



# ANDEX INTERNATIONAL

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## Holy Week Traditions: Processions and Soup



A moving moment for any spectator—Jesus Christ carries the cross to Calvary.

As hot cross buns and coloured eggs appear in markets and on dining tables during the Easter season in other countries, Ecuador prepares for its celebration of the springtime event in quite a different manner. *Semana Santa* or Holy Week, is a significant religious and social time throughout the country.

Small towns and sprawling cities commemorate the crucifixion of Jesus Christ in very traditional and solemn ways. On Good Friday there are elaborate processions through the main streets of the city. Residents appointed to act out various roles as soldiers, followers of Jesus, and high priests dress in colourful clothes. The procession takes most of the morning, ending at a local Roman Catholic cathedral or church. Afterward many who have participated or observed buy snacks or lunch from vendors who have set up at the procession's end. The favourite snacks—*empanadas* (savory meat or cheese pies), fried pork and potato patties called *llapingachos*, large bags of french fried potatoes topped with a frankfurter and condiments, and drinks made of fresh local fruits—are all available.

Another sign that *Semana Santa* is in progress is *fanesca*. This thick soup is made only at this time of year. Weeks before *Semana Santa* begins, stacks of grayish, leathery-looking flat slabs appear at the markets. Meat and fish vendors stock up on this odd-appearing, strong-smelling item. It's *bacalao*, or dried salt cod, an essential element in the Easter-time soup called *fanesca*.

The salt cod is just one of the ingredients used for this distinctive soup. Cooks, restaurants and street vendors begin planning for their preparation of *fanesca*, so as to be sure to have all the elements needed when the time comes to cook the soup.

Along with the salt cod, *fanesca* incorporates an assortment of vegetables and grains, many of which are native to Ecuador and the Andes. Among the dried grains and beans are *choclo* (white corn), lentils, white beans, peas, *chocho* beans (a flat, round bean) and *habas* (large green beans that look like lima beans).

All these go into the pot dry and soak up the soup broth as they cook, gaining flavour and adding thickness.

A white onion, cooking oil, fresh parsley, milk and crushed, toasted peanuts add more flavour and texture. Then two types of local hard squash are added along with a vegetable that looks like a small, yellow potato. This is the *melloco*, noted for its waxy interior.

As the soup simmers and the flavours blend, the aroma of the *fanesca* is unforgettable. It's a filling meal, but if you visit friends or family during *Semana Santa* you may be served several bowls in the course of a day. In Latin American etiquette, it is never polite to turn down the offering of food. So be sure to have an appetite when you go visiting during the week preceding Easter in Ecuador!



Ecuadorians of all ages take part in the solemn procession.

Karen Schmidt



# Ten of your First Countries on the 60 meter band

For many shortwave hobbyists, it takes awhile before they will “get their feet wet” when it comes to exploring the Tropical bands. The International broadcast bands, 49 through 11 meters, contain many strong English language signals. Indeed, it’s possible to log so many fascinating stations in exotic countries on the higher frequencies that a DXer can be quite happy staying above 6 MHz.

However, that DXer would be missing the excitement, challenge and enjoyable listening available on the Tropical bands (120, 90, 75 and 60 meters). The Tropical bands are so named because the majority of broadcasters using them are located in the tropics.

Many of these broadcasts are simulcasts of mediumwave signals where the radio station uses a shortwave frequency to reach a wider part of the country than could be covered by a mediumwave signal alone. Programming is directed at a semi-local audience and can be quite absorbing for the foreign listener. Even though the language may well be a different one than that of the listener, the DXer nevertheless can understand bits and pieces, especially station identifications—and for DXing purposes, the station identification is the most crucial piece of information anyway.

The following are the ten easiest countries to hear on the 60 meter-band from our location in Quito, Ecuador. We’ve ranked them in order from easiest to hardest.

You might be an ANDEX member who lives on the exact opposite side of the world where this list would be quite invalid. For you, a local Indonesian or Indian station would be much easier to hear than Colombia or Venezuela. We would be interested in hearing from ANDEX members in other parts of the world regarding their 10 easiest countries on 60 meters. Send us your “top ten”!

So here they are, the ten easiest countries to hear from Quito, Ecuador, on the 60 meter band:

- 1) **ECUADOR** *Radio Quito, La Voz de la Capital, Quito*; This broadcaster has been around for many years



and uses **4920 Khz**. All of their programming is in Spanish. Lots of news and information shows. Try around 0200 UTC. Their address is: Radio Quito, Apartado 57, Quito, Ecuador. A Spanish-language reception report along with unused Ecuadorian postage stamps or a \$1 bill would be very helpful in securing a QSL from this station.

- 2) **COLOMBIA** *CARACOL, Bogota*; With a hefty 50 kilowatt signal on **5075 kHz**, CARACOL booms in to many a DXers’ shack all over North and South America. Years ago the station used to be called Radio Sutatenza—part of an educational system. They are now owned by one of Colombia’s largest networks and identify by that name.

Incidentally, caracol means “snail” in English. Try around 0100 UTC. Like *Radio Quito*, this station airs a lot of news. Their address is: CARACOL, Apartado Aereo 9291, Bogota, D.C., Colombia.



- 3) **VENEZUELA** *Ecos del Torbes, San Cristobal*; From Venezuela’s western state of Táchira, *Ecos del Torbes*’ programs of rhythmic Latin American pop music and news are often the first thing a short-wave listener hears from Venezuela. Try **4980 kHz** anytime from 0100 UTC on. At 0400 when they sign off, you can hear *Gloria al Bravo*, the beautiful national anthem of this country. Their address is: Ecos del Torbes, Apartado 152, San Cristobal 5001, Estado Tachira Venezuela.

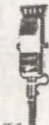
- 4) **HONDURAS** *HRVC, La Voz Evangelica de Honduras, Tegucigalpa*; This Gospel broadcaster is





actually owned by the Conservative Baptist Home Mission Society in Wheaton, Illinois in the U.S.A. They use 5 kilowatts on **4820.1 kHz**. The programs of the *Evangelistic Voice of Honduras* are mostly in Spanish but one can hear English from 0300 to 0500 UTC. English language reception reports will work for this station. Enclose several IRCs to help with return postage. Their address: HRVC, Apartado 3252, Tegucigalpa, DC, Honduras.

- 5) **COSTA RICA TIFC, Faro del Caribe, San José**; Another evangelical broadcaster, the *Lighthouse of the Caribbean* was



founded by the Latin America Mission many decades ago. Their 60 meter-band frequency of **5055 kHz** is their clearest, and they can be heard in English from 0300-0400 UTC. Again, English reports with a couple of IRCs will be fine: Faro del Caribe, Apartado 2710, 1000 San Jose, Costa Rica. At the time of this writing, they are experiencing severe audio problems on 5055 kHz, but that should be temporary.

- 6) **PERU Radio Ancash, Huaraz**;

From Ecuador one can hear signals from dozens of Peruvian stations. One of the most reliable is that of *Radio Ancash*. *Radio Ancash* devotes much of its broadcast time airing a haunting type of folk music known as the *huayno*, often recognizable by the high-pitched singing accompanied by violins and guitars. Listen for them at about 0100 UTC on **4991 kHz**. Their address: Radio Ancash, Apartado 210, Huaraz, Departamento de Ancash, Peru.

- 7) **GUATEMALA Sistema Radial**

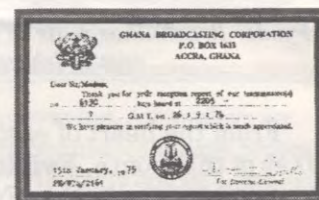
*Tezulutlán, Coban*; Identifying this station is a perfect example of what we were mentioning before. One hears mainly Indian language programming here, but when the announcer says, "*Radio Tezulutlán*," it's unmistakable. Here, one can enjoy the lively music of the *marimba*, a xylophone-like instrument which can fill an auditorium with its resonant sound. *Radio Tezulutlan* uses **4835.2 kHz** and

can be heard around 0200 UTC: Radio Tezulutlan, Apartado 19, 16901 Coban, AV, Guatemala.

- 8) **CUBA Radio Rebelde, Bauta**; An alternative to the international broadcasts of *Radio Habana Cuba*, *Radio Rebelde* transmits on **5025 kHz**. Listen for pop music and various types of programming in Spanish around 0200 UTC. Radio Rebelde, Apartado 6277, Habana 6, Cuba.

- 9) **GHANA GBC Radio One, Accra**;

While there are other Latin American countries readily receivable here in Quito, we need to cross the Atlantic to Africa for number 9 on our list. The *Ghana Broadcasting Corporation* puts a very listenable signal into the western hemisphere almost nightly on **4915 kHz**. Try for this West African broadcaster at 0525 UTC sign on. Much of what you hear will be in English. A good verifier, the address is: Ghana Broadcasting Corporation, P.O. Box 1633, Accra, Ghana.



- 10) **NIGERIA Radio Nigeria, Kaduna**;

Another nightly signal from West Africa, *Radio Nigeria* on **4770 kHz** uses 50 kilowatts from their station at Kaduna. They sign on at 0430 UTC. Again, much of the programming is in English. Radio Nigeria, P.O. Box 250, Kaduna, Kaduna State, Nigeria.

So there you have the 10 easiest countries to hear on the 60 meter Tropical band—at least from our location in Ecuador, South America. The receiver used was a Kenwood TS-450S, with a ground plane vertical antenna. Addresses are courtesy of the *World Radio TV Handbook* 1994 edition. We hope that you'll be able to add these stations to your logbook, as well as many more. Good luck and have fun DXing!

—Richard McVicar





## DXer of the Month



*Fyodor Brazhnikov pulls in the DX from his listening post in Irkutsk, Russia.*

From the heart of eastern Siberia comes our DXer of the month, **Fyodor Brazhnikov**. Congratulations to you, Fyodor!

Fyodor is 27 and studies physics at the Irkutsk State University. He lives in Irkutsk, a city of more than 700,000 people. Fyodor reminds us to look at a map of the world and find eastern Russia. There we'll be able to find Lake Baikal. Irkutsk is just 42 miles (70 km) west of Baikal. It's a very old city, founded in 1686.

Fyodor writes, "My favourite hobby is DXing. I first became interested in listening to foreign stations that were broadcasting in Russian. That was around the beginning of the 1980s. Until 1988 DX activity was not encouraged by authorities. In fact, the KGB persecuted listeners who had contacts with radio stations. My first verified station was Radio Canada International. Today, I have more than 170 verifications from all around the globe in my collection."

Fyodor's listening equipment consists of an R-250M communications receiver which was made in the U.S.S.R. in 1957. It weighs 205 lbs (93 kg) and consists of 20 tubes. He uses a 45-meter, sloping longwire antenna.

He continues, "I enjoy DXing because it is the quickest way to first hand information from foreign countries. Listening to shortwave enables one to learn foreign languages and all about other countries and their people. It's also a way to make interesting friends."

ANDEX members can write to Fyodor at:

Fyodor Brazhnikov  
Box 3036  
Irkutsk 664059  
RUSSIA

## Person to Person

It seems strange writing "1994" on correspondence and other items. Although *this* is 1994, the figure still seems so far in the future. Perhaps back in school, you read George Orwell's book *1984* and remember how futuristic that date sounded and now *that* year is a decade old. I wonder how it will feel when it is time to write "2000" on that year's first piece of correspondence.

Many believe that the world will be a very different place by the year 2000. Certainly, assuming all goes at the same rate it has been, there will be amazing technological advances during the next six years. However, when some believe in a different type of world, they mean *really* different—a world ruled by perhaps only one leader, or a world almost destroyed by nuclear war.

Many Christians (but by no means all Christians)



*Richard McVicar, ANDEX Director*

believe that Jesus Christ Himself might return to earth before the year 2000. The Bible tells us that no man knows the day or the hour of Jesus' return. At the same time though, the Bible strongly encourages all Christians to be ready for Christ's return and to watch for the signs.

In the months and years ahead, we will be hearing more and more about the return of Jesus Christ.



### Person to Person continued...

Much will be from Christians whose great hope in Jesus' return motivates them to warn others. Others will speak and write on the topic, but based on the belief that it is all nonsense.

I think it is extremely important to be familiar with what Jesus said:

*Watch out that no-one deceives you. For many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many. You will hear of wars and rumours of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of birth-pains. (Matthew 24:4-8, NIV).*

How then will we know the real Jesus from all of the fakes? Again, Jesus says,

*At that time if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or, 'There he is!' do not believe it. For false Christs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and miracles to deceive even the elect—if that were possible. See, I have told you ahead of time.*

*For as lightning that comes from the east is visible even in the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man." (Matthew 24: 23,24,25,27).*

The study of end times is a fascinating one that I think you would enjoy, whether or not you are a believer in Christ. For the Christian, the return of Christ and eternal life with Him are the greatest hopes that exist. My prayer is that you will come to share in this wonderful hope.

## PROGRAM PERUSAL

This very first edition of *Program Perusal* is about one of the newest programs on the *Voice of the Andes*, *El Mundo Futuro*, and its producer and host, Allen Graham.

Allen was born in Oswego, Kansas in the United States. However, before coming to HCJB, he resided in Sacramento, California for 12 years. He recounts the time when, at the age of 5, he told his grandma he wanted to be a radio broadcaster! Throughout school, science was always one of Allen's best subjects and he had a keen interest in astronomy. At San Jose University Allen was able to combine the two life-long zests for science and broadcasting as his major was radio-TV Broadcasting with a minor in electronics.

In 1987 Allen was introduced to the ministries of HCJB when he attended a missions conference at Urbana, Illinois. It is at this conference (sponsored by InterVarsity Christian Fellowship) where thousands of young people find out about the myriad of ministry opportunities available for those who are thinking of serving as missionaries.

In 1990, Allen was able to come to HCJB as a working visitor for several months. You might remember his voice on *Passport* and the *DX Partyline*. Three years later HCJB was very happy to welcome him as a permanent staff member when, following several months at language school in Costa Rica, he arrived in August 1993.

As a member of HCJB's English Language Service, one of Allen's two main responsibilities is being writer, producer and host of *El Mundo Futuro*, or "Future World." He is also taking over as full-time host of our live morning show, *Morning in the*

*Mountains*. On Saturday evening, Allen plays an active part in HCJB's live Spanish-language program called *Chévere*, or "Cool!" He really enjoys youth work. Right now, we're going to focus on *El Mundo Futuro*.

The purpose of *El Mundo Futuro* is to look at current trends and changes in science. That includes regular features from such areas as health and medicine, astronomy, computers, personal communications and meteorology. Allen looks at the relationship between man's study of science and our belief in God as creator. "Many people believe science and God don't go together," Allen explains. "However, our foundational studies of science were generated largely by Christians." The beliefs of these men are put forth in *Men of Science*, *Men of Faith*, part of *El Mundo Futuro*.

Anyone interested in current trends in science and new inventions, as well as being challenged in his or her beliefs, will find Allen's program stimulating and informative. *El Mundo Futuro* is broadcast Tuesdays as part of *Studio 9*.



Allen Graham enjoys working with young folks. Here he shares the alphabet with two Quichua girls.



# A DXers' Dream



*David Clark at the Drake R-8. (He was listening to DX Partyline, but is known for far more exotic catches!)*

How would you enjoy DXing from your own "antenna farm," a field or two containing a number of different types of aerials? Antennas as long as you wanted! Two DXers who have such a desirable arrangement are Cedric Marshall and David Clark of Ontario, Canada.

A number of years ago, the two accomplished DXers began planning the site when David and his family moved to a rural location outside of Newmarket, north of the city of Toronto. The Clarks have recently moved to another residence while renting-out the house on the 10-acre property to another family. However, as the Clarks continue to own the property, David and Cedric still have access to the *DX Barn* and all of the antennas that go with it.

At the site, there are 12 antennas in all. Ten of these are either terminated single or two-wire "Beverage" antennas. These are very long wires especially useful for DXing on Tropical Band frequencies below 6 MHz because of their low noise characteristics. Typically, the Beverage antennas vary between 400 and 500 feet (122 and 152 meters) in length. This would be between one and two wavelengths for frequencies in the 120, 90, 75 and 60 meter-bands. In addition, their setup includes a 60 meter-band Delta Loop and a 450-foot (137-meter) "skywire" some 75 feet (23 meters) above the ground.

Each of the Beverage antennas is fed through a matching transformer. This is to make sure that the maximum signal possible from the antennas is transferred to the 50-ohm coaxial input on the receivers.

Inside the barn, each antenna is fed into a military surplus broadband antenna coupler. Each coupler has eight isolated outputs and is suited to the frequency range of 2 through 30 MHz. Through the use of the multi-couplers and a switching network, each antenna can be independently fed to up to eight receivers at one time with no loss of signal strength and no interaction between the receivers. In other words, if David is hearing Laos on 6130 kHz with a great signal on only one particular antenna, he can alert Cedric to switch to that same antenna. With one of his receivers, Cedric can then tune in and hear Laos with the same great reception.

Both Cedric and David are strong believers in the DXing ability of the tube-type or "hollow state" communications receivers that were manufactured in the 1950s and 1960s. At Cedric's post, one sees a Collins R-390, an R-390A, a Japan Radio NRD-525, a Hammarlund HQ-180, and a Collins R-388/51J4. On David's side of the shack there's a Drake R-8, an R-7 and another Hammarlund HQ-180. Both DXers will tell you, however, that the most important part of



their receiving system is the variety of directional antennas at their disposal.

A Beverage antenna—an antenna which is one or more wavelengths long—is directional off of both ends. For example, if one had a Beverage antenna running in an east-west direction, the antenna would favour signals from the east and west. If one grounds one end of a Beverage antenna, however, the antenna will only favour signals coming from one direction—the end that was grounded. Some of the Beverages at the *DX Barn* are such grounded antennas. Others are two-wire Beverages which do not require grounding through a resistor. With these, one can still choose directivity off one end or the other.

Due to the choice of grounded and two-wire Beverages oriented towards all of the main compass points, David and Cedric are usually able to determine the direction from which an incoming signal is arriving. This may be along the short or long great-circle path. Sometimes, depending on propagation conditions and especially during the sunrise/sunset twilight periods, some signals may be found to arrive on a so-called “off-great-circle” or crooked path. David explains that this phenomenon is more commonly associated with periods of geomagnetic disturbance and with signals whose “implied” path might pass across or near the auroral zones surrounding the polar regions.

They were able to demonstrate this to me during a visit to the famous barn last spring. At 0000 UTC



*Cedric Marshall tunes in Madras on a Japan Radio NRD-525.*

on 4990 kHz, we were listening to Madras, India signing on with fair signals, although conditions were less than ideal. The Indian signal was clearly heard best on a Beverage antenna directed to the southeast. However, the short great-circle path from Newmarket to India is only slightly east of due north. The signal path from India that evening appeared to have been “bent” or “skewed” around the auroral zone and was arriving on a “crooked path” from the southeast.

If you live in a rural area with plenty of land available for erecting antennas, give some serious thought to experimenting with these long antennas. As David mentions, an understanding of how long-distance signals arrive at your receiver is most important when one is planning on which direction to aim a particular antenna. Reception depends on such factors as the season, geomagnetic conditions and the position of the day-night dividing line known as the “terminator.” You can never have too many antennas.

If you have some land that could be used for such experimenting, put it to use and invite your friends to share in the experience. I’m sure they would be glad to provide the coffee and doughnuts for those all-night weekend DX outings!



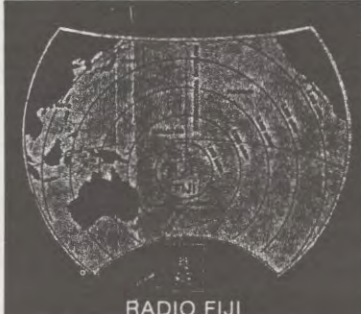
*Richard McVicar*



*This two-wire Beverage would pull in some nice signals from Papua New Guinea!*



# My Favourite QSL

	<b>Fiji Broadcasting Commission</b> The Voice of The Islands	
Dear Listener Thank you for your report on the reception of station <u>RADIO FNI TWO</u> broadcasting on <u>774</u> kHz at <u>0235</u> to <u>0401</u> GMT on (date) <u>1/2/1993</u>		
We are pleased to confirm your report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Unfortunately there is not enough information for us to confirm your report <input type="checkbox"/>		
<u>William Fang (Technician)</u> for General Manager Broadcasting House Box 334 Suva, Fiji.		
 RADIO FIJI		

**Dieter K. Reibold** has a QSL which I think would be the favourite of many...if we were fortunate enough to hear the station! It's from the South Pacific broadcaster, the **Fiji Broadcasting Commission**. Dieter writes,

"Are you familiar with the Fiji islands? They are between 15 and 22 degrees south and 177 and 178 degrees west, almost 1500 miles (2,500 km) north of New Zealand. There are about 300 islands, but only some 100 of them are inhabited. The population of Fiji is 740,000, with half living in the capital, Suva, and the other half in small villages around the islands.

Fiji is a multicultural nation. Only about 45 percent of Fiji's inhabitants are actually from that nation. The rest come from places such as India, China and Europe. There are also a number of different faiths represented. Christians make up 53 percent of Fijians; Hindus, 38 percent; followed by Moslems, Sikhs and others.

Broadcasting began in Fiji in 1935 with a 500-watt transmitter and the call letters ZJV. Today, Radio Fiji is on the air 18 hours each day. English language programming takes up 36.5 percent of their broadcast time followed by Hindustani (32.4 percent), Fijian (28.3 percent) and other languages (2.8 percent).

While Radio Fiji used to broadcast on shortwave, the station now only has mediumwave transmissions. They have two 20 kw transmitters (558 and 774 kHz) and four 10 kw transmitters (639, 684, 810 and 891 kHz).

Here in Europe, we only have a brief period each year to hear Fiji—during January and February. I had the great fortune to pick up details from Radio Fiji's Radio Two program on Feb.7, 1993. At the time, I was using a Drake R-8 receiver with 50 meters of

longwire antenna. Radio Fiji sent me a wonderful QSL card showing the blue Pacific Ocean with Fiji in the middle.

William Fang, the QSL manager, has to check every report very carefully. When writing, it's a good idea to include two or three IRCs as well.

Fiji is an exemplary democratic state with a commendable multi cultural society and radio system. Therefore, I was so proud and happy when I received Radio Fiji and was all the more joyful when the QSL arrived. I want to invite all members of ANDEX to support multinational and multicultural attempts and events whenever they can. DXers, who communicate nearly every day and night with people all around the world, should be able to overcome hate and discrimination between different nations and cultures. As ANDEX members, let's give such an example to others!"

## Pen Pals

**YUNUS KAMAL**, Amla Wapda Colony, P.O. Amla Sadarpur, Kushtia-7032, **Bangladesh**. (ANDEX #8767). Yunus is a 22-year-old student who enjoys DXing and collecting bank notes, QSL cards, T-shirts and stamps. He would like pen pals anywhere.

**VINCENT LEE CHEE HOH**, 26 Lorong Badang 10, Seri Petaling (Zone B), 57000 Kuala Lumpur, **Malaysia**. (ANDEX #8700). Vincent's hobbies include DXing, listening to music, travelling, sports and studying foreign languages. Indeed, Vincent knows Chinese (Mandarin & Cantonese), Malay, English and Japanese. He would greatly enjoy corresponding with friends in Europe, the Far East, Oceania and the Americas.

**JUDITH A. KROEKER**, 412 W. Jefferson St., Corydon, IA 50060-1538, **U.S.A.** (ANDEX #8619). Judith is married and enjoys shortwave listening, collecting QSL cards and listening to music. She would appreciate hearing from other ANDEX members, especially any ladies in the club.



**ANDEX INTERNATIONAL**



is the official bimonthly publication of *Andes DXers International*, a listeners' club operated in conjunction with DX Partyline broadcast on HCJB.

**ANDEX Director** Richard McVicar