

ANDEX



INTERNATIONAL

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INTERNATIONAL LIVING

A while back, David Taylor, 730 Luck Avenue, Zanesville, Ohio, 43701, USA, requested in a letter . . . "In some future issue of ANDEX, I would like for you to write about what it is like to live in Ecuador. How are you accepted by the people of Ecuador and what is it like for your son to grow up in a different culture? Most of us have to listen to shortwave radio to learn about other people and their culture, you get to experience it first-hand."

Well, David, a few weeks ago, I asked my church school class of 10-to 15-year-olds some questions and here are their answers. (My son, Andy, is a member of the class.)

Question: Why are you here in Ecuador?

Answers: My father works in the oilfield. My father works in the USA embassy. My mother is married to an Ecuadorian. My father is a missionary with Radio Station HCJB.

Question: Have you lived in other countries?

Answers: Venezuela, Trinidad, Saudi Arabia, Korea, Panama, USA.

Question: Which country did you like the best and why?

Answers: Ecuador, because of the nice people . . . Venezuela, because of the daily swimming . . . Panama, because of the interesting canal and locks.

Question: How long has your family been in Ecuador?

Answers: One year, ten years, all my life.

Question: Where do you go to school?

Answers: Alliance Academy (a private school run by the Christian and Missionary Alliance church with several hundred students), Cotopaxi Academy (another private school with around the same number of students), Pifo School (a private school run by HCJB for its staff in Pifo at the transmitting site with four students).

Question: What is the thing you like best about Ecuador?

Answers: The spring-like climate all year around, the beautiful mountains.

Question: What do you miss from your home country?

Answers: Relatives, Dr. Pepper, rootbeer, McDonalds, Snickers

Question: What advice do you have for people coming to Ecuador?

Answers: Learn how to speak Spanish. Wear warm clothes if you live in the mountains. Come with your parents.

Question: What is your biggest problem here?

Answers: Trying to accept people as they are (That seems to be a worldwide problem!) . . . the language . . . being scared when there are riots and strikes . . . showing people that I am a Christian.

So there you are, a little look into international living through the eyes of some young people.

WEST GERMAN MEMBERS

Another local office of HCJB has agreed to handle the ANDEX membership and renewal payments. Members of ANDEX living in West Germany, please copy down the following information.

Our office in West Germany has suggested that the easiest way is to use the postal system when sending in the payment and this is what to put down:

Account: Arbeitsgemeinschaft Radio HCJB e.V.

Postscheckkonto 35935-676

D-6700 Ludwigshafen/Rhein

Amount: DM 10. (mit Vermerk ANDEX)

The address of the local office is Arbeitsgemeinschaft Radio HCJB e.V., Postfach 1247, D-6104 Seeheim-Jugenheim 1, West Germany, if you have a question about your payment, or I will be happy to answer any question also.

HC1JB

As most of you know, on June 11, HCJB operated a special event ham radio station with the call letters HC1JB. It has come to our attention that there are some people who asked for a QSL card, but never received one. We are sorry about that and hope you will contact us again. The mail has caused some problems here this summer.

HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON

FEARLESS FORECAST: SHORTWAVE FUTURE

By John Stanley

1984 is upon us. Ever since George Orwell wrote his novel using that year for the title, 1984 has, perhaps, symbolized the future . . . unknown, frightening, and bizarre. The political system Orwell described has still not arrived, at least, not on a worldwide scale, but much is changing in our world, and rapidly. The biggest surprises of the last decade or two have not been political but technological. No one foresaw the now universal pocket calculator, or the microchip revolution that made it possible.

Prediction is a dangerous business. That fact notwithstanding, I propose to celebrate our more or less safe arrival at 1984 with some predictions, not about radio wave propagation, which I usually prognosticate about, but a bigger subject, no less than the FUTURE of shortwave.

Some are predicting that with fiber optics, satellites, and computers, shortwave and shortwave listening are headed for history's scrap heap. I couldn't disagree more. Technology will play a major role in the future of shortwave, but will tend to enhance it, not destroy it, and economics, politics and religion, which with technology, form the big forces shaping our future, will play their role in keeping shortwave going.

Shortwave is no longer the only way to communicate around the world, but it is still the cheapest and most exciting. International, commercial telephone calls are abandoning the shortwaves for satellite links, but for thousands of small businesses and farms in rural, under-developed areas of the world, shortwave transceivers are still by far the most economical way to "stay in touch". This will continue.

New receivers are available that enhance the fidelity of shortwave, but for most listeners, "Hi-Fi" (high-fidelity) is not the reason for shortwave. News is often relayed from distant points by shortwave and stations re-broadcast it as is, apparently because the distortion adds an air of realism and authenticity. Direct-broadcast satellites will soon serve the major developed countries with premium audio and video services, but the earth stations required to receive these services will not

fall much below \$1,000 (U.S. dollars) including a high-fidelity audio receiver and color TV set. The \$100 or under shortwave set will continue to be the big seller in the developing countries and shortwave broadcasting will continue to serve the news and entertainment interests of their owners. It is questionable whether direct-broadcast satellites will ever be widely used as an **international** medium, politics being what they are. At present, the only legal way to broadcast across international boundaries is by shortwave.

The above examples may serve to show that technology alone does not determine our future. Politics and economics are also key factors. The resurgence of religion in the last decade has been a surprise to just about everyone, including religious people. This has a direct impact on shortwave. HCJB and Radio Vatican were pioneers in religious broadcasting. Today, other religions are also using radio. TV and FM are part of the religious scene in countries where the government does not enjoy a monopoly of the air waves. And on the shortwave bands, religious broadcasts are forming an increasing percentage of program offerings. The attempt of some governments to destroy religious faith can only increase the desire of their citizens to learn about it. Shortwave radio provides the most effective means.

The hobby aspect of shortwave is another area that cannot be overlooked. Although a small minority of the shortwave receiver owners in the world could be called DXers, these represent an interest group far out of proportion to their numbers. Whether hams or SWLs, hobbyists find in shortwave an advantage in what others consider a disadvantage. The very UNpredictability of shortwave lends an air of excitement that no other communication medium can provide, although some third-world telephone systems come close! The rarer the DX, the greater the interest. The harder the catch, the greater the challenge. When the rest of the world has become jaded with watching high-fidelity, high-resolution, color TV signals from the far corners of the world on a daily basis, the true DXer will still be thrilling to the prospect of logging a weak shortwave station from the next continent. Shortwave radio is here to stay!

PORTABLE
SHORTWAVE
RADIO
OF THE
FUTURE???



Cultural changes
sometimes do not
evolve as rapidly
as technological
advances!

SPECIAL DXer FROM SWEDEN



Featuring this DXer is an historic first for ANDEX in that we have never featured an ANDEX member from Sweden before. We have about a dozen ANDEX members living in Sweden, and we hope to soon arrange for the local HCJB office there to accept membership payments and renewals. So, get out your maps and find Sweden first of all. It is one of the Scandinavian countries located between Norway and Finland. Our special DXer lives in the small village of Södra Sandby which is 20 kilometers from Malmö which is near the southern tip of Sweden, and is the third largest town in the country.

After that long introduction to Sweden, let me introduce the special DXer. His name is Erik Hansson and his address is Bryggaregatan 13, S-240 17 Södra Sandby, Sweden. Erik is a teenager and goes to school in Lund which is 12 kilometers from home.

His receiver is a Panasonic DR 29 with six bands. He uses the receiver with two antennas, one is outdoors and is 12 meters long and one is indoors and is 18 meters long. He also uses a tape recorder as part of his equipment so that he can catch some special stations or programs and re-listen to them.

Erik has been a DXer since the first of January, 1980, but then he was listening with an old Philips five-tube set. He has received QSLs from Brazil, Lebanon, North Korea, Japan, South Africa and 33 other countries. He likes to listen about an hour and a half each day.

Erik also enjoys music, stamps and the outdoor life. He mentions that his town is located very near to a lot of good scouting and camping territory.

Erik belongs to Radio Polonia's DX Club and is, of course, also a member of ANDEX. He joined in 1981 and is ANDEX No. 4131.

Congratulations, Swedish DXer, Erik Hansson. May 1984 be a good year of listening for you.

SPECIAL DXer FROM THE USA

If you still have your maps out from looking up Malmö, Sweden, flip to the USA and look up El Cajon, California. It is in southern California quite near that legendary town of Tijuana, Mexico! Actually, it is closer to San Diego, California.

However, on 1712 North 2nd Street, in El Cajon, California, 92021, you will find the Garrison family and probably if you go inside, you will find Daddy Mike and Son David, age three, listening to the world together.

ANDEX No. 4714 refers to this family duo as that is how Mike filled out the application form. It is good to hear about shortwave radio bringing families closer together.

Mike has been listening to shortwave since he was eight years old and David since he was born. They like to listen two or three hours a day if possible. They use a Hammarlund HQ-145-X receiver with a special antenna that Mike has made. The antenna is triangular in shape with two sides of the triangle being 75-feet long and the base being 35-feet long with a 35-foot lead in wire. The antenna hangs about 25 feet above the ground.

Mike says that they have good reception with the antenna and receiver and he has verification cards from 31 countries with four more expected. He is a member of the ASWLC and the Belgium shortwave listeners' club as well as belonging to ANDEX.

Mike's hobbies are DXing, fishing and his job of locksmithing. It is nice to like your work so well, Mike, that you consider it a hobby also.

Congratulations to the Garrison "boys" for being the special DXers for this issue. I know that Mike has another son in the family so probably it won't be long before the Garrison duo will turn into the Garrison trio! New Year's wishes to you all.



ANARC REVIEW

At the ANARC convention this past July, I asked two ANDEX members, Woody Seymour, Jr. (ANDEX No. 3) and Eric Witzig (ANDEX No. 4078) to write up their impressions of the convention. Woody's report was in the last ANDEX bulletin. Eric's just missed getting in last time; therefore, it is included in this issue.

"First of all, the Washington Area DX Association (of which I am not a member) did a fine job in organizing the convention. I personally called Arlene Luskin one night (she is the coordinator of WADXA) to explain that court commitments might force me to miss registration. She, though only two weeks away from her first convention, was most helpful and cheerful. Kudos and a tip of the hat to the association.

Second, the exhibition area was well done and packed with interesting things to see. China and Canada had representatives there. Sadly, the Voice of America did not. Ian McFarland, himself, was there at the RCI booth. Bob Grove was there from Grove Enterprises. Dick and Mary Ellen were there from Electronic Equipment Bank and Fred Osterman was there from Universal Amateur Radio. All of these folks had the latest equipment on hand for DXers and SWLs to examine.

To round out this group there were also exhibits from Radio Sweden and an association of folks who use or restore radios dating back to DeForest's time. Let's not forget Bearcat with their new shortwave receiver. All in all, one could spend several hours in the exhibition hall.

After visiting in the exhibition hall on Friday, the wine and cheese party was held during that evening. This was an excellent opportunity to meet DXers and chew the rag about the hobby. Isolated in our "shacks" with earphones clamped upon our heads we get too little chance to talk to each other. This get-together was great.

Saturday saw a number of seminars on the schedule. Most of these were informative . . . the one on computers and the hobby was so informative that it was over my head! Some are remembered as excellent presentations. One of these was that put on by Joseph Costello of WRNO in New Orleans. A real spellbinder, Mr. Costello took us through the bureaucracy of radio station licensing and his efforts to put WRNO on the air. Ms. Holly Shulman and Ms. Susan Smulyan gave an interesting presentation on the history and uses of SW in the 1920's and the 1930's.

Saturday night found us at a fine banquet with the hosts of VOA Breakfast Show talking to an appreciative audience.

So what were the highs? I guess hardware and the history of broadcasting, together with a fillip of political science vis-a-vis the broadcasting industry.

Thanks to Eric Witzig, 4106 Whispering Lane, Annandale, Virginia, 22003, USA, for taking the time to send his report.

ANTENNA CORNER



As builders of a steerable antenna, about which much has been written and said, HCJB engineers have followed with interest what others are doing in the field of shortwave broadcast antennas that can beam their signal in any direction.

Perhaps the most heroic design in this field is the Brown Boveri 500 KW rotatable curtain antenna shown here. This antenna is capable of operating on several bands and was built for Radio Kuwait. An idea of the size can be had by comparing the small figure of a man drawn to scale.

This would make an excellent SWL antenna. Perhaps some millionaire ANDEX member would like to contact Brown Boveri for an up-to-date price. With the addition of wooden horses, it could also be used as a merry-go-round (carousel) when reception conditions are not favorable!

WPE

One of our new members, Vern A. Weiss, 895 Park Drive, Kankakee, Illinois, 60901, (ANDEX No. 4761) enclosed with his application a couple of newsletters from the Great Circle Shortwave Society. Vern is the president, secretary and treasurer of this society.

This society was started, not to compete for membership with other SWL clubs, but to act as a service organization for SWLs and, in particular, for WPE callsign holders.

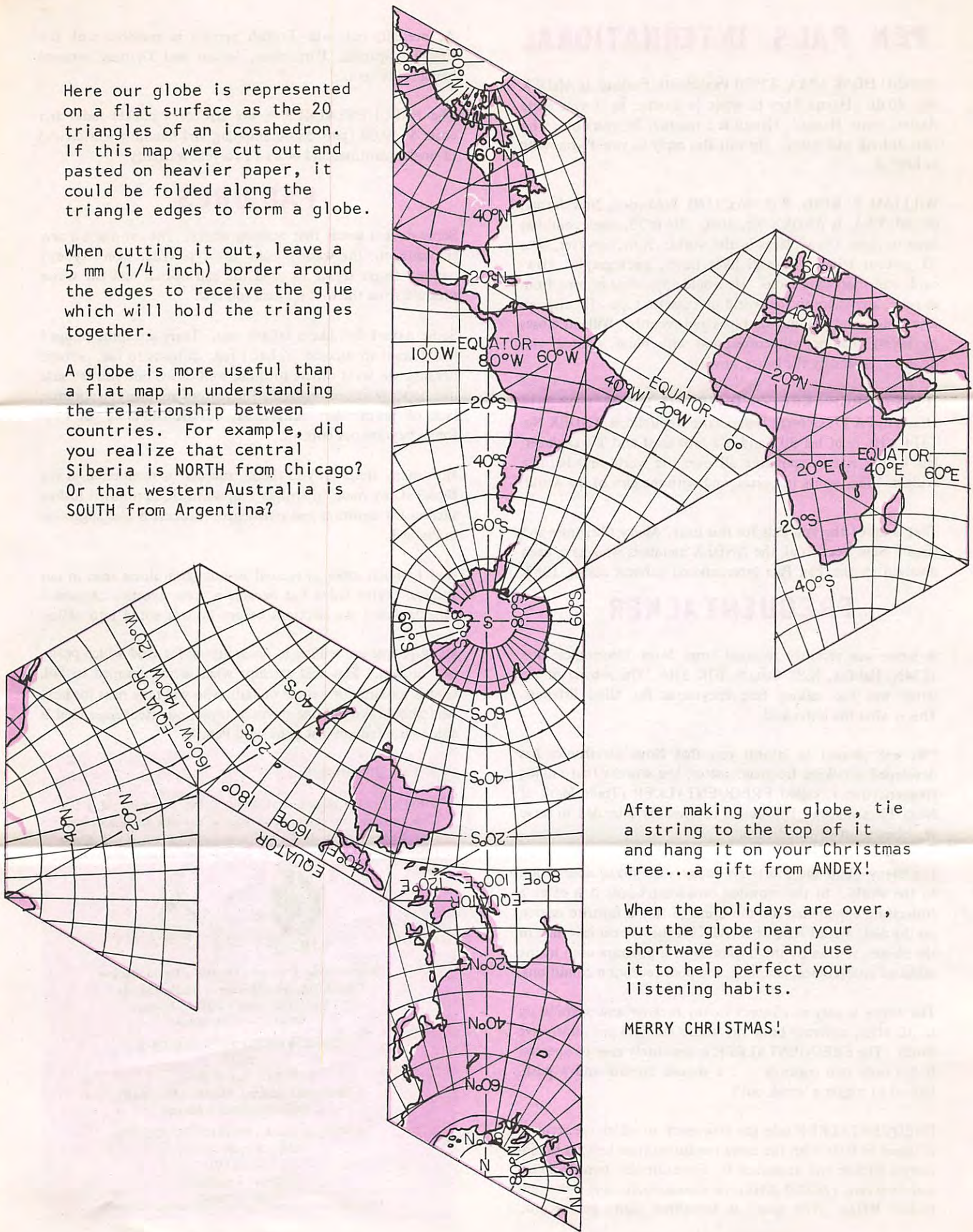
The golden era of the WPEs was in the 1950's and 1960's when POPULAR ELECTRONICS (a magazine) issued WPE calls for their shortwave monitors program.

If there are any of you ANDEX members who held a WPE callsign, you would probably be interested in this organization. Contact Vern and find out all about it.

Here our globe is represented on a flat surface as the 20 triangles of an icosahedron. If this map were cut out and pasted on heavier paper, it could be folded along the triangle edges to form a globe.

When cutting it out, leave a 5 mm (1/4 inch) border around the edges to receive the glue which will hold the triangles together.

A globe is more useful than a flat map in understanding the relationship between countries. For example, did you realize that central Siberia is NORTH from Chicago? Or that western Australia is SOUTH from Argentina?



After making your globe, tie a string to the top of it and hang it on your Christmas tree...a gift from ANDEX!

When the holidays are over, put the globe near your shortwave radio and use it to help perfect your listening habits.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

PEN PALS INTERNATIONAL

HANNU HONKAPAA, 52970 Pankalahti, Finland, is ANDEX No. 4030. Hannu likes to write in Arabic, so if you write Arabic, write Hannu! Hannu is a teacher, 36 years old, who likes fishing and music. He will also reply to you if you write in English.

WILLIAM E. KING, P.O. Box 1160, Wildwood, New Jersey, 08260, USA, is ANDEX No. 4060. He is 59, single, and has been to quite a few places in the world. Now, however, he is 95 percent blind. He still likes travel, photography, view-cards and shortwave radio. He would appreciate hearing from anyone, anywhere in the world on cassette tape. He also enjoys music and reading via tapes and records. William closes by saying that he will correspond with blind, sighted, and disabled, especially the ladies, any age.

HANS-JUERGEN KRETZSCHMER, P.O. Box 43, GDR 8017 Dresden, PA 17, German Democratic Republic, is ANDEX No. 1314. He is in his 30's and is a broadcast and TV engineer. His hobby is corresponding all over the world and he, like William King, wants to correspond with the girls of the world.

That is all of the Pen Pals for this issue. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all the ANDEX members who have been involved in the Pen Pals International column during 1983.

FREQUENTALKER

A letter was recently received from Nova Electronics, Box 1284N, Halifax, N.S., Canada B3K 5H4. The subject of the letter was the talking frequency meter for blind listeners. This is what the letter said.

"We are pleased to inform you that Nova Electronics has developed a talking frequency meter, the world's first talking frequency meter, called FREQUENTALKER (Trade Mark of Nova Electronics). This device is primarily intended to serve the blind shortwave audience.

For many blind the shortwave radio is the major connection to the world. In the crowded broadcast bands it is often a frustrating experience for the blind to find a favorite station on the dial. With FREQUENTALKER the listener can tune to the chosen station by the beginning of a program even in the midst of interference, jamming, and poor reception conditions.

The device is easy to connect to any receiver and operates up to 30 MHz, covering both the entire medium and shortwave bands. The FREQUENTALKER is absolutely easy to operate. It has only two controls . . . a volume control and a push-button to trigger a 'speak-out'.

FREQUENTALKER tells the frequency to which the receiver is tuned in MHz with the same resolution (one kHz) as broadcasters publish and announce it. For example: two-six-point-zero-two-zero (26.020 MHz), or zero-six-point-one-three-zero (6.130 MHz). The speed is two-three digits per second.

At present, only the English version is available with the French, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian and German versions being ready soon.

The FREQUENTALKER is the size of a pocket radio and costs \$149.00 (plus \$5.00 shipping and handling worldwide) in single quantities and bears a two-year warranty."

FAILURES

Some days it seems that nothing works. The car needs a new transmission; the washer leaks; the typewriter won't type; I cut my finger trying to prod the can opener and the water pressure from the well is much too low.

Some days I feel like a failure, too. There are some things I badly want to succeed in, but I fail. It hurts to fail, perhaps because we want others to think well of us, but also because our hopes were not realized. The reasons are many; ignorance, lack of preparation, selfishness, misunderstanding, or even forces beyond our control.

How many times do you think "success" is mentioned in the Bible? Only once, in Joshua 1:8, when God promised Joshua success for devotion and obedience. Success is also suggested in Psalm 1.

God is much more interested in our faithfulness than in our success. Peter failed but became a great apostle. Abraham Lincoln failed six elections before he was voted into office.

Many people are willing to do anything for God which promises success. Few will attempt what seems doomed to fail. God is looking for people of faith who will take risks for him. And should we fail one or more times, our Redeemer God is able to use failures just as he used Peter's.

ANDEX International —

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International Program Director — David Manney
English Program Director — Andrew Steele
DX Party Line Host - Clayton Howard
ANDEX — Ruth Stanley

ADDRESS MAIL (WITH FUNDS) TO:
HCJB
P.O. Box 55300

Opa Locka (Miami), Florida 33055-0401
United States of America

ADDRESS MAIL (WITH NO FUNDS) TO:
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