

"cooling off period" concept. If enacted by Arbitron, that service would simply refuse to report even the existence of stations that just picked up hot calls for a period of 3 or 6 months. This would act as a punishment to those stations since ad agencies who use the ratings books to buy air time wouldn't see that station listed at all in that market and would be less likely to place commercials on it. Another possibility is that a footnote would appear on every single page of the ratings report, reminding readers that a hot-call conflict exists in this market and that ratings may not be accurate.

(BC=Broadcasting, RP=RadioPhiles bulletin, NRC=Natl Radio Club DX News)

RECENTLY ANNOUNCED PENDING STATION SALES:

KLLS 930 TX, WXGI 950 VA, WJMX 970 SC, WVOV 970 VA, WRAR 1000 VA, WKNG 1060 GA, KPLS 1150 CA, WHUE 1150 MA, WRUN 1150 NY, WLDS 1180 IL, WAVI 1210 OH, KDEC 1240 IA, KBUC 1310 TX, KKCC 1320 OK, WJAS 1320 PA, WALL 1340 NY, WCOP 1350 GA, WIXZ 1360 PA, WMTA 1380 KY, KCKO 1380 WA, KFRA 1390 LA, WCCS 1390 NC, KHOS 1420 TX, KLBB 1440 MN, KMED 1440 OR, KLBM 1450 OR, WWCN 1460 NY, WESL 1490 IL, KLYC 1490 MT, WGUL 1500 FL, KYCS 1500 TX, WRAN 1510 NJ, WAHT 1510 PA, WRSG 1540 GA, WWWW 1550 GA, WCGR 1550 NY, WVAB 1550 VA, WKIQ 1560 FL, KPCA 1580 KS, WCRV 1580 NJ.

The sale of KKBQ 790/92.5 Houston/Pasadena TX has been approved and, at closing, will represent the highest price ever paid for an AM-FM station: \$35 million cash. The proud new owner is Gannett, publisher of USA Today newspaper (and 59 other newspapers) and owner of 7 other AM's, 7 other FM's and 6 TV stations. (BC)

THE FIRST FIFTY COUNTRIES FROM HAWAII

by Richard E. Wood

Having received precisely fifty countries since my move to Hawaii's Big Island three months ago, to a home in Hawaiian Paradise Park there two months ago, and having built my first beverage a month ago, this is a good time to offer a list of the fifty countries heard, with outstanding stations from most of the countries.

This information might be relevant to DXers in other parts of Hawaii. For example, Peter V. Taylor's recent report from Kauai, while very brief, showed similar reception trends (including non-reception of American Samoa and Midway Island, as also here). On the other hand, he heard Argentina, as I have not yet; but since building it, I have been exclusively using my NNW-SSE beverage which is unfavorable to South America. I have heard just two Brazilians on it, compared with the six heard on a 100 ft. random wire, and of those, only the one on 1280, a frequency with nothing loud in Alaska or the Pacific Northwest, the region favored by the beverage, is often heard in the clear.

DXers on the Honolulu side of Oahu have strikingly poor reception from the U.S. mainland and Canada. They are also subject to some of the most horrendous splash, mixing and harmonic situations anywhere on U.S. soil, and in Waikiki, to giant levels of TVI from vast numbers of aging and abused television sets in hotels and condominiums. Nevertheless, on those frequencies that remain clear, a DXer has reported American Samoa (which I am confident I will get in time) and many Down Under stations.

The info should also, in many cases, be of value to listeners in Alaska and the West Coasts of Canada and the U.S. For example, as the listing below for Ecuador shows, I also heard Bruce Portzer's catch in Seattle of an unusual Ecuadorian. And those Europeans and the single African I have heard are among those most likely to be heard on the West Coast too. But my first-heard and generally most frequent European, the Deutsche Welle relay on the island of Malta, midway between Europe and North Africa, on 1557, is, for some reason, seldom reported by U.S. mainland DXers. In fact, it was a double surprise--hearing my first European on 1557 was a surprise, and finding that it was DW Cyclops rather than Nice, France, the European much more commonly reported there by U.S. DXers, was the second surprise.

Speaking of Europe, it is well known that the only part of Europe in which

genuine loggings of Hawaiian AM stations have been made since World War II is northern, sub-polar Europe, chiefly on DXpeditions in northern Finland and Sweden. (I have seen blatantly or subtly faked reports from Germany and Italy, but that is another matter). Thus, my Finnish DX friend Simo Soiminen often writes and asks me whether I have heard Kvitsøy, Norway, 1314, yet, or Turku, Finland, 963, or even Hörby, Sweden, 1179, which would be a possibility even though it is only 1 kHz from the American channel, since no U.S. station is potent there. But I have no answer no, southern Europe and the Mediterranean area is best here in Hawaii, just as it is on the U.S. mainland. In the list below, the most northerly country heard is Switzerland (again, a surprise).

Most reception is done on a Trio R-1000, virtually identical to the Kenwood R-1000 imported to the U.S. The beverage overloads it on many frequencies, creating mixing products and harmonics, but I simply turn the attenuator to its 20 db position. The results are still better than on my ICOM IC-R-71A; even after adapting it to my 12V DC operating conditions, it is outperformed by the R-1000 in sensitivity on MW, audio intelligibility, and drain on my limited solar-powered 12V batteries.

Let's turn to the first fifty countries heard, arranged, not in order of reception, which would be of little help to readers, but by continent and alphabetically within each continent.

North America (3 countries)

1. Alaska. Take your pick. KFQD-750 is the loudest, other clear channels include KDLG-670, KNQM-780 and KFAR-660. The regional KBBI-1250 is amazingly consistent.
2. Canada. Most easterly heard is CBK-540. My first Canadian graveyard was CIWH-1340. CKOA-1220, CJVI-900 and CKLG-730 are very powerful.
3. U.S.A. Again, take your pick. East Coasters heard include WRVA-1140, KYW-1060, WNRC-660, WCBS-880 and the powerful regular WBZ-1030.

Central America & Caribbean (8 countries)

1. Anguilla. Caribbean Beacon-1610 is a regular using a simple longwire.
2. Cayman Islands. Radio Cayman, George Town-1205 was heard once at its 0430 sign-off.
3. Cuba. CMKV, listed as Urbano Noris, is about the best.
4. Guatemala. TGJ-880, Radio Nuevo Mundo, is consistent.
5. Honduras. HRN-670, La Voz de Honduras, heard once.
6. Mexico. Once again, take your pick. XEG-1050 seems best of all, then XERF-1570; from Mexico City, XEB-1220 or XERPM-660. The best graveyard is XESS-1450, Ensenada.
7. Netherlands Antilles. The potent PJB-800, Sonaire.
8. Nicaragua. Until I built the beverage which favors KFQD, HTA750, R. Sandino, usually dominated 750.

South America (6 countries)

1. Brazil. Leaders are ZYH455, R. Tupi, Rio, on 1280, and ZYI458, R. Globo, Rio, 1280. Reception is more or less nightly.
2. Chile. CB118, R. Portales, Santiago, 1180, at its 0410 sign-off.
3. Colombia. HJPM, R. Galeón, Santa Marta, 895.
4. Ecuador. HCRS6, R. Superior, Machala, 890. WLS is almost nightly here, but this Ecuadorian reaches amazing strength.
5. Peru. OAX4C, "Once Sesenta" (I have never heard the word Radio used), 1160. Its "Woody Woodpecker" theme between each selection makes ID easy.
6. Venezuela. YVLB, La Voz de Carabobo, Valencia, 1040 at 0400 s/off.

Asia (16 countries)

1. China. Numberless frequencies, but 1116, which partially carries the Russian service and is listed (I think correctly) as Heilongjiang, is noted for its very late fade-outs, well into Hawaiian daylight.
2. India. AIR Rajkot-1071 with the external service in Urdu and some English noted.
3. Indonesia. RRI Banjarmasin-1134, 50 kW from Indonesian Borneo (Kalimantan). Not to be confused with AIR Calcutta also on 1134 and heard.
4. Iran. VolRI Bandar Abbas-1566, carrying the foreign service in Arabic and jammed by a bubbling Iraqi jammer. Heard at Hawaiian dawn.

5. Japan. A huge selection, and rather boring stations. JOWF-1440 Sapporo takes over the even channel strikingly early, thanks to its northeasterly site. Also loud are JOQR-1134 Tokyo and JOHR-1287 Sapporo.
6. Korea, North. Many frequencies, though fewer than I hear from the more decentralized South Korea. Loudest are Kangnam 667, Chongjin 783, Kaesong 810 and the pseudo-clandestine Voice of Reunification, Maeju 1053.
7. Korea, South. HLAZ, Asia Broadcasting, Jeju, 1566, with Russian evangelical programs at Hawaiian dawn, is the best of many.
8. Kuwait. R. Kuwait-1341 with the Urdu service at 1600-1800.
9. Oman. BBC relay, Masirah Island-1413 in Urdu and Hindi.
10. Philippines. VOA Poro Point-1143 in Vietnamese and with English lessons.
11. Saudi Arabia. BSKSA Ras-al-Zawr-1440 often at booming strength and overriding Sapporo there. Beacon for Middle Eastern conditions.
12. Taiwan. BCC Taipei 1460.
13. Thailand. VOA/Voice of Free Asia Ayuttaya (Bangkok) 1575; also several commercial stations heard.
14. United Arab Emirates. UAE Radio Dubai on the excellent non-plan frequency of 1481 at local dawn. Hope it stays there.
15. USSR, Asian. The powerhouse, heard for more than 12 hours a day in winter and carrying the Chinese service of Radio Moscow, is Vladivostok-1476. The closest to me, with earliest fade-in, is Magadan-1008 in Russian.
16. Yemen, PDR. (South). Al-Hiswah (Aden)-1188 at Hawaiian dawn.

Pacific (11 countries)

1. Australia. A huge variety, none more obvious than others. I'll choose 3LO Melbourne-774.
2. Eastern Caroline Islands. WSZO Ponape-1449.
3. Fiji. Best of the bunch is Rakiraki-1323 in Fijian and English.
4. Hawaii. All stations are heard at Hawaiian Paradise Park all day, but KZOO-1210 is very weak.
5. Marshall Islands. WSZO Majuro-1098. The stress is on the first syllable.
6. New Zealand. As for Australia, numberless stations but none dominant. Easy to recognize is R. Pacific, LXP-1593 with its religious phone talk shows.
7. Polynesia, French. RFO Tahiti, Mahina (Papeete), 738, is the first Polynesian to fade in at local dusk; its sign-off is 0730 (Sat. 0900).
8. Samoa, Western. Another early fade-in is Afiamalu-1404. If this executes its planned move to 747 it will make it easier for me to try for Guinea and France on 1404.
9. Solomon Islands. Lata-1386 in Pidgin English.
10. Tonga. A32 Nukualofa-1017 with mainly Polynesian hymns.
11. Wallis and Futuna. RFO Mata Utu-1188. A country most non-OXers and non-philatelists have never heard of.

Europe (5 countries)

1. Albania. Lushnjë-1458 carrying Radio Tirana's foreign service in Greek 0430-0455.
2. France. France-Culture, Nice-1557. The program name is paradoxical because when heard until 0500 it isn't carrying French culture, but Portuguese, and after 0500, Arabic, for migrant workers in France.
3. Italy. Genoa and synchronized network-1575. Italian news at 0430.
4. Malta. Deutsche Welle relay, Cyclops-1557. Has Arabic 0415-0550; thus from 0500 beware of confusion with Nice also in Arabic.
5. Switzerland. Schweizer Radio DRS-1 Sarnen-1566, heard with German 0515.

Africa (1 country)

1. Tunisian. Sfax-1566 in Arabic 0500. This station is known for low modulation.