFLY's ROCK/POP, so I'm sure I'm not getting them mixed up. Also, who in SE Idaho or Northern Utah plays CW and ID's as "K-7 Radio" on or about 710? More as I hear it.

ALBERT RE-INTROS HIMSELF

ALBERT S. LOBEL - P. O. Box 26762, San Diego CA 92126 - (619) 566-0029 or or 484-0604 or unlisted number if you know it!
Congratulations to both ERNIE COOPER for 36 years of being the editor of "Musings" and to the new editor of "Musings," PAUL SWEARINGEN! Ernie, you did a fine job! Paul, I'm certain you will continue the fine tradition of Ernie! It has been a while since I've contributed to Musings so perhaps a brief reintroduction would be in order. I am 35 years old (just turned 35 on 6 DEC), have been married for 13 1/2 years, have been a serious DX'er for 12 years (actually started in 1966). My main DX interest is AM; however, I also DX LW, SW, FM, and TV, as well as the obscure band of FM-SCA. I belong to NRC, IRCA, WFDMA (if they're still in existence, hi!) LWCA, SCADS, and I'm member #13003 of the old Radio Canada Shortwave Club. Well, that will do it for this NUZE; 'til next time '73 and good DX -- may '83 be your best DX year ever!

MIKE BAGS THE BEACON

MIKE HARDESTER - 17 Rowan Drive - Havelock, NC 28532 12-22
Greetings! QSL in: Caribbean Beacon - 1610 sent fd card, info sheet, and bumper sticker via surface for IRC. Question time for the broadcasters out there: is an AM station allowed to test, with tones, etc., during the period of 0600 to 2400 local - possibly in conjunction w/testing a new antenna array, new transmitter, or move from one frequency to another, or prior to commencing operations as a new station? A week ago (didn't log the time) near East Coast SS, noted a stn on 1513 with series of tones; tones lasted 5-10 minutes, then off w/ ann by man: "This ... testing." Have checked since then, but nothing further. Comments? Very '73 and best of DX!

DX'ING EASIER IN PAST

STAN MORSS - Route Three - Bradford, MA
A welcome to Paul as musings editor - say you put in as many years as ERNIE (Thanks ... I think -pls). Still open ground for outside work. So little DX. WKLE-1540 in over WPTX on 12-17 at 4:30 pm (Richmond, VA) and WADE Wadesboro, NC, the only signal on 1210. No sign of WCAU at all - general conditions lousy. The mystery clear channel CPC is no Xmas present - when KOTA with 50 kw tested a few years back with WBZ on the air it took the full time just to get enough solid material for a report - to have to hunt across the dial taking up to several minutes to see if a weak signal is there - in cases of a loud local or semi-local rock and roller is no picnic. 20 years ago with Monday am silent periods it would be easy. Not today. Not much inducement to support the CPC there. Will take a look for CJEM. CKWV - not needed but both heard and verified in past years. CJEM a regular almost any good evening. CKWV possible if AN/7 MAV takes holidays off. Last verie WJCC.

DAN SETTLES IN FOR DX'ING

DAN K. PHILLIPS - 109 Breckenridge Road - Franklin, TN 37064
I have just moved and hopefully for the final time. Several changes in the Nashville area. W12C-1380 in Franklin is now 24 hours a day. WAMB-1170 soon goes to 1160 and will be 24 hours. That will totally ruin only decent DX channel left (KSL). New locals include WAJN-790, WBDX-1030 (my favorite station to hate), and WBLP-850, Fairview, TN. Latest DX includes KPNW a/off 5:45 pm on Dec. 21. Also, KTXZ-1560 over frequency at 6:30 pm. Noticed I was left off Membership list and ham list (I'm N4NU) no please add! I have been pleased to work Bob Foxworth and Dave Fischer on ham bands lately. Always good to talk to NRC'ers. Thanks, ERNIE, for three decades-plus of dedication and faithfulness to the NRC. '73 and Happy New Year to all.

DEADLINE FOR NUZES IS MONDAY, A WEEK BEFORE PUBLICATION DATE, HERE IN RIVERSIDE. THOSE RECEIVED TUESDAY MAY BE TYPED UP IN TIME FOR NEXT PUBLICATION BUT MORE LIKELY WILL BE DELAYED A WEEK. DOUBLE-SPACING PREFERRED.

NEAL ACQUIRES R-390A

NEAL A. PERDUE - Rt. 1, Box 154 - Falkville, AL 35622 - 12-21
Hi campers, sports fans, and DX'ers. It's been a while since I got my 2g worth in. Zee Beeg Moose here in the mint xc R-390A acquired in a recent trade from DICK TRUAX. A rare case; it came out of the original packing carton from an Army warehouse about two years ago; has apparently been used very little since then and looks brand-new inside and out. Dick aligned it just before shipping and it works perfectly. I'm very proud to have THE BEAST on my shack table, after many years of DX'ing on rather inferior receivers. Nothing really junky, but no real class either. I can only make sunset one or two days a week, and have not heard much new DX. Also, I've been doing some SW DX, so there are very few new BCB stas in the logbook. I've been kicking around this hobby for a lot of years, and I'll tell ya - I prefer spring and fall any day to the highly-touted winter DX "season." That goes for both SW and BCB DX. Thank you, ERNIE, for a lot of years of faithful service, and thank you, Paul, for coming to the rescue. I'm a two-finger hunt and peck typist, so I obviously would be no help in that department. Lordy, the AL/Auburn jokes going on down here! "The Tide Has DYEd", "I wish I could call my mama now", etc. I hope all R-390A owners will take SKIP AREY up on his dissemination of info regarding tricks, sources, etc. I hope Paul will keep my slant bars in place, which is how I separate thoughts. ERNIE always eliminated them. (That puts a new slant on things, hi -pls) I'd like to thank the following members for some fine correspondence during the past year: TOM CONNATZER, JOHN and JIM HERKIMER, SIDNEY MARSHALL (where are, Sid?), and DAVE SCHMIDT. For folks who want good BCB DX without spending an arm and a leg, I would highly recommend the RP-220 or RP-2900 with the wedge loop. These receivers will also work well with the SM-2, if the RF gain, rather than the AF gain control, is used to control the volume. I prefer the former to the latter, if space is available. Sincere best wishes to all my fellow hobbyists for the coming year. '73.

KIRK JOINS THE FOLD

KIRK MELNISH - 4635 N. LeClaire Ave. - Chicago, IL -60630
Howdy, you all! Here's my first NUZE and it's mostly one of those boring intros. (But first - thanks and good luck, Paul!) I am a 20-year-old junior Broadcast Meteorology student in the geography department of Valparaiso University in Indiana. I live in the home of "Cold steel on ice" (Go Hawks), and a couple others we won't talk about, hi! I am located 5 miles east of O'Hare International Airport. Great locale for the aircraft bands! Runways 27L and 27R are great. It helps to know a couple ATC's! I'm currently NX D (director? -pls) and staff meteorologist for the campus radio station, WVUR-FM "THE SOURCE 95". I'm also meteorologist for other nw IN stations: WZVN-107 1/2 FM, WLJE-FM, and yes, one AM'er - WAKE-1500. I got paid a pittance for it. "WAKE 15" is D3, 1 kw, Ai - and to be under new ownership in '83; maybe then I'll get paid something, hi! (Don't spend your new paycheck before you get it, hi -pls) After graduation I plan on going to work for a radio and/or TV station, a consulting firm, an airline, or start my own firm with my roommate. As a meteorologist my specialties are synoptic wx analysis and forecasting, severe storms forecasting, and nowcasting (? -pls). Besides this, my other affiliations, hobbies, and interests are firefighting (former volunteer and current buff), scanner monitoring, CB radio, politics, constitutional and labor contract law, aviation, journalism, writing poetry, speeches, and songs, rock mx, history, home computers - only friends have them - and collecting newspapers on historic events. I'm a member of 3 other radio clubs and the American Meteorological Society. I've been BCB DX'ing for about 4 years but a member of the NRC for just a couple of months; I think it's great! I DX TV and every band except FM. I'm especially interested in MW, and SW foreign, aviation and wx stations. School is hell in restricting time at the dials! A few best catches are KAAY-1090, WCED-1420, KDXO-1510, KNX-1070, WOAI-1200, and KRLO-1080. Good DX/wx to y'all. '73's. (And to you, Kirk, welcome to the NRC; muse often! and don't burn yourself out before you turn 21, hi -pls)

GARDEN IN

PAUL SWEARINGEN - 21629 Cottonwood Ave. - Riverside, CA 92508
No time, yet for DX ... just typing. Thanks again to those who welcomed me to the land of Liquid Paper/Musings, especially those who spelled my name correctly. Thanks also to phoners JOHN CLEMENTS and MALCOLM MAXWELL, and my apologies to Malcom whom I cut off by pulling the modular phone plug out of the wall ... accidentally. Got a garden in Christmas eve ... underground stuff like subversive turnips, carrots, radishes, etc. ... and pigged out Christmas. My work day is still running from 7 am-9 pm weekdays, eight hours each weekend day, so no time yet for DX. A small turnout from Musings for the first post-holiday issue ... let's hear from more of you so I can keep practicing my typing, hi. Best of DX.