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MANUAL OF
SHORT-WAVE TECHNIQUE
AND
INTERNATIONAL BROADCAST
RECEPTION

COMPILED BY

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CONTENTS

	PAGES
PREFACE	4
BOOK I	
CHAPTER I: Introduction to short-wave broad- casting	5
CHAPTER II: Behaviour of short-waves, reflection, echoes, kilocycles, megacycles, and metres ...	8
DIAGRAM SHOWING SHORT-WAVE PATHS	8
CHAPTER III: Choosing a receiver	11
DIAGRAMS: CONTROL PANEL OF TYPICAL COMMUNICATION RECEIVER	13
SECTIONS OF A SUPER-HETERODYNE ...	14
CHAPTER IV: The aerial and earth	14
SKETCHES: SHORT-WAVE AERIALS ...	16
CHAPTER V: Operating the receiver and tuning in	17
CHAPTER VI: Effects of sunspots and the aurora borealis	19
CHAPTER VII: Ether conditions	21
CHAPTER VIII: The chief bands. Logging the stations	23
CHAPTER IX: Hints on reception	26
DIAGRAM: DIRECTIONS	27
CHAPTER X: Time and relation of G.M.T. with other parts of the world	29
TIME ZONE CHART	30
SYMBOLS OF TIME AND RELATION TO G.M.T.	
CHAPTER XI: Station identification and cautions when listening	32
REPRODUCTIONS: TYPICAL QSL'S ...	34
" "	35

CHAPTER XII : The ultra-short-waves. Chief bands and reception differences	8
DIAGRAM : U.S.W. aerial	39
CHAPTER XIII : Use of the Morse Code. Identification of telegraphy and telephony stations	40
CHAPTER XIV : Stations in the British Empire	42
CHAPTER XV : High-fidelity programmes	43
CHAPTER XVI : More about receivers and how to set about their construction	45
DIAGRAMS : (a) Panel with base-board	46
(b) 4-pin S.W. coils	46
(c) Bandsread switching arrangement	46
(1) Circuit diagram using one valve	49
(2) Panel-Lay-out...	49
(3) Wiring diagram	49
Useful Circuits	50
CHAPTER XVII : Main units and chargers	52
NOTE (1) Beaming and examples	53
NOTE (2) Side-band Interference	53
BOOK II	
Transmitting aerials	54
News in English (B.B.C. Services)	54
Language of the amateur fraternity	55
Some useful formulæ, terms, etc.	56
List of TELEGRAPHY STATIONS	56
Radio diagram symbols	57
Time Conversion LOG	58
World-Wide Mileage Chart	59
List of ULTRA-SHORT-WAVE BROADCASTING STATIONS	60
List of SHORT-WAVE BROADCASTING STATIONS	61

P R E F A C E

Ever since the inception of short-wave radio I have devoted much time to this subject and have followed with keen interest any developments and the progress made.

The importance of international short-wave broadcasting became clear to me, years ago, when I started writing articles for various journals, eventually becoming short-wave note writer and short-wave reviewer for a popular journal. Besides this, I had the experience of both the practical and technical side of radio while serving with H.M. Forces during the first World War.

The experience so gained has enabled me to compile this manual of instruction and information on the various aspects of short-wave radio, knowing that it would supply a long-standing need.

While care has been taken to include only up-to-date information, it should be remembered that changes are always taking place on the short-waves. Thus new stations make their appearance periodically, others close down for good, and some make changes in schedule and wavelengths. Listeners are advised to keep a S.W. Log-Book and in this way information in this manual can be checked and brought up-to-date. In compiling the lists of stations (See Book II—Tables, Stations, etc.) space has been left for new stations, new times of operation, and altered wavelengths, etc.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

CHARLES A. RIGBY.

January 22nd, 1944.

BOOK I.—INSTRUCTION.

CHAPTER I.

INTRODUCTION TO SHORT-WAVE BROADCASTING.

International short-wave broadcasting has now reached such a high stage of development that its importance is becoming more and more recognised. Countries all over the world have taken to short-wave broadcasting so that the peoples of other lands, however far away, could learn more about them through their music and talks in various languages.

Short-wave radio development still goes on apace. With the perfection of apparatus, both broadcasting and reception have been greatly improved. Nowadays, it is possible through this form of radio to obtain more first-hand knowledge of a country, and news if needed, than by referring to books or reading a newspaper.

Glorious adventure, indeed, lies before the owner of a short-wave receiver. Close contact can be effected with strange lands, new people and different manners and customs appreciated. The outposts of the world are brought to the living-room and a "passport" supplied to many countries that all hope to visit but somehow never seem to reach.

Since a broadcast is an expression of the people, it is naturally typical of the country of its origin. Take, for example, the programmes emanating from the United States. These follow a pattern that is peculiar to its people and their times. As such, they are recognised wherever they are heard. The same can be said of broadcasts originating in European, South American, Australian, and Asiatic centres. So typical are many of these programmes, that after a few months, listeners can identify the sources of their entertainment long before the stations announce their call-letters or give their identifying signals.

The beginning of short-wave radio is well known. Several years ago, the short-wave bands, that is those below 100 metres, were regarded by experts as being completely useless for communication except over distances of a few miles. For this reason these S.W. bands were allotted to the amateurs when "crowding" on the medium-wave bands (200-500 metres) became a nuisance. It was considered that the short-waves would be good enough for the close-range working in which amateurs were likely to indulge.

But the amateurs were ambitious. Relegated to the short-wave bands they soon had some surprises and began making their "home" there. To their own astonishment and that of others, the experiments carried out by these pioneers were convincing proof that the S.W. were the best for long distance work with small power.

A feat which astonished the world was the establishment of communication with another enthusiast in New Zealand by a British amateur whose transmitter had a power rating which seemed ridiculous. From that time on, progress was made in leaps and bounds.

Side by side with the researches of the amateurs were those of Marconi. In 1919, he telephoned from Ireland to Canada; and in 1924, the Poldhu, Cornwall station, spoke to Australia. The problems of short-wave radio occupied the closing years of this pioneer's life.

As time went on more and more was found out about transmission and reception on these bands, so great was the interest in short-wave. First there were the "Americans" such as New York, Pittsburgh, and Oakland to listen to for they readily took to the new craze. Later on, Australia and Java took to S.-W. broadcasting. African stations followed and those in different parts of the Empire a little later. South America and Central America showed tremendous interest, so much in fact that stations in these parts made their appearance like "mushrooms"!

Initial steps in international broadcasting were introduced by the Westinghouse Company at Pittsburgh. Transmitting on a wavelength of 62 metres, their station KDKA, famous as "The World's Pioneer Broadcasting Station," became known all over the world.

In 1925, W2XI, then an improvised station of the General Electric Company, on Van Slyck Island, New York State, sent out a signal on 100 metres which was picked up by several listeners in different countries. This was the start of the Schenectady transmitters, W2XAD and W2XAF (or 2XAD and 2XAF), with call-letters now WGEA and WGEO.

PCJ, the experimental S.-W. station of Philip's Radio, Eindhoven, Holland, began transmitting in March, 1927. Operating on 31.4 metres, its programmes were heard all over the world.

In 1927, the first world-wide broadcasts were commenced from VK2ME (Sydney), and VK3ME (Melbourne), Australia.

The first trans-Atlantic relay took place in October, 1927, when the B.B.C. relayed throughout Britain, KDKA, Pittsburgh, then transmitting on 62.5 metres.

On February 1st, 1929, G5SW transmitted the first programme intended for reception in the U.S.A.

The "first-around-the-world" broadcast occurred on June 30th, 1930, the programme being that sent out by W2XAD, Schenectady, N.Y. This was relayed and then re-transmitted to Sydney, Australia, and sent on again to America.

With the great interest in international broadcasting came the struggle for prestige. Hence, many of the leading S.-W. broadcasters began calling their stations "VOICES" when giving the call-letters. Thus, VK2ME, styled itself "The Voice of Australia," and the Schenectady transmitters in time became known as "The Voice of Electricity." Many other stations are known as the Voices of the countries in which situated, the city at which located, or the particular locality where near. There is a "Voice of the Argentine," "Voice of the Tropics," "Voice of the Air," "Voice of British Guiana," "Voice of America," "Voice of Colombia," etc.

Of the many developments of short-wave radio and international broadcasting, a few may be mentioned, by way of interest. In 1937, "A.V.C." or automatic volume control, was fitted to superheterodyne receivers. This device automatically varies the sensitivity so that weak signals are amplified more than powerful ones. This reduces the risk of overloading and distortion when a strong station is being received, and also compensates in great measure for the rhythmic variations in signal strength known as fading.

Only a few years ago, the new type "frequency-modulated" radio broadcasts started in America. Such transmissions afford practically static-free reception. This new feature of American radio necessitated the "Frequency-Modulated" broadcast commercial receiver for "high-fidelity" reception. "F.M." stations are now in operation in many parts of the U.S.A.

Most of the larger international broadcasting stations have adopted "beaming" or directional broadcasts when transmitting to other countries. "Beaming" is made possible with the use of special styles of directional aerials. This greatly increases signal strengths in definite directions and assures listeners in particular parts or areas good reception.

With the raising of the power of some stations up to 100 kilowatts there came into use a new type of transmitting valve and peak-limiting amplifiers. In this type of valve, the filament can be replaced, the effective directional power output being near 600,000 watts. The valve makes possible greater output with a simpler "set-up" at the transmitter, thus providing efficiency in transmission. Whereas six valves were used to obtain a power output of 40 K.W., two valves of the new pattern have a power of 100 K.W. A new type filament of activated tungsten is used in the valves which allows greater current at lower voltages.

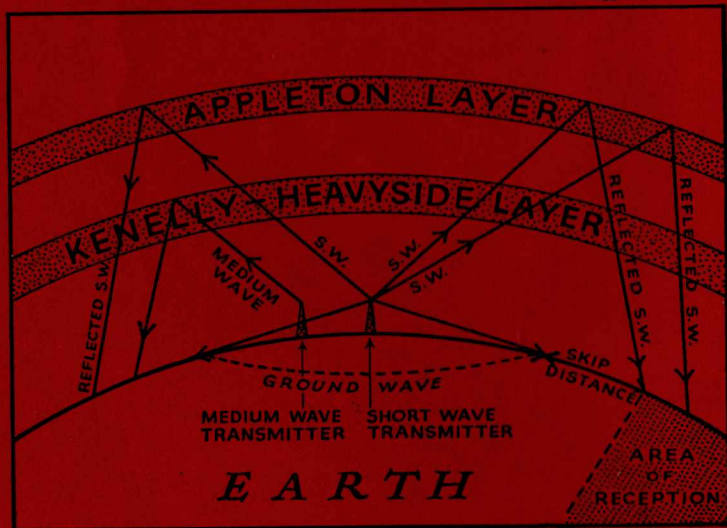
Many other improvements in broadcast transmission and reception have been made. All kinds of directional aerials have been tried with varying success. "Side-band Interference," once a difficulty with reception, has now been partly overcome. New types of microphones and methods of modulating or "smoothing" transmissions are now so perfect that short-wave or international broadcasting has almost reached perfection.

CHAPTER II.

BEHAVIOUR OF SHORT-WAVES. REFLECTION, ECHOES, KILOCYCLES,
MEGACYCLES AND METERS.

The short-wave newcomer may be thrilled at hearing stations at great distance, and perhaps wonder why this is possible. The explanation is simple.

Like the medium-waves, when short-waves leave the transmitting aerial they travel in all directions. That portion which travels close to the ground is called the "ground wave." (See DIAGRAM SHOWING SHORT-WAVE PATHS, below.) This wave is soon absorbed by buildings, metal deposits and natural screens. Other waves start off towards the sky at angles, determined by the design of the aerial and the frequency of the transmitter.

DIAGRAM SHOWING MEDIUM AND
SHORT-WAVE PATHS — *Chapter II*

Unlike the medium waves which are turned earthwards when they reach the Kenelly-Heavyside Layer, the short-waves travel much higher. The "sky-waves" sent out from the S.-W. transmitter go clean through the Kenelly-Heavyside Layer and travel, in most instances, to a height of about 150 miles where they meet another reflecting "envelope" known as the Appleton Layer. As a result, most of the impulses are turned back to earth, though some may escape to outer space to give rise to "echoes." Owing to the height of the Appleton Layer the waves come down to earth again at a great distance from the transmitter.

The distance between the terminus of the "ground wave" and the point of the reflected ray's return to earth is called the "SKIP DISTANCE" and in this area it is not possible to hear the station with any degree of reliability. This explains why a short-wave station of relatively low power is often heard at good volume several thousands of miles away, whereas its signal may be completely missing only 50 miles or so from the transmitter.

Because the short-waves are so "reflected," stations thousands of miles distant may be tuned in. The waves reach the receiver at the speed of light, at approximately 186,000 miles per second, or 300,000,000 metres per second (A METRE BEING A LITTLE LONGER THAN A YARD, or 39.37 INCHES). Travelling at this speed, wireless waves could thus go completely round the world nearly eight times in a single second.

It was found that some of them did speed right round the earth more than once, producing at the end of each journey fainter and fainter "echoes" in the receiver.

More amazing discoveries were made. It was found that "echoes" often occurred after an interval of three seconds duration. In that time wireless waves would make a journey of 558,000 miles, or just about the distance from the earth to the moon and back again.

Later, "echoes" with time intervals as long as 40 seconds were recorded, showing a journey of nearly 7,500,000 miles for the waves. During the last few years, much attention has been given to "echoes" and through these, certain new devices of great importance have been invented.

The height of the Appleton Layer varies with the time of day and the season. The earth has probably several reflecting "envelopes," whose conditions change during the day and throughout the season. These act differently upon short-waves of various lengths; hence it is found that at one period of the twenty-four hours a certain wavelength gives best results, while at other times this may prove useless. The use of a longer or a shorter wavelength may result in much better reception, however.

As signals change in strength as the hours pass from daylight, radio engineers have worked out charts which give the best wavelength to use at every hour of the day; and these charts are followed closely in selecting the frequency best suited for any particular broadcasting service. At a certain time during a transmission a certain volume or a "peak" is reached which may remain steady. The time when such a peak is reached is known as the "peaking period."

Tuning is so "fine" on the S.-W. that more care is necessary when tuning in or "revolving the tuning or condenser dials." If the tuning knobs or dials are turned too quickly then a distant station coming in faintly might be missed. After a few attempts at "tuning in" stations it will be found that there is much more room for these on the S.-W. bands than on the medium waves, where "Continental" are even received over a wide range of tuning. This is because "WAVELENGTH IN METRES" does not mean anything when con-

sidering the separation between any two stations with a view to finding out whether they are likely to interfere with one another. The Kilocycle figure alone, gives this information.

For example, a station on 261.1 metres corresponds to a frequency of 1,149 kilocycles, and one on 263.2 metres to 1,140 kc/s.—a difference of 9 kc/s. On the S.-W., 30.51 metres corresponds to 9,832 kc/s., and 28.51 metres to 10,522 kc/s. While the difference between the last two wavelengths is 2 metres, the difference in kilocycles is 10,522—9,832 or 690 kc/s. Thus it will be seen that there is room for many more stations between the last two frequencies. Yet there is no room for even a single station to be sandwiched in between the stations on the medium-waves, mentioned above.

When a broadcasting station receives a licence to "go on the air," it is assigned a definite wavelength or frequency. The number of radio impulses or waves sent out per second is *the station's frequency*. A station's wavelength is the fixed speed at which radio waves travel (in metres per second) divided by the number of waves per second. For example, in the case of Moscow (on former or old wavelength), this would be 300,000,000 divided by 6,000,000 or 50 metres.

While the Kilocycle Listing is a simple and quick guide to station selection, some on the other hand, are accustomed to identifying a station by its wavelength. Frequencies higher than ONE MILLION CYCLES are usually designated as MEGACYCLES—MEGA means a million. Thus a MEGACYCLE is simply a thousand kilocycles or a million cycles. Most S.-W. stations now announce the frequency in use in MEGACYCLES and give the corresponding wavelength.

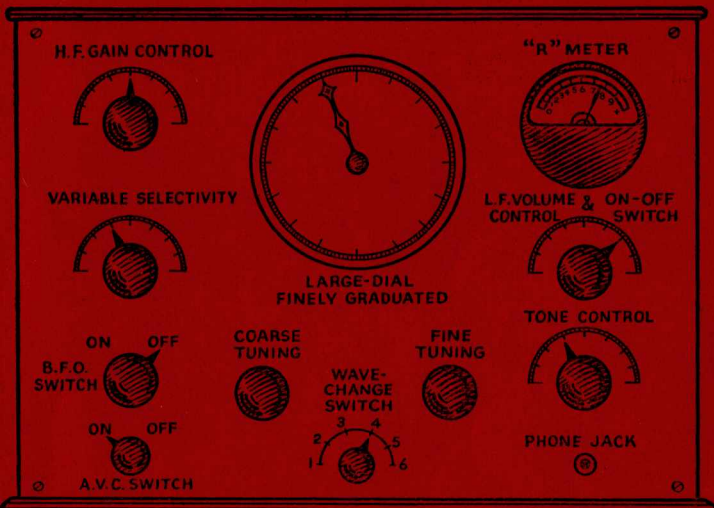
When referring to the CHIEF BANDS of the S.W. either the wave-length or frequency in megacycles may be stated, thus:

S.-W. BANDS	MEGACYCLES (Roughly)
60 METRES	5
49 "	6
40 "	7
31 "	9
25 "	11
19 "	21
16 "	17
13 "	15

In calculating FREQUENCIES and WAVELENGTHS, the following formulae should be used:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{FREQUENCY IN KC/S.} = 300,000 \div \text{WAVELENGTH IN METRES.} \\ \text{WAVELENGTH IN METRES} = 300,000 \div \text{FREQUENCY KC/S.} \\ \text{(OR FREQUENCY IN CYCLES} \times \text{WAVELENGTH IN METRES} = \text{SPEED OF WIRELESS WAVES.)} \end{array} \right.$$

CONTROL PANEL OF TYPICAL COMMUNICATION RECEIVER-*Chap. III*



Beat Frequency Oscillator.

This is coupled to the detector. When switched on it heterodynes an incoming signal giving rise to a squeal. Its primary purpose is to enable stations sending continuous-wave morse to be received; but it is of the greatest value to the searcher after distant stations, for even the weakest "announce their presence" by squeals as their settings are reached. One can thus "tune by the squeal" without any possibility of causing annoyance to neighbours by radiation.

Coarse and Fine Tuning.

There are many possible tuning arrangements. Sometimes only one knob is used; sometimes there is a single large dial with fine graduations; sometimes there is a secondary auxiliary pointer for precision readings; sometimes there is a separate "band spread" dial.

Wave-Change Switch.

This may have five or six positions for as many ranges.

Low Frequency and Volume Controls.

Correspond to similar controls on ordinary broadcast receivers.

The "R" Meter.

This is often calibrated in DECIBELS and shows the measure of a signal's strength. Sometimes a milliammeter or some other form of tuning indicator is used.

Phone Jack.

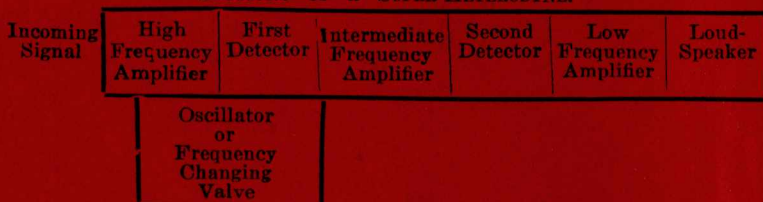
This is used for plugging in headphones when listening to weak signals.

Large Tuning Dial.

This is finely graduated and is revolved for the purpose of tuning in stations.

The different stages in a SUPER-HETERODYNE RECEIVER may be understood better from the diagram below.

A RADIO SET ANALYSED.
SECTIONS OF A SUPER-HETERODYNE.



Mention may be made here of the ADAPTOR, a one-valve arrangement or unit, often used for short-wave work. With this piece of apparatus plugged into the DETECTOR SOCKET of any existing "straight" set (as apart from a super-het.) an efficient short-wave receiver is available. The advantages of such an arrangement are two-fold, for not only does it enable short-wave stations to be received on the ordinary broadcast receiver for a very small outlay, but also, it enables use to be made of the existing set amplifiers when receiving on the ultra-short-waves.

CHAPTER IV.

THE AERIAL AND EARTH.

When a receiver has been chosen, the next considerations are the aerial and earth.

For short-wave work the shortest wire to earth is best, this making for greater stability, particularly when the receiver is ultra-sensitive or may be home-made. Again, there should be a good connection to the earth source which should be at good depth.

A flimsy connection to a gas-pipe will not prove satisfactory, and an aerial of thin-stranded steel wire is not much good either. An insulated wire aerial, composed of thick strands of copper or one of superior make, gives the best results.

Most likely the makers of the receiver will specify the type of aerial most suitable for S.W. reception. On the other hand, such particulars may rest entirely with the salesman who supplied the set. The ordinary type of aerial consisting of a single length of wire suspended from a pole is quite good, but only one direction is favoured.

It may be of interest to point out that an inside aerial stretched along the picture rail ledge of four walls and held by insulators, was tried with great success. No more than about 12 feet high from ground level this appeared to favour most directions. In this connection, height above sea-level in the particular locality should be considered.

Outside aerials bring in loudest signals, being more sensitive to the incoming waves. But there is inclined to be too much "mush," local electrical interference, and "spark" and "jamming" stations come in so loud as to be a nuisance. In order to reduce this to a minimum, a type of indoor aerial may be conveniently arranged at fair height and with directional possibilities. Indoor aerials are used more often than not for the sake of convenience; and there are many kinds.

For most short-wave listening, an aerial of from 50 to 75 feet in length is suitable. For reception on the Ultra-S.-W. a much shorter length is usually needed. (See later chapter dealing with the U.S.-W.) The most suitable lengths for either the short-waves or the ultra-S.-W. can be found by experimenting with several. It should be remembered that each aerial has a FUNDAMENTAL WAVELENGTH depending not only on the length of aerial but the type.

Taking the single half-wave type, according to theory, the length in feet should correspond to the wavelength on which reception is desired most, in the proportion of 1.57 :1. In other words, the length should be approximately 1.57 times the wavelength of desired reception.

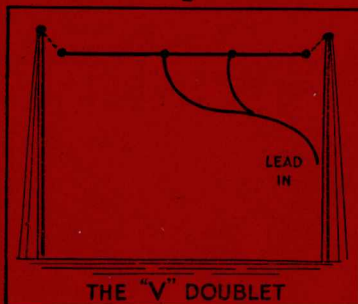
Below is a table showing the wavebands corresponding to certain lengths of HALF-WAVE AERIALS, or those not earthed. Those earthed at one end, through a receiver coupling coil, resonate at a wavelength equal to *four times* the physical length, and are therefore known as QUARTER-WAVE AERIALS.

Wave-Band.	Aerial Length.
49.5 metres	77ft. 9ins.
42 "	66ft.
31.5 "	49ft. 6ins.
25.5 "	40ft.
21.0 "	33ft.
19.7 "	31ft.
16.9 "	26ft. 6ins.
13.9 "	22ft.
10.5 "	16ft. 6ins.

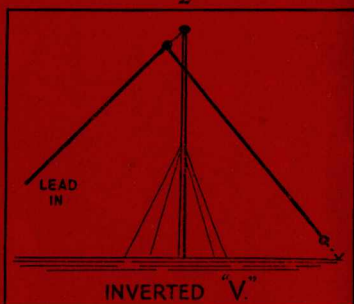
In concluding this chapter, mention may be made of static eliminators or noise suppressors, and other devices connected in the aerial. These generally make use of fixed condensers or their equivalents. While static and other interference may be lessened to a smaller amount, total elimination is almost impossible except in the case of "frequency-modulated" broadcasts which need special receivers. To lessen static and local interference a frame aerial should be tried.

OUTDOOR TYPES OF SHORT-WAVE AERIALS: (CHAPTER IV)

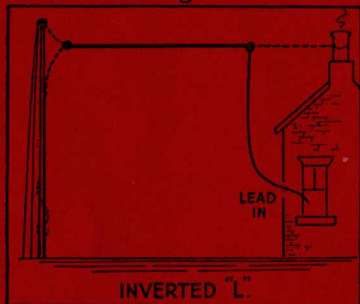
1



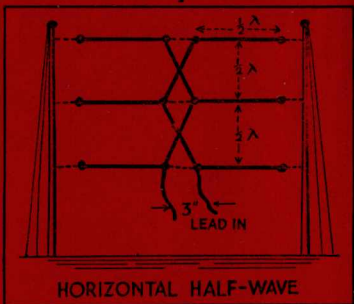
2



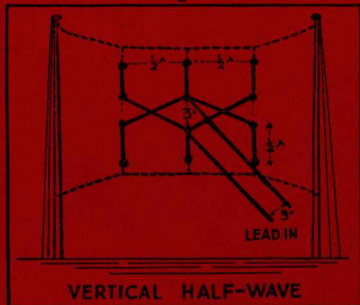
3



4



5



(NOTE; *These arrays receive most strongly from a direction at right angles to them.*)

auroral display wipes out all S.W. signals, but this is a fallacy. The magnetic disturbance resulting from a display has various effects. Just before taking place, conditions begin to change, first on the higher frequencies, and gradually spreading to the lower frequencies as the phenomenon becomes visible. In most cases "FLUTTER" is noticeable. This is the term applied to a signal constantly changing in strength, and is usually associated with "fading," this being so rapid that the signal "flutters"—an appropriate term. At the same time there is a shortening of "SKIP DISTANCE," and a slight falling off of signal strengths. Telephonic signals have a hollow sound. Besides atmospherics, certain noises peculiar to an auroral display as "squeaks" are heard. Usually, the after-effects of a display last for days, and are serious. Signals on many bands are usually very weak and scarce, "SKIP" being long.

A station perhaps 1,000 miles distant may come in exceptionally loud, and then, after a lapse of a few minutes, just as suddenly disappear, the only other signals audible coming from a distance of perhaps a few thousand miles, still with marked "flutter." Such conditions are termed "ERRATIC." Some "locals" may be heard quite well and with no sign of others, while distant stations difficult to hear ordinarily, might be heard at good strength. On some bands, effects might be hardly noticeable.

The "SHORT SKIP" is undoubtedly due to the comparatively low altitude of the reflecting layers or *IONOSPHERE*. At this point, it may be said that "skip distance" varies widely for a given frequency, being effected by *daylight and darkness*, by the *seasons*, by such remote phenomena as *sunspots*, and by the direction (*geographical bearing*) of the line between transmitter and receiver. All these seemingly unrelated factors have one influence: the *IONIZATION* of the atmosphere, the degree of which is governed by the amount and quality of *SUN RADIATION* through the atmosphere. In general, daylight decreases skip distance, and therefore effective range.

Radio engineers keep all these points in mind when choosing the frequencies for transmission, since not only do the hours of sunrise and sunset change with the season, but also **THE ANGLE AT WHICH SUNLIGHT PASSES THROUGH THE ATMOSPHERE.**

Even these fairly predictable variations occurring with the season have been upset somewhat during the last few years, and the deviation ascribed to the influence of coincident sunspot phenomena.

Another problem in connection with the ionosphere is **FADING**. This bothered S.W. listeners for many years until A.V.C. was used to deal partly with it. In the case of commercial circuits, a combination of effective Automatic Volume Control and diversity reception or the use of several receivers with aerials variously disposed at some distance apart, is used to good purpose. This, of course, is impracticable in the home.

Fading may be of a general sort, or it may be of the "selective" variety, in which it is accompanied by acute distortion. Much of the fading experienced when listening to distant transmitters, arises from interference between rays reflected at different heights in the atmosphere and reaching the upper layer at various angles to the horizontal, being reflected downward again at various angles.

In the case of distant stations, it is the "sky-wave" alone which is received, hence the fading in a rather different way. The aerial receives not just one set of "sky waves," but two or more sets that have been reflected down from one of the "Appleton Layers." Although there is no "ground wave," the waves arrive at the receiving aerial simultaneously travelling by different routes, which may or may not be "in step" when they reach it.

CHAPTER VIII.

THE CHIEF BANDS. LOGGING THE STATIONS.

Below is the B.B.C. short-wave service for Europe and the Far East:

<i>Call sign</i>	<i>Wavelength</i>	<i>Mc/s.</i>	<i>Call sign</i>	<i>Wavelength</i>	<i>Mc/s.</i>
GSA	49.54 metres	6.05	GRH	30.53 metres	9.82
GRR	49.34 "	6.08	GRD	25.53 "	11.75
GSL	49.10 "	6.11	GSN	25.38 "	11.82
GRO	48.54 "	6.18	GSE	25.28 "	11.86
GRN	48.43 "	6.19	GRV	24.29 "	12.04
GRT	41.96 "	7.15	GRF	24.80 "	12.09
GSW	41.49 "	7.23	GSF	19.82 "	15.11
GRJ	40.98 "	7.32	GSP	19.60 "	15.31
GRV	31.75 "	9.45	GRE	19.51 "	15.39
GSB	31.55 "	9.51	GSG	16.86 "	17.79
GSC	31.32 "	9.58	GSY	16.84 "	17.81
GRX	30.96 "	9.69	GRZ	13.86 "	21.64

With a list of stations set out as above, it will be seen how most of the broadcasting stations operate on the PRINCIPAL BANDS. These bands are generally referred to as the 13, 16, 19, 25, 31, 40 and 49-metre bands. With the 60-m. stations, this makes a total of eight principal bands on the S.W. Regarding amateur transmissions, the bands allotted are 20, 40, 80, and 160 metres. Due to war conditions, however, amateur transmissions are curtailed.

While the principal bands are named, listeners should note that other bands are used. Stations on these are to be found on (a) 75m., (b) 61-63m., (c) 41-49m., (d) 25-31m., and (e) 19-25m. These are known as the INTERMEDIATE BANDS OF THE S.W. Also many Venezuelan stations are now operating on various wavelengths between 85.70m. and 90.90m. These are known as the ' Mc. group of stations.

For the periods of listening extending from just before noon till a few hours after, the 13-m. and 16-m. bands should be tried. The 19-m. stations are usually best in the evening; while the 25, 41-43, and 49-m. stations come in well (particularly those of 49m.) late in the day extending to the early hours of the next.

(2) FADING AND ATMOSPHERICS :

F - - Slight fading.
 FF - - Fairly deep fading, but no programme lost.
 FFF - - Complete fade-out, and programme lost.
 N - - No fading.
 SS - - Very slow fading (MINUTES).
 S - - Slow (ONE MINUTE OR SO).
 R - - Fairly rapid fading (SEVERAL SECONDS).
 RR - - Very rapid fading (ONE SECOND OR LESS).
 X - - Slight static.
 XX - - Rather bad.
 XXX - - Very strong atmospherics.
 N - - No atmospherics.

(3) TYPE OF RECEIVER :

One-Valver receiver 0-V-0
 Detector and one L.F. 0-V-1
 H.F.—Detector—one L.F. 1-V-2
 Screened Grid—Det.—Pentode SG-V—Pen.
 Screened Grid—S.G. Det.—2 L.F. SG—V.SG.—2
 Plug-in Adaptor and 2 L.F. AV. 2
 Converter and 2 H.E.—Det.—2 L.F. C plus 2-V-2
 Converter and Superhet. receiver (6 valves) C plus SH.6

Below is a typical short-wave LOG REPORT. Symbols or abbreviations as given above are used. Relative and varying signal strengths may be those heard on either LOUDSPEAKER or HEADPHONES. (In such a case as heard on 'phones, this can be shown in the log.)

LOG REPORT.

Time B.S.T.	Call sign.	Station.	Wavelength (m.)	Conditions.	R.F.X.	Items.
Aug. 7th. 17.00	WCBX	New York.	16.56	Normal.	R6/FR/XX	Talk.
" 23.00	WGEA	Schenectady, N.Y.	19.56	Good.	R8/S/N	Science talk.
" 23.30	PRBA	Rio de Janeiro.	31.58	Normal.	R5/FR/N	Music.
8th. 17.00	VUB	Bombay.	31.36	Good.	R7/F/X	Native music.
" 19.00	VQ7LO	Nairobi.	49.50	Mod.	R5/R/XX	Talk
" 23.30	WPIT	Pittsburgh.	25.27	Mod.	R6/FF/X	Jazz.
" 00.30	HP5B	Panama City.	49.75	Normal.	R5/S/N	Tango.

NOTE: All other particulars such as frequency in megacycles may be entered up.

CHAPTER IX.

HINTS ON RECEPTION.

Among other points in connection with reception on the S.W. the following should be kept in mind :

(1) Reception varies from year to year, and consequently the precise behaviour of certain frequencies cannot be accurately predicted. During some years or periods, some wavelengths will prove quite good while others are failures.

(2) Reception in different parts of Britain varies considerably. Observations over a long period showed that results in the North of England were in fact quite different from those obtained in the South. Again, results in Scotland showed a marked difference. Hence, locality must be taken into account.

(3) After listening from day to day, a daily "cycle of listening" is apparent, and correspondingly there is a yearly one.

Regarding the daily "cycle of listening," this can be applied as follows :—

- (a) 13-m. Americans—most likely at mid-day.
- (b) 16-m. Americans, etc.—after lunch.
- (c) 19-metre Americans, etc.—round 18.00-19.00 BST (and later).
- (d) 25m. & 31m. Americans—round 23.00 BST (and later).
- (e) 49m. Americans—during the early hours of the morning.

It has often been stated that those waves travelling best in daylight are "daylight waves" to distinguish them from those preferring paths of darkness. For example, a wavelength of 16m. was often referred to as a "daylight wave," but this term is not now generally used. Often 16-m. transmissions are good when it is dark over a wide area.

Reception on the principal bands of far distant stations located East, South and West of Britain varies considerably. This may seem easy to understand but it is highly involved.

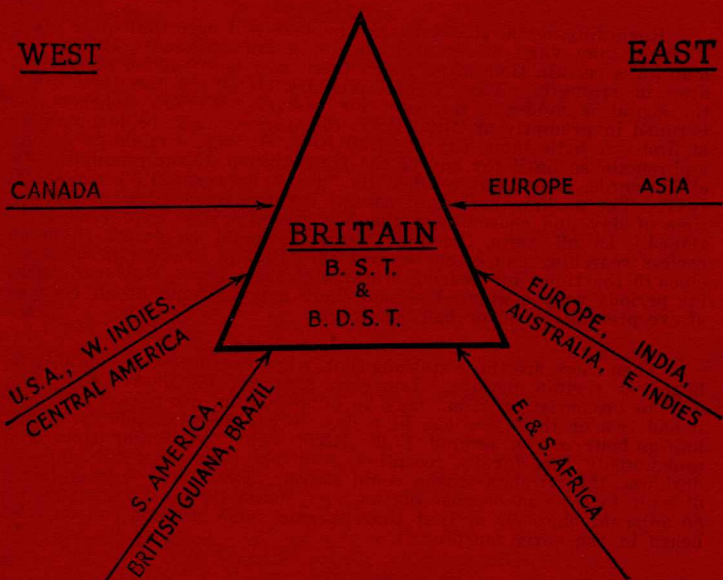
(1) When searching on the S.W. the daily cycle of listening should be applied.

(2) With regard to directions and paths traversed by wireless waves, perhaps the **DIAGRAM OF DIRECTIONS** (below) will help. Of course, a globe of the world would be better, since the truest paths can only be traced on one.

When determining paths travelled by wireless waves, both the time and the season should be considered. It should be remembered that the inclination of the axis of the earth to the plane of its orbit is 66.5 degrees, and this never varies, the earth's axis always pointing to the same places in the heavens or celestial poles.

Thus, (1) During the Summer, the axis points towards the sun, (2) During the Winter, it points away. (3) At the time of the Equinoxes (Spring and Autumn), the position of the earth in its orbit around the sun is such that day and night are equal, the

DIAGRAM OF DIRECTIONS. (CHAPTER IX)



inclination of the earth's axis then having no relation to the sun's position.

Referring to the **DIAGRAM OF DIRECTIONS** (keeping in mind that the earth rotates from West to East)—just before dusk, wireless waves from transmitters to the west of Britain will have paths of *daylight* to traverse, and wireless waves from the East will have paths of *darkness*. Disregarding the 13 and 16m. wavelengths which are classed as daylight waves, this explains why signals from North and South America mostly come in late in the day. This partly explains, too, why signals from the east and south-east can be heard at most times of the day. Of course, there are exceptions as in the case of the 19 and 31m. channels which often suit reception of most stations regardless of all laws.

CHAPTER X.

SYMBOLS OF TIME AND RELATION TO G.M.T.

VARIOUS PARTS OF THE WORLD :

L.S.T.	Local Standard Time.	
G.M.T.	Greenwich Mean Time.	
B.S.T.	British Summer Time (August 9th—April)	1 hour ahead of G.M.T. DURING WINTER.
D.B.S.T.	Double British Summer Time. (April—August 8th).	2 hours ahead of G.M.T. DURING SUMMER.
C.E.T.	Central European Time.	1 hour ahead of G.M.T.
S.A.T.	South African Time.	2 hours " " "
I.S.T.	Indian Standard Time.	5½ " " " "
E.A.S.T.	Eastern Australian Standard Time.	10 " " " "
J.S.T.	Japanese Standard Time.	9 " " " "
H.S.T.	Hawaiian Standard Time.	10½ " " earlier than G.M.T.
B.G.T.	British Guiana Time.	

NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA (INCLUDING CANADA, U.S.A.,
LATIN-AMERICA).

D.S.T.	Daylight Saving Time.	4 hours earlier than G.M.T.
A.S.T. or A.T.	Atlantic Standard Time.	4 " " " "
E.S.T.	Eastern Standard Time.	5 " " " "
E.W.T.	EASTERN WAR TIME.	4 " " " "
C.S.T. or C.T.	Central Standard Time.	6 " " " "
M.S.T.	Mountain Standard Time.	7 " " " "
P.S.T.	Pacific Standard Time.	8 " " " "
P.W.T.	PACIFIC WAR TIME.	7 " " " "

NOTE: With U.S.A. standards of time in particular, WAR TIME IS ONE HOUR EARLIER IN EVERY CASE.

TO CONVERT TO B.S.T. ADD 1 HOUR.

TO CONVERT TO D.B.S.T. ADD 2 HOURS.

COLOMBIA

"LA VOZ DE BARRANQUILLA"

Thanks for your report. Reception verified.

Muchas gracias por su informe de recepción.

Frequency: 6447 Kc. - Power: 300 Watts

On the air - Horario
11.45 a.m. - 1 p.m.
5.30 - 10 p.m. E.S.T.

Onda larga - Long wave
HJ-1-ABA
1330 Kc. - 150 Watts

ELIAS J. PELLET
Box 715
BARRANQUILLA

RECEIVED BY APT



IDENTIFICATION :

Quite a number of different interval signals are employed, including the cry of a baby, a man's laughter, the roar of a rapidly accelerating motor car, and usually two chimes every 15 minutes. Interval signals are used in connection with advertisements. The call in SPANISH is given as "CMQ" (phonetically, "Say-oh-say-koo") de la crema dental Colgate y el Jabon Embellecedor Palm-Olive, en Habana, Cuba. (Often mention of "La fabrica de la RCA Victor.") (Relays CMQ on 880 kc/s.—Verifies with card.)

SUVA FIJI

AWA

VPD

THE GARDEN OF THE PACIFIC

These islands were discovered in 1643 by Tasman and were ceded to Great Britain in 1834. There are about 250 islands in the group. The population is about 112,000. Principal exports: Sugar, Copra, Bananas, Rubber, Cotton and Shell.

Amalgamated Wireless (Australasia) Ltd. operates the wireless services of Fiji. At VPD there are 3 transmitters. All these stations were designed and built in Australia by A.W.A., which also owns and operates Australian Beam Stations, Central Radio Ship Stations, and Short Wave Overseas Broadcasting Station 2ME Sydney, and 3ME Melbourne.

AMALGAMATED WIRELESS (AUSTRALASIA) LTD. SUVA FIJI

Q.S.L. cards are helpful, too, when identifying stations. These can only be obtained by sending in a report of reception to a station. Stamps or their equivalent as an International Reply Coupon should be enclosed for return post. Under present conditions, QSL's seem out of fashion and there are now quite a number of stations that have long ceased to verify reports.

HEREIN ARE REPRODUCTIONS OF QSL'S RECEIVED FROM VPD2, Suva, Fiji; VUB, Bombay; and HJ 1ABB Barranquilla, Colombia, South America.

Sometimes harmonics mislead one, as regards wavelength. This is not often a difficulty on the S.W., but in odd cases, as with "locals," these may be on a fraction or multiple of the station's wavelength.

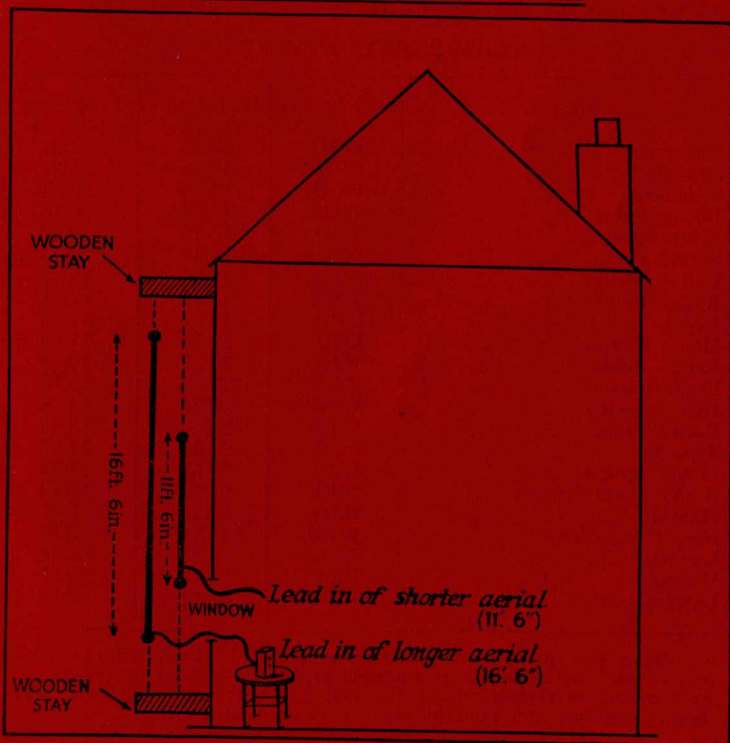
Call-signs are often given in a number of ways, most being given out both carefully and fully in various languages to make identification easy. Some station announcers are in the habit of dropping the district letters, thus VQ7LO, frequently announced as "7LO," etc. Again the call given may not directly indicate the station which is transmitting. If a station is relaying a M.W. transmitter, the call of the Medium-Wave station will be heard during the broadcast, and the listener, invariably, must wait right till the end before hearing the call-letters of the S.W. transmitter responsible for the relay.

Several years ago there was great difficulty in identifying PRBA, understood to be at Sao Paulo, Brazil. The Call-sign PRBA was an old one, and the different calls heard and the futile attempts definitely to identify the station made it a mystery. Some reported the call to be PRA3 (a correct one as it was the call of a M.W. station often relayed), while someone reported the call to be PRS5 (Pay-

On the whole there is inclined to be too much "surging" of the carrier waves from most of these stations, thus spoiling programme value. Most of these become audible, reach a "peak," and are away in an hour or perhaps little more. Within short-range most of these stations are quite good and reliable. (SEE LIST OF ULTRA S.W. STATIONS, BOOK II.)

For U.S.W. reception, a vertical type of aerial should be tried as shown in SKETCH BELOW. Different lengths of aerial should be tried for each band, e.g., a 16 feet 6 inches aerial will do for 10 metre reception, and one about 11 feet 6 inches for 7-metres, and so on. Either bare copper wire or insulated wire would be suitable, the length and thickness deciding the fundamental wavelength to a great extent. It might be more convenient to have at least two lengths of wire suspended, one for the 10 and 11-metre bands, and the shorter one for 5-7 metres. Results on the above type of aerial are quite good. All bands are receivable including that for television (now discarded as war time measure). American police cars can also be heard transmitting.

OUTDOOR TYPE OF AERIAL FOR THE ULTRA-SHORT-WAVES



When learning by ear, a dot is "DIT", and a dash is "DAH."
Thus:

A or . — is "DIT-DAH"

B or — . . . is "DAH-DIT-DIT-DIT"

C or — . — . is "DAH-DIT-DAH-DIT"

MORSE CODE

LETTERS		FIGURES	
A	— .	1	. — — — —
B	— . . .	2	.. — — —
C	— . — .	3	.. — —
D	— . .	4 —
E	.	5
F	— . . .	6	—
G	— — .	7	— — . . .
H	— . . .	8	— — — . .
I	..	9	— — — — .
J	— . — — —	0	— — — — —
K	— — .		
L	— . . .		
M	— —		
N	— .		
O	— — — —		
P	. — — .		
Q	— . — — —		
R	. — .		
S	. . .		
T	—		
U	.. —		
V	... —		
W	— . — —		
X	— . . . —		
Y	— . — — —		
Z	— — . .		

PUNCTUATION

FULL STOP:

COLON: — — — . . .

COMMENCING SIGN: — . — . — .

FINISHING SIGN: . — . — .

COMMA: . — . — . —

QUESTION: . — — — . .

BREAK SIGN: — . . . —

SPACING AND LENGTH OF SIGNALS:

1—A dash is equal to 3 dots.

2—The space between the signals which form the same letter is equal to one dot.

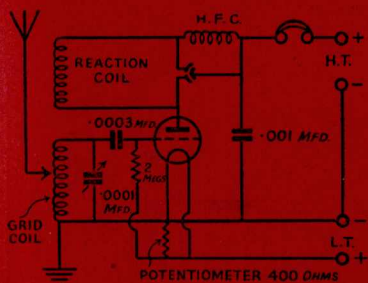
3—The space between two letters is equal to 3 dots.

4—The space between two words is equal to 5 dots.

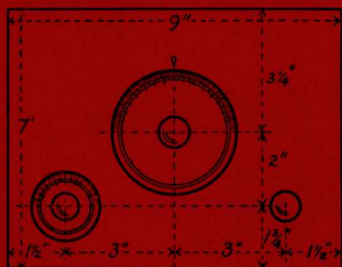
When these different morse "tunes" involving the "dit-dah" method have been learnt, an effort at listening for telegraphy stations should be made. When copying down the call-letters of a morse station and the message, they should be written down as in ordinary writing and *not in BLOCK CAPITALS*. This is for speed in writing down the message of morse signals.

On the S.W., where telegraphy stations are also numerous on all hands, the call-letters of the specially prepared list of telegraphy stations should be heard, and often after a series of "V"s or "ABC" repeated thrice. Often it may be noted that the announced wavelengths of different stations are not correct when checked with others who keep a constant check on wavelength.

For further information respecting morse and code signals the beginner is advised to obtain the *HANDBOOK FOR WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY OPERATORS* from H.M. Stationery Office.

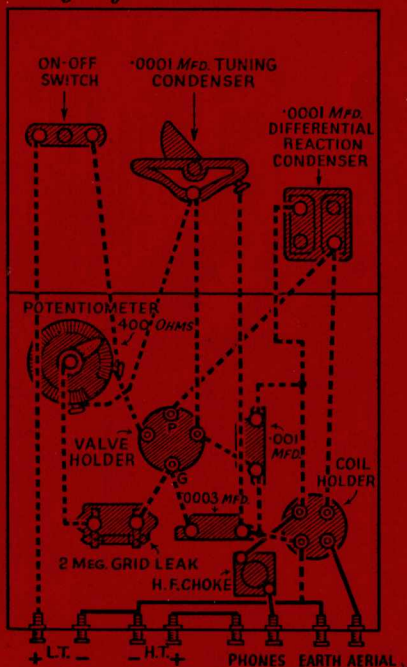


1. Circuit diagram of one-valve S.W. receiver







































































2. Panel lay-out for receiver

3. Wiring diagram for above S.W. receiver



THEORETICAL RADIO SYMBOLS

 AERIAL	 EARTH	 RESISTANCE	 VARIABLE RESISTANCE	 FIXED CONDENSER	 VARIABLE CONDENSER	 COIL or H-F CHOKE	 TAPPED COIL	 L-F TRANSFORMER
 H-F TRANSFORMER	 L-F CHOKE	 MOVING COIL LOUD SPEAKER	 HEAD PHONES	 SHIELDING	 L-T BATTERY	 H-T BATTERY	 AMMETER	 VOLTMETER
 MILLIMETER	 WATT METER	 I-F TRANSFORMER	 A-C GENERATOR	 NEON LAMP	 PHOTO ELECTRIC CELL	 QUARTZ CRYSTAL	 MORSE TELEGRAPH KEY	 WIRES JOINED
 WIRES CROSSING	 MICROPHONE	 FULL WAVE RECTIFIER	 MULTI GRID I-H VALVE	 CATHODE FOR I-H VALVE	 CLOSED CIRCUIT JACK	 OPEN CIRCUIT JACK	 FILAMENT LAMP	 D-P-D-T SWITCH
 D-P-S-T SWITCH	 S-P-D-T SWITCH	 S-P-S-T SWITCH	 AUTO TRANSFORMER	 FRAME AERIAL	 DIRECTION FINDING LOOP	 THERMO COUPLE	 FUSE	 RADIO GRAMPHONE PICK UP
 SINGLE-BUTTON CARBON MICROPHONE	 DOUBLE BUTTON CARBON MICROPHONE	 RIBBON OR VELOCITY MICROPHONE	 A-C PLUG	 A-C RECEPTACLE	 FUSE	 RECTIFIER	 TWISTED PAIR	 SHIELDED WIRE
 ROTARY TAP OR BAND SWITCH	 PHONE PLUG	 CRYSTAL MICROPHONE	THEORETICAL VALVE SYMBOLS			 FILAMENT OR HEATER	 CATHODE	 COLD CATHODE
 GRID	 PLATE	 DIODE PLATE	 BEAM FORMING PLATES	 ANODES	 ELECTRON-RAY-TUBE TARGET ANODES	 CATHODE-RAY TUBE DEFLECTING PL.	 INDICATES CASEOUS TUBE	

LIST OF SHORT-WAVE BROADCASTING STATIONS

By making a note of the calls of stations, listeners will gain some idea of the various PREFIX LETTERS ALLOTTED TO COUNTRIES ALL OVER THE WORLD. (Personal Log for alterations etc.) Times G.M.T.

Mc/s	METRES	CALL	LOCATION	MAIN SCHEDULE. TIMES G.M.T.	Personal Log.
4-01	74-81	Ponta	DELGADA, Azores.	22-00-24-00	
4-27	70-10	RV15	KHABAROVSK.	06-00-13-00	
4-70	63-86	ZQ1	KINGSTON, Jamaica.	23-15-00-15	
4-75	63-16	YVIRV	MARACAIBO.	21-30-02-30	
4-76	63-00	YV4RO	VALENCIA.	22-30-02-00	
4-77	62-81	HJGB	BUCARAMANGA.	23-00-03-00	
4-78	62-76	HJAB	BARRANQUILLA.	22-30-02-00	
4-79	62-60	VVBRU	BOLIVAR.	22-00-02-00	
4-79	62-63	HJDX	MEDILLIN.	22-00-02-30	
4-80	62-50	YVIRX	MARACAIBO.	22-00-02-30	
4-82	62-19	YVSRH	BARQUISIMETO.	15-30-22-30	
4-82	62-16	HJED	CALI.	23-00-23-00	
4-83	62-00	YV2RN	SAN CRISTOBAL.	23-00-22-30	
4-84	61-98	YVIRZ	VALERA.	22-00-22-00	
4-84	61-98	VUC2	CALCUTTA.	15-30-18-30	
4-84	61-92	HJCD	BOGOTA.	00-00-03-30	
4-86	61-73	YV5RU	CARACAS.	22-30-22-30	
4-88	61-48	VUB2	BOMBAY.	12-30-16-30	
4-88	61-42	HJDP	MEDILLIN.	23-30-03-00	
4-89	61-35	YV5RM	CARACAS.	20-00-02-00	
4-89	61-35	HJCH	BOGOTA.	20-00-02-00	
4-90	61-20	HJAG	BARRANQUILLA.	23-00-03-00	
4-92	60-98	YV5RN	CARACAS.	21-00-02-30	
4-92	60-98	HJAP	CARTAGENA.	22-30-22-30	
4-92	60-98	VUM	MADRAS.	14-30-16-30	
4-94	60-67	HJOW	BOGOTA.	23-00-23-00	
4-96	60-48	VUD2	DELHI.	12-00-16-30	
5-91	50-72	TIGPH	SAN JOSE.	23-00-23-45	
5-95	50-42	HH2S	PORT-AU-PRINCE.	00-00-23-00	
5-95	50-42	XGOY	CHUNGKING.	20-00-21-00	
5-97	50-25	VONH	ST. JOHN'S, (Newf.)	21-30-02-30	
6-00	50-00	CXA30	MONTEVIDEO.	04-30-06-00	
6-00	50-00	HPSK	COLON.	18-00-04-00	
6-00	50-00	XEBT	MEXICO C.	16-00-04-00	
6-00	50-00	ZRH	JOHANNESBURG.	16-45-17-45, 14-00-21-00	
6-01	49-85	CJCK	SYDNEY, N.S.	00-00-23-00	
6-02	49-83	HJCC	BOGOTA.	22-00-23-30	
6-02	49-83	HI3U	SANTIAGO D.R.	22-00-22-30	
6-03	49-75	DXP	BERLIN.	22-30-23-00	
6-03	49-75	HPSB	PANAMA C.	23-30-23-00	
6-03	49-75	CFYP	CALGARY.	00-00-23-00 (IRREGULAR)	
6-04	49-67	WRUL	BOSTON.	19-00-02-30	
6-05	49-59	C5A	B.B.C. Services	06-00-16-00, 18-00-04-00	
6-06	49-50	WCAB	PHILADELPHIA.	00-15-04-00	
6-06	49-50	VQ7LO	NAIROBI.	16-00-20-15, (IRREGULAR)	
6-06	49-50	SBO	STOCKHOLM.	21-20-21-35	
6-07	49-42	CFRX	TORONTO.	18-00-03-30	
6-08	49-34	HPSF	COLON.	01-45-02-00	
6-08	49-30	OAX42	LIMA, (Peru)	00-30-04-00	
6-08	49-34	CKFX	VANCOUVER.	05-00-08-00	
6-09	49-28	ZNS	BAHAMAS.	23-00-00-00	
6-08	49-34	GRR	B.B.C. Services.	05-30-06-00, 10-30-10-45 & 22-00-22-45	
6-08	49-34	ZFY	GEORGETOWN.	11-00-12-30, 01-00-02-00	
6-09	49-26	CBFW	MONTREAL	18-00-03-00	
6-10	49-20	ZRJ	JOHANNESBURG.	14-00-21-00 AND OTHER TIMES.	
6-11	49-10	GSL	B.B.C. Services.	06-00-06-45, 16-30-17-00, 22-15-03-45	
6-11	49-02	CP2	LA PAZ.	23-30-03-00	
6-12	49-02	MTCY	HSINKING.	10-00-11-00 (IRREGULAR)	

Mc/s	Metres	CALL	LOCATION	MAIN SCHEDULE.(GMT)	Personal Log
11-88	25-25	VLR3	MELBOURNE	06-00-08-15	
11-88	25-24	VLQ7	SYDNEY N.S.W.	13-15-16-15	
11-89	25-23	WNBI	NEW YORK	18-00-20-45	
11-89	25-22	VPD	FIJI	08-00	
11-90	25-21	XGOY	CHUNGKING	09-00-12-30	
11-97	25-06		BRAZZAVILLE	13-00; & 17-45-21-30	
11-98	25-04	CB1180	SANTIAGO	18-00-06-00	
12-04	24-92	GRV	B.B.C. (S)	21-00 etc.	
13-35	22-48	RADIO	DAKAR	12-15 daily	
15-10	19-84	JLG4	TOKIO	19-00-02-00	
15-11	19-84	DJL	BERLIN	11-00-13-00, 18-00-21-30	
15-12	19-83	EIRE	DUBLIN	18-30-20-00	
15-14	19-82	G5F	B.B.C. (S)	06-00-16-00, 18-00-20-00	
15-16	19-79	VUD3	DELHI	02-30-04-30	
15-17	19-78	TGWA	GUATEMALA C.	begins 18-00	
15-19	19-75	TAQ	ANKARA	10-30-12-30	
15-20	19-75	DJB	BERLIN	06-00-03-00	
15-21	19-72	WBOS	BOSTON	13-00-17-45	
15-23	19-70	VLP6	MELBOURNE	06-00-08-15, 20-30-04-00	
15-25	19-67	WLWO	CINCINNATI	18-00-23-15	
15-26	19-66	G51	B.B.C. (S)	06-00-16-00	
15-27	19-65	WCAB	PHILADELPHIA	18-00-22-00	
15-29	19-62	VUD3	DELHI	02-30-04-00	
15-31	19-60	G5P	B.B.C. (S)	06-00-09-00	
15-33	19-56	WGEA	SCHENECTADYNY.	18-00-23-00	
15-33	19-56	KGE1	SAN FRANCISCO	18-00-21-00	
15-35	19-53	WRUL	BOSTON	18-00-21-00	
17-76	16-89	DJE	BERLIN	06-00-23-00	
17-76	16-87	WNBI	NEW YORK	13-00-16-00	
17-79	16-86	G5G	B.B.C. (S)	06-00-16-00	
17-84	16-81	EIRE	DUBLIN	12-30-13-30, 17-00-18-15	
17-89	16-77	GRP	B.B.C. (S)	11-00-13-30	
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