

Edited by; C.M. Stanbury II, Box 218, Crystal Beach, Ontario

- VIETNAM CLANDESTINE SWNS Correspondent H. Robert Bundy  
reporting from the Caroline Islands notes "U.S. scare tactics in Vietnam seem to be scaring up more Voice of Vietnam XMTRs. The disappearance of some XMTRs and non-disappearance of others leads to interesting speculation on just where these XMTRs are actually located!....Recent U.S. bombing raids (on Hanoi - CMS) tend to support theory that VoV XMTRs are located elsewhere - Cambodia?" Bob then provides us with the following frequency by frequency summary (all channels subject to drift);
- 4400 VoV Foreign Svc. w/Japanese from 1430, new freq. noted XII/25 //4550 //7040//7798//10040//10073//12030. Not audible XII/30.
  - 4550 Also a new freq, monitored at 1412 XII/25. Not audible XII/30 but hrd XII/31.
  - 6203 V. of Pathet noted back on this channel (formerly 6199) XII/31 after week's silence (other frequencies are 4660////7313/(under R. Peking's FS)7480).
  - 7015 V. of FUNK (Cambodian VC) silent here for about a week as of XII/30.
  - 7040 New VoV FS channel first noted XII/22&23 w/Eng (prisoner of war tapes etc.) 2258 followed by Lao/Khmer/Thai type language. Hrd XII/25 until ~~1600~~ 1600 S/Off //(see 4040).
  - 7080 VoV FS first hrd XII/30 w/Eng at 1300 //7040//7800//10040//10073.
  - 7416 Viet Cong's Liberation Radio home svc. silent this channel XII/30 only.
  - X7462 see 9715.
  - 7510 VoV off this channel as of XII/25 and still silent here as of XII/30.
  - 7545 See 10015.
  - 9715 New unidentified Viet clandestine first noted on 7416 (logged by California SWNS Correspondent Steve Kamp at 0957 S/On XII/3) also found here at XII/18.
  - 7800 New VoV FS channel (varies between 7798 and 7814) may replace 15018. Monitored XII/20 & 21 w/Japanese at 1230 & 1430, Indonesian 1500. No sign of Laotian hrd 7814 in July & August.
  - 9838 VoV monitored here XII/15 & 17; Mostly in Vietnamese 2100-1100 //10120, after 1100 //7510 and in Khmer most of the time. IDs on half hour always mention Hanoi. Off the air XII/24 and still silent XII/30.
  - 10015 VoV new home svc. freq. noted XII/25 from 1030 tune in //7545 //10095. Same day FS of Liberation R. was missing from 10010 and all their other regular channels at this time. VoV continues to be hrd here as of XII/30 - extended sked, noted at 1710 w/Viet-like language.
  - 10073 VoV noted at 1037 tune in XII/25 //7040//10040 et al.
  - 10095 See 10015.
  - 10120 VoV missing here XII/25 and still silent as of XII/30 (see 9838).
  - 10222 Liberation Radio's HOME svc. hrd here XII/25 at 1130 //7416. This channel barely audible that date. Presumably this is also the one hrd at 1040 XII/30 up on 10235.
  - 11655 UnID in Viet or Viet-like language "amidst the rubble" until 0857 S/Off XII/25 and again at 0345 XII/26. Same format as one hrd on 7460 and 9715. Schedule XII/31 seemed to 0100-0200, 0400-0500 & 0900-0900 although this may not be complete.
  - 12005 V. of FUNK back here XII/30 after a few days silence. (Additional frequencies for V. of FUNK, last reported signing on at 0000, are 9988//10800. The latter is interestingly close to VoV 10073v channel - CMS)

SOVIET CENSORSHIP ... According to the Jan. 1 issue of the British magazine INDEX (published by Writers and Scholars International, and detailing censorship in every part of the world) one of the topics banned from Russian publications is "Any reference to the existence of censorship or to the jamming of foreign radio broadcasts to Russia". (LONDON TELEGRAPH via Desmond Colling)

R. NORTHSEA INTERNATIONAL has written to the RECORD MIRROR saying that they are planning to build up a strong English service, after Zurich took over this part of the service again (from a Dutch consultant). They say "These steps were taken as the past has shown that the mentalities of the English and Dutch are simply too different to get along". (via Colling)

The INTERNATIONAL BROADCAST MEMO/February 1980

Edited by; C.M.Stanbury II, RR #1, Ridgeway, Ontario LOS 1NO

CLANDESTINE/USSR/IRAN/AFGHANISTAN Acc.to an article in the XII/28 WASHINGTON POST By Stephen S.Rosenfeld, the U.S.government's primary response to inflammatory broadcasts from the clandestine National Voice of Iran (last reported on 6025 kHz - CMS) is to increase XMSNs from VOA and R.Liberty in 7 languages to USSR's Muslim population. A NY TIMES article by Bernard Gwertzman in the XII/31 TORONTO GLOBE & MAIL notes; "Although Moscow allowed Iranian exiles to broadcast anti shah programs from Baku in Soviet Azerbaijan, the content was sharply toned down until late last year when anti shah demonstrations became threatening. Then, the Russians began supporting the ayatollah, apparently hoping the United States would be evicted from Iran". However, the article fails to mention those now defunct but previously much more extensive and much more widely hrd Peyk e Iran XMSNs from R.Sofia.

Re.the Afghan coup/Soviet invasion, the I/1 WASHINGTON POST reported as follows; "State Department spokesman Hodding Carter asserted that radio broadcasts announcing Thursday's coup were tape recorded in advance by the new Afghanistan president, Barbak Karmal, and transmitted from southern areas of the Soviet Union, rather than by Radio Kabul... Informed sources noted....that American diplomats and U.S.monitoring services did not hear Karmal's announcement on Radio Kabul the day of the coup. Instead, they said, Radio Kabul maintained normal broadcasting until 11 pm.on Thursday. Then, they said, the station went off the air, after it came under military attack. Afterwards, music was broadcast, they said. Karmal's announcement, these sources said,was initially monitored on another radio frequency. The station, they said, incorrectly identified itself as Radio Kabul. Only later, they said, were Karmal's statements heard on Radio Kabul itself".

A story in the I/2 WASHINGTON POST places the fake R.Kabul at Termez, just inside the Soviet border. This article notes; "U.S.monitoring services first noted the phantom station, with its ability to dominate the Radio Kabul frequency, just before the Tar'ki-Amin shootout in mid-September". The Oct.ADXN contained a report, subsequently reprinted in the Nov.LN/FRENDX, from Victor Goonetilleke that R.Kabul was being relayed from a Soviet site on 15280 and possibly 11900 kHz. Meanwhile a story in the XII/30 NY TIMES had placed the fake R.Kabul at Tashkent. Incidentally, no SWBC XMTRs are listed at Termez - which might suggest the use of a portable facility. The Soviets used portable broadcast XMTRs during their invasion of Czechoslovakia".

ARGENTINA/CLANDESTINE RAE noted I/6 at SWNS HQ on 9690 kHz w/strong, clear signals around 0035. At that same time the RTTY like jamming on 9615 kHz aimed at R.Noticias del Continente was unusually strong. Of course this could come from either Argentina or Chile (see CLANDESTINE BACKGROUND on IBM 2)

ARGENTINA ANTARCTICA(?) From the Jan.LN/FRENDX; XThere seems to be no doubt in the Argentine press that LRA36 is actually in Antarctica(gh) Army Commander in-Chief Lt.Gen.Roberto Eduardo Viola says its establishment there represents a significant reaffirmation of our sovereignty there: an exercise of our legitimate national rights to the Antarctic Continent (Clarín, Buenos Aires, X/21 via ADXL) Viola adds to his dedicatory speech broadcast on the station that the station forms a permanent link between the Argentic Antarctic and the rest of our territory. It is named for the Arch Angel Saint Gabriel patron saint of communication weapons, as a reaffirmation of the unbreakable Christian faith of our institution and the mass of our people La Razon, X/20 via ADXL)".

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CANADA/USA

On IX/28 RCI's DX Digest host, Ian McFarland, implied that U.S. shortwave radar would cause little interference. That MIGHT be true if we are talking about the kind of OTH radar that resembles AC hum. But that is NOT true of the U.S. shortwave radar system which is identical to the Russian woodpecker.

CANADA

The following appeared on page 1 of IRCA's IX/6 DX MONITOR; "...from Michael Lawrence; CJAM 660 will begin BCing in Sept with 10kw D & 5kw N, and CKCV 670 in Ottawa (new stn) will start tests MMs after 0200 (ELT - CMS) in Oct & Nov". On the surface, the IRCA report seems to represent an apparently premature, and certainly gross, violation of the North American Regional Broadcasting Agreement. While checking our files on this matter, we found that the 1977 White's Radio Log in COMMUNICATIONS WORLD had an exceptionally complete listing of Canadian broadcast stations. It lists CJAM at Windsor, Ontario on 660 kHz w/20 watts, and a 10 watt station, "CKCO", at Ottawa on 670 kHz. The Ottawa XMTR is specifically listed as a carrier current station and presumably CJAM is a similar type of operation (probably at the Univ. of Windsor). That the Ottawa carrier current station might change call letters is not surprising as CKCO is already assigned to a fully licensed TV station at Kitchener, Ontario (ch.13) - although CKCV is also assigned to a fully licensed AM station in Quebec (EK1280 kHz). In any event, we can safely conclude that the Windsor carrier current station will not be licensed to operate w/10 KW days and 5 KW nights in the near future. Further, a check of IRCA's last membership list, and the additions thereto up to and including the IX/6 DXM, shows that no such member as Michael Lawrence is listed. Nevertheless there is still a remote possibility that this IRCA report indicates some sort of quasi clandestine activities by persons connected with these two carrier current stations.

SOME NOTES ON THE U.S. DX SCENE - PRESENT & PAST

The IX/15 BROADCASTING details Joseph M. Costello III's plans to operate a new 100 KW commercial SWBC station. If approved by the FCC, XMTR site will be at Estelle, Louisiana and will share studios with WRNO FM at New Orleans. Costello also owns (all Louisiana) KKAY (AM) White Castle, KSMI (FM) Donaldsonville, KXOR (FM) Thibodeaux, and WGIA (AM) New Orleans. The BROADCASTING article notes; "...the only commercial shortwave station now operating is WINB Red Lion, Pa., which is religious oriented. Costello says his research indicates the only other shortwave station to have been operated commercially was WNYW (formerly WRUL) New York. But it received public funds under a statute designed 'to promote a better understanding of the United States in other countries' through radio and other means of communications". The article fails to mention those CIA funds channeled to WRUL through such antiCastro groups as the Students Revolutionary Directorate (DRE). However this new station will not be beamed to Latin America but rather to eastern and central Canada, England, western and central Europe, and Scandinavia. The article concludes; "Costello, in his bid, is relying on the aid of two specialists well known to the Washington communications community. His lawyer is Ashton R. Hardy, former FCC general counsel, who is now in private practice in New Orleans, and his technical counsel is George Jacobs, former director of research and engineering at the Board for International Broadcasting". And before Jacobs joined R.Free Europe/R.Liberty, he was head of VOA's Frequency Division.

Which brings us to the "legendary" Sugar Loaf Key. A NY TIMES story details a mysterious fire which put Sugar Loaf's new 100 KW (Cont. IBM-2)

(U.S. SCENE Cont.) FM station, WYFK, off the air. WYFK had been interfering with reception of channel 6 from Miami and had received numerous threats. WYFK's response was, in effect, to suggest that viewers install a wave trap on their antennas (at their own expense of course) or subscribe to the local cable system. All of which raises various DX ghosts. In the 1960's Sugar Loaf was the site of a VOA relay to Cuba. It replaced a station on Dry Tortugas which had been hastily set up during the Cuban missile crisis. Ironically, our files contain a letter from (then) VOA's George Jacobs in which he deliberately attempts to give the impression that there never was a station on Dry Tortugas: he later admitted there was. Meanwhile WYFK is owned by S. Stratford Smith who also owns WKWF (1600 kHz) Key West. During the early 1960's WKWF aired many hours of R. Cuba Libre programming. Oh yes, the fire occurred while channel 6 was showing the Dallas Cowboys-Washington Redskins football game. Just think what might have happened if the Miami Dolphins had been playing!

While on the subject of VHF DX, acc. to a IX/19 NY TIMES story the FCC has tentatively decided to add 140 new VHF TV stations via the "drop in" route - i.e. shorter distances between stations, directional antennas and lower power than usual for new stations. This will certainly increase interference problems for many American TV DXers.

#### PROPAGATION NOTE

A few months ago Dr. Dallas S. Lankford called our attention to the following statement in UAG-50 (an atlas of ionograms); "In solar minimum years, F heights in the polar region decrease slowly with time finally reaching E heights, eg. 110 KM. Satellite ionograms confirm (at least for the few tests made) that there is no higher F structure present. The value of ordinary mode F2 critical frequencies also vary slowly in time, the thickness of the layer is much greater than particle E and decreases slowly as F heights decrease. This phenomenon is seen only in years of low solar activity".

This means for portions of Trans Polar paths, all signals regardless of frequency would be propagated by the same layer, and any absorption would also take place in that layer. This is very close to the hypothetical model we suggested a few years ago for simultaneous reception of very distant signals on 2 MHz and the BCB - EXCEPT that the F2 layer in effect becomes the E layer. It has also become clear that any SIMPLE answer to the E region vs. F region question, as it applies to distant BCB reception, is contrary to the evidence provided by ionosondes.

CANADA CKAP 580 kHz Kapuskasing, ON noted at 0207 X/17 advertising Robert Barry's UFO program. Is this the same Bob Barry that used to be on WINB? He was also interested in flying saucers, hi.

CUBA R. Moscow relay on 9600 noted at 0200 X/17 alternating noise w/open carrier. Same conditions found on 600 kHz, undoubtedly caused by breakdown in satellite link. Similar occurrences have probably been responsible for the strange noises which have previously been reported on 600 kHz (SWNS)

CLANDESTINE On IX/21 the CBS ~~TV~~ TV program "60 Minutes" identified Pat Robertson as one of the leading figures in America's new religious right - a conclusion which we came to back in the mid 1970's. Robertson is of course the high priest of the Christian Broadcasting Network which, as noted in the July 89, was involved in the original Costa Rican scenario that subsequently became R. Million and then, mysteriously, R. Noticias del Continente.

PUBLICATIONS ELEMENTARY ELECTRONICS is becoming SCIENCE & ELECTRONICS. S&E was a name previously used by the old RADIO-TV EXPERIMENTER shortly before it merged w/ELEMENTARY ELECTRONICS.

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A LETTER TO THE FCC from Bruce Quinn of Jolly Roger Radio.

"By this time you should have received the fine money which is to close the case of JOLLY ROGER RADIO, FCC file 81-R-8, 81-CG-8, and 3153301-003. Due to the fact that I had to go to a great deal of trouble to borrow that \$250, I feel that I should tell my side of this story too".

"Seven and one half years ago, I took a test for an FCC license. I had hoped that the license would help get me the job in radio I wanted. But, no! I wasn't given the license I deserved, even though, I had passed the test. The FCC alleged that because my eyesight was bad, I should have a restrictive blind endorsement. That stinking restrictive stamp caused me to lose two jobs, and kept me from getting many others. Sometimes, I feel that the FCC owes me \$70,000 for 7 years down the john, because of an unfair discriminatory endorsement".

"Radio in this country is in bad shape! When one station comes up with something that gains an audience, what happens? Well, other stations jump on the bandwagon. One station makes good in Indianapolis with the Bible, suddenly half the stations in town are preaching to us. FM rockers try to trick us into listening by offering cheap prizes and gimmicks. No station dares be different! You've got to go to a format that is making it already on another station".

"JOLLY ROGER RADIO was different! We played music from all over the world. We offered air time to our listeners. We did not break the law just for fun. I assure you that if JOLLY ROGER RADIO could have been legit it would have been".

"The radio waves belong to the public, I was once told. But, the truth is the air waves belong to those who can come up with one million dollars. How many of us is that? If it wasn't for all the red tape, or if we allowed low power stations, as some other countries do, the cost would come way down. How about Italy and Ireland? They recently opened the airwaves up to everyone! True! There would be some noise! But, there is a lot of noise now! At least it would be interesting!"

"JOLLY ROGER RADIO WILL RETURN!!!! The ideas and ideals we stood for are not dead! We have formed a corporation known as Jolly Roger Radio Group Inc. We have hired a consultant, and we are working towards bringing a new AM station to this area".

"Dear FCC, I know it is your game! You make the rules and you hold the cards! The winner needn't be good. And, his cause isn't always just. If Jolly Roger Radio scores an FCC license, it's not because our programming is good. It will be because we raised the money!"

American Radio needs a change! That fine isn't right!"

RADIO MARTI

From the IX/24 WASHINGTON POST;

"The Reagan Administration, accusing President Fidel Castro's communist government of lying to the people for 20 years, yesterday announced plans for a U.S.sponsored radio station that will broadcast to Cuba in Spanish and 'tell the truth to the Cuban people'. At a White House background briefing, senior administration officials said the station will be called Radio Marti in honor of Jose Marti, the father of Cuban independence, and will be similar in its operation to Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty, which have broadcast respectively to communist eastern Europe and the Soviet Union for more than 30 years. The officials said Congress will be asked to appropriate \$10 million to fund the radio's operation and current plans call for broadcasting to begin from a still undetermined location in January....In an announcement prior to yesterday's briefing, Reagan's national security affairs advisor, Richard V.Allen, charged that the Cuban

(RADIO MARTI Cont.) government had kept the Cuban people ignorant of its international subversion activities 'through its control of the media'. 'The administration has decided to break the Cuban government's control of information to Cuba' Allen said, 'The radio service will tell the truth to the Cuban people about their government's domestic mismanagement and international terrorism in this hemisphere and elsewhere'.....In describing the radio's aims and activities, the official made clear it will go beyond the kind of broadcasting engaged in by the Voice of America which attempts, in a variety of languages, to provide straightforward international news and a picture of life in America....Operation of the radio will be directed by a non-profit corporation similar to that operating Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe. These two broadcasting activities were placed under that kind of control by Congress about 10 years ago after it became publicly known that most of their funding was supplied covertly by the Central Intelligence Agency. The officials said Congress will be asked for similar legislation to establish the proposed new ~~XXXXXX~~ radio, which will operate on AM frequency. They acknowledged Cubans now already pick up many U.S. stations broadcasting from southern Florida, but said these broadcasts dealt mainly with U.S. affairs rather than conditions and events in Cuba".

Acc. to a brief account in the IX/24 GLOBE & MAIL, that "up to" \$10 million was merely for the first year of Radio Marti's operation but acc. to a IX/30 BROADCASTING report - "The officials said the station....would operate under a normal FCC license, but they could not identify the frequency to be used, or the power, or the location, or even whether they would use one or two transmitters. Indications are, however, that Radio Marti will start small - a virtual necessity since the commission that will plan and organize its operation is not scheduled to submit its recommendations and final report until Oct. 1, 1982. one of the senior officials said Radio Marti might initially buy time on existing stations".

The BROADCASTING article also notes - "Announcement of the administration's plans for Radio Marti caused some uneasiness among U.S. officials preparing for the six-week conference of American hemisphere nations on AM broadcasting, to begin in Rio de Janeiro on Nov. 9. A major cause of concern has been Cuban plans for 180 new stations, many of very high power. U.S. officials have been hopeful they could persuade the Cubans to modify their plans in a manner that would ensure the island of service without without causing serious interference to U.S. stations. . The administration was aware of these problems, but appears to have concluded there would be no point in letting consideration of them alter its plans for Radio Marti. One of the officials who briefed reporters noted that the Cubans in 1977 announced plans for two 500 KW transmitters, whose operation would violate an agreement with the U.S. 'We are not at all certain what will influence the Cuban government's attitude' the official said. It could use Radio Marti 'as a scapegoat' to explain its position. 'We note only that a time when we were trying very much to improve relations with Cuba, in 1977, it announced plans for the two large stations'!!!.

However just one year earlier, in 1976, Radio Million had tested with a megawatt.

CLANDESTINE/PUBLICATIONS The October S9 details clandestine broadcasts of ancient Hitler speeches currently showing up on the Citizens Band in the San Diego area. Our column in that same issue compares the impending North American BCB chaos to similar conditions in the 1930's with emphasis on pro-Nazi activities in Mexico. Incidentally, that definitely was our last column for S9.

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USA Neil Wolfish of Toronto advises that the Spanish language daytime station on 1580 is "absolutely and definitely" WYTO Hammonton NJ rather than WDYL Hamilton County, Florida as we had tentatively identified it. Wolfish reports a positive WYTO id at "October 2, 1983 (1984? - CMS) at 6:30 pm ". He also advises that the nearest station in Florida on 1580 to Hamilton County is WENO Gadsden County with a religious and C&W format. We wonder whether WYTO will be able to claim Cuban interference and thus qualify for FCC compensation.

FROM CMS: By the time you read this we will have published the last issue of SHORT WAVE NEWSLETTER which thus means the suspension of Short Wave News Service including our INTERNATIONAL BROADCAST MEMO feature here in CIDX MESSENGER. We do plan to continue DXing and most certainly plan to continue writing professionally about communications and the media. However we have come to the conclusion that neither SWNS or most DX clubs continue to serve any useful purpose, Let me list some of the reasons for my conclusion:

1. Most SWBC programs and publications are, as they have always been, bureaucratically dull - despite pseudo intellectual attempts to make them seem otherwise. There were and are exceptions: 'Liberty', a few of the pirates, some articles in THE SW GUIDE. But, except for those posing as "cultural", who in this age of computers and satellite dishes could possibly be interested in the programs of R.Moscow, R. Canada International, BBC, R.Habana Cuba or VOA.
2. Although we believe the BCB is dying because of interference (among other factors), still the most interesting DX is available on MW. There is the Reagan Administration's R.Marti (WQBA, WCMQ et al) scam. That may be the biggest international broadcast story since R.Swan/Americas. And there are those new stations above 1600 khz such as the quasi-clandestine KPS941. Incidentally, according to a story in the XII/16 NY Times (sent along by Ruth Hesch), KPS941 did have a license of sorts but were misusing it. Even though this one is currently off the air, MW has become far more interesting than anything to be found on SW.
3. There are still DX Clubs, such as IRCA and CIDXC, which continue to provide important "live" observations on communications and, more specifically, the broadcast media. But even the best of today's DX clubs, if they are to survive - if DX itself is to survive - must come up with new approaches. We really don't feel that SWNS, at least in its present form, is contributing to that process.

OLD TIME RADIO UPDATE This column mentioned last that the Dec. POPULAR COMMUNICATIONS contained an article by its editor Tom Kneitel on the late Dave Thomas' WUMS - possibly America's first pirate station - and the way in which ELECTRONICS ILLUSTRATED loused up our article on WUMS. But we should have also noted that Kneitel, who later edited S9 had a very close professional relationship w/EI's chief editor. Meanwhile December's SW GUIDE also contained an article, by John Santosuosso, about WUMS. Santosuosso, an associate professor of Political Science at Florida Southern College, was intricately involved w/PopComm's predecessor, S9. His WUMS articles contains various factual errors: aside from saying Thomas received a "handsome sum" as a result of his legal actions against EI (Thomas settled out of court for a mere \$1500 which may have been enough to cover his legal expenses), Santosuosso also claims that the last WUMS QSL was issued in 1948 while in fact we received one during the late 1950's.

Further notes from SWNS Final Bulletin Feb 5, 1985:

Ref. his article in THE SW GUIDE on WUMS, John Santosuosso acknowledges that his information on QSL's was not correct and plans to rewrite this part of the stations history. Santosuosso also adds the following comments: "As for my use of the term 'handsome sum' it was a direct quote from a conversation I had with Thomas. That is the reason I used quotation marks. He never volunteered the amount, and I never asked, as I figured that was his own personal business. We are dealing with a subjective matter here. It was obvious to me that Thomas was quite pleased with this settlement and the amount. Others may see it in a different light, as you obviously do and have every right to do, but I really do not feel at this point I committed a "factual error".... Finally, I would have to take issue with your statement that I was "intricately involved" with S9. The extent of my involvement was to write approximately 8 columns for Kneitel. When payment was extremely slow, and my requests for an explanation were ignored, I decided to terminate the arrangement. Since you wrote for S9 longer than I did (I hope with payments received more promptly) (we sued - CMS), I would conclude your involvement with the magazine and Kneitel was deeper than mine....P.S. I bought, read and thoroughly enjoyed Anti-Matter. When are you going to do something like that again? You should!"