AH, SPRING!...TIME FOR TV & FM DX!

MONTREAL

RADIO-QUEBEC

RECORD BREAKING JAMAICA-TEXAS FM TROPO DUCTING...SUPER MULTI-HOP FM E-SKIP "DOWN UNDER" BRINGS SAMOA FM TO SYDNEY...4 PAGES OF GREAT TV DX PHOTOS...ALLTIME FM DX DISTANCE STATS...FLORIDA UHF DUCTING OVER 1200 MILE PATH TO MEXICO...AND MORE!
Abbreviations used in this column:
ER - Effective Radiated Power in kW
HAVM - Height Above Avg. Terrain
N - no change
TL - Tower Location
CP - Construction Permit
PR - Province (of Canada)
RT - Non-commercial
CRT - Canadian Radio-Television & Telecommunications Commission
DBS - Direct Broadcast Sat.
SS - Spanish language
TNT - Three Angels Broadcasting Network (religious)

NEW STATIONS ON THE AIR

Key West, FL: WFTZ-22
TV: 24.5°N; 81°W
Presumably on Key West- not much of anywhere else to put it!

Seen by Ernie Mesoloski and Wally Smith while visiting the area in early March.

WJTF, IN: W52F-84
5000KW/250W
TV: 38°N; 86°57'W
Roughly 12km N of Salem on IN-135, about 50km NNW of Louisville, KY.
Began testing the evening of 3/14/94.

NETWORK CHANGE

Station Was Now
KOTZ - Bozeman, MT ABC CBS (now a satellite of KGLF-4, Butte)

OTHER STUFF

An article in January TVNews broadcast indicated that WCIX-6 Miami expects its new tower to be complete as of today. (March 14) Their old tower in Princeton, Fla. was destroyed by Hurricane Andrew. The new tower is "built to withstand a hurricane of Andrew's dimensions."

Elsewhere in Florida, WCPX-6 Orlando has asked a federal court to blame on their petition to eliminate the "prime time access rule," or PTAR. The station asked the FCC to reconsider its petition to lift the restriction. WCPX has neither accepted nor rejected the petition. The PTAR prevents network- affiliated TV stations in top-50 markets from airing network programs, or reruns of programs that previously aired on a network.

A transmission standard for HDTV has been chosen. Zenith's Vestigial Sideband (VSB) technology won over General Instrument's Quadrature Amplitude Modulation (QAM). The decision may not be final; broadcasters prefer yet another system, Coded Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing (COFDM). COFDM could allow the use of several low-power transmitters on the same channel as an alternative to one high-power transmitter. On the other hand, no COFDM transmitters have yet been built; it may not work!

After CBS affiliate WBDH-7 Boston decided to preempt CBS This Morning, the network signed a contract for WBDH-60 to carry the program. Presumably, it will also be carried on co-owned WCVX-58 and WJMH-21.

Several more stations have signed affiliation agreements with the Paramount Network: KYBS-5 Anchorage, AK; WEXN-27 Norfolk, VA; WQON-44 Tampa, FL; WJFT-46 Ft. Myers, FL; W62AZ Evansville, IN; and KA6T-63 Oxford, CA. (I assume this includes satellite W62AX-3 San Luis Obispo) Also, the sale of WQPS-57 Philadelphia to Fox has been cancelled; this means WQPS will not necessarily become the Fox affiliate in the market, and WQPS-29 will not necessarily end up with the Paramount affiliation.

LPTV WATCH

Call St City; Programming
W05AX NJ Cape May; Channel 5
W13UT MN Minneapolis; Channel 13
W14AB ME Skowhegan; ME ETW
W21OH LA Baton Rouge; All News Channel
W23AS RI Woonsocket; ValueVision "WTV" (no logo)
W24AR ME Portland; OFF, replaced by W39BG
W26DE ME Bozeman; K6V-6 (ABC)
W34AD FL Key West; "KeyTV"
W39BG ME Litchfield; ME ETW
W40AQ FL Kissimmee; indep. SS: (this was listed in error as W40AG last month; W40AG is in Rochester NY.)
W41BF FL Miami Beach; testing in SS:
W42DE ME Bozeman; K6V-6 (ABC)
W437PP SC Myrtle Beach; tourist ads
W62BE OH Columbus: National Entertainment TV Network
W62CG MN Minneapolis; TAB
W72AQ NY Great Valley
W73AR NY Delevan
W74AH NY Green
W82AI NY Machias; all OFF.

(The last four above are some of the last translators operating above channel 69 in the east- but I believe a few are left operating...)

This month from John Combs, Keith Smith, Fred McCormick, Stephen West, Jeff Kruszka, Roy Barstock, Dave Nielson, and John Johnson.

FORUM

Randy Miltior, Ashland OR:

great to hear from the West Coast! Except for Dave Sinclair, I don't hear from [him] very often... I found an item on the Feb. 8 San Francisco Chronicle noting KRON-4's ongoing problems with NBC. The station has angered the network with several decisions, including the recently-terminated early prime-time experiment, preemptions of Saturday-morning programs, and preemptions of prime-time shows in favor of Oakland A's baseball.

KRQI recently announced they'll delay "Late Night With Conan O'Brien" by 30 minutes this fall to open a slot for the new program "Last Call."

In response, NBC informed the affiliate of renewal of its affiliation contract, which expires in 1995, is in danger. However, if the network is pulled, NBC may not have much choice in another affiliation. KRON-7 is owned by ABC and with the ratings success of the CBS network, (and the expense and confusion arising from their recent purchase of KHOU AM4TM), KPIX-5 is unlikely to switch. That leaves KTVU-2; the paper says "...seemingly presents too many unsolvable problems," though without explaining what they are. Randy says "I believe that if the Fox network wasn't successful that KTVU-2 would be the NBC affiliate in the Bay Area." Probably true.

What will probably actually happen to KRON is a financial penalty, with NBC cutting the "compensation" payments they make to KRON for carrying network programs.

Keith Short, Columbus OH:

...When WCWS-TV 62 (LPTV W629B) came on the air in April 1992, at first it carried the All News Channel 24 hours a day, but later dropped that format for a variety of local and syndicated programming. Now it is carrying the National Empowerment TV Network which can be best described as a mini-ESPN channel. However, I have not seen any local or syndicated programs on WCWS-TV 62 since it joined the National Empowerment TV Network. It can pick up WCWS-TV 62 since it increased its power.

Keith encased an item from the Feb. 9 Columbus Dispatch about the station, National Empowerment, or "NET." In the non-profit conservative Free
(Forum, Short, contd.)
Congress Foundation, and a program list shows mostly talk shows with well-known conservative hosts such as Lamar Alexander and Newt Gingrich. I've forwarded the program schedule to Matt Stittel for possible use as an UNID aid.

The LPTV has also increased its coverage; according to Director of Operations Doug Wells, they've gone from 10KW to 40KW. (Interestingly, my records list the 20KW. They've also been added to cable systems in Grove City and Delaware, Ohio.

Also noted in the Dispatch is that WJMN-4 will carry the March 25 home playoff game of the Columbus Chill ECHL hockey team. Team president David Paiton hopes more games will be carried on WCMH next season.

Richard Contone, Jamaica NY:

"Channels 2 and 11 in New York City are on 1024 kHz, and do any of you know if this is translator audio, on 11.05MHz on a VHF carrier?"

I've heard this myself. It's definitely some kind of spurious relation or some other receiver. TV stations are definitely not licensed to transmit their program audio on shortwave, nor do their transmitters have any circuits on these frequencies. (at least not any transmitters made in the last 20 years. I suspect the harmonics of the local oscillator on one's shortwave receiver are mixing with the TV sound signal to generate a signal which your receiver responds to.

(there are two exceptions to the "no TV audio being transmitted on shortwave" statement. Several frequencies near 28MHz- 26.26 specifically are allocated for use by broadcast stations; TV stations often use these to cue reporters in the field, and carry their program audio when not transmitting specific instructions. Also, TBN owns a shortwave station in Utah which carries TBN audio most of the time.)

Rod O'Connor, Kodiak AK:

(now that's really West Coast!) Regarding KEXW-9 Anchorage under Dark Stations: They are not and never have been. They did (University of Alaska Anchorage) file about five years ago but that's as far as it went. I have the feeling this applies to quite a few stations on this list.

Roy Barstow, Teaticket MA:

Roy has a few LPTV notes & lttle something about WJMN-27 Worcester. WJMN carries the Univision (Spanish Language) network from noon to around midnight EST. (does it then carry regular independent stuff in English, the rest of the time?)

Maine Educational TV has added a new translator and moved an existing one to a new channel. New is WJMN Skowhegan; WJMN Portland moves to channel 39 and becomes WJMN.

Also relatively new is "WEIT Johnston, RI." (actually WJMN Westerly). Roy says it began operation on June 7 of last year. Programming is "fitness stuff" 5:30-11pm, then ValueVision overnight, except on Sundays when it's ValueVision 24.

Stephen West, Glen Mills PA:

More LPTV info. WJMN Cape May NJ is on with general entertainment. (Stephen thinks it's probably Channel America). A channel 46 is on in Myrtle Beach SC with "Beach TV." Another LPTV seen near Smithfield NC on channel 35 with professional wrestling...

WJMN, though my last listing showed it as mostly TBN. Programming changes fast in the world of LPTV!

In a separate postcard, Stephen mentions he didn't see WJMN-34 Baxley GA; yes, I do believe they're still on the air. (I believe the station was never built! Also seen was a channel 66 TBN at Macon/Bibb SC; I believe this is actually WJMN Savannah, GA. Finally, WJMN-36

(Forum, West, contd.)
Charleston SC calls itself Super Trident TV36. Do you know their power and ant. height?

Jeff Kruza, Baton Rouge LA:

"Local "NBX" (WSAV and others) has added yet another channel (6 total now), K210Q, which began programming on Feb. 24 with the All News Channel and other satellite stuff. (I even saw them relaying The Box from somewhere, but not Baton Rouge!) NBX officials told Jeff they're planning to create an all-news-sports-weather channel, (similar to KNWS-515)

John Johnson, Billings MT:

John writes electronically several times with Montana information. First, that KUSB-9 Bozeman is due to go on. Until KUSB began fulltime service, Montana cable systems would carry KUSB until 5pm, then switch to KWED-7 Salt Lake City. During this period, half of all money donated to KWED by Montana viewers was forwarded to KUSB! This process was phased out as KUSB reached a full schedule.

Regarding dark stations:

KXBM-10, KRXB-7, KTVJ-14, KZAR-16, KNXW-16, and KXME-20 are all off & have never operated.

Fred McCormack, St. Paul MN:

Fred supplied a lot of information used elsewhere in this column. He also has a few Dark Stations notes:

KXBM-22 has changed calls to KECT. WPA-24 has changed to WDRG. Neither is yet on.

KZAR-26 has changed to KTVM-26. I wonder if this means they're to be a satellite of KTVM-26 Pine Bluff?

KXBM-19, KXBM-23 and KXBM-24 have been cancelled. KXBM-20 probably has been cancelled as well, though no public notice was given of that fact.

WSci-14 went dark in mid-1985 & returned in late 1986, as confirmed by Bill Dresz. (presumably it remains on)

Fred questions the accuracy of the 2100MHz calls generally reported for the KXBM LPTV on that channel. Both his and my databases list the call that way, but usually LPTV calls are issued in alphabetical order, and there's a big gap between KXBM and 2100MHz. Fred speculated it should actually be KXBM-10. I know my database doesn't show a KXBM-10.

The New Life Evangelistic Center LPTVs (KXEM, KXH9, KSCH) are all licensed 6 in the air. Fred (and myself) are curious exactly what these stations carry & if they translate KMB-24 or KNJU-25, how do they receive those signals?

Regarding the KXOM?

Beeville, TX in February LPTV Nitch. Fred believes this may be KXBM-VE Beeville-Refugio. He says the calls on the Lake Charles LA table are KXBM-EC.

Eric Buesendel, Hazelwood MO:

Eric confirms that WHEL-23 Dalston, GA is not yet on. This CF was purchased last fall by the owners of WSD-50, WMPW-21, and two other TFN; I expect it to appear before too long, as they're a TBN affiliate for Chatanooga. Eric also confirms that KXME-17 Santa Fe-Albuquerque is on, with religious programs, making it the only fulltime religious station on VHF outside Alaska.

Eric also reports that KMBJ-30 St. Louis is starting a 9pm newscast, to compete with the one on KPLA-11.

John Cones, Orlando FL:

I'd forwarded some of Keith Smith's notes (see below) to John; his comments:

"KXBM-26 has been dark for probation 2-3 years now - their tower was hit by a Navy plane and damaged - their parent KXBM-26 (now WTRA-36) has since been
(Forum, Combs, contd.)

gold, and 26 has never been reac-
tivated." Carlom Nowington has also
seen WA1BL testing in Span-
ish. Keith didn't see WANGY-49, but
John says the other Pt. Myers
WAFs must be local quality for him
to see WANGY at all. Presumably
they aren't running the 5000kw I
list them with.

John believes WGA-44 may
have returned to the air; he had
an unusual direction in early
March, with no other unusual prop-
agation.

Keith Smith, St. Ann MO:

Keith and Ernie Wescowicki
took a road trip into south
Florida. Their notes:

In Marietta, Ga.: "WDMI-14 is
NOT all-talk TV, as its calls (and
previous publicity) might sug-
gest...just mostly syndies and a
great deal of country videos."

"WDMI is over 50 miles, so I
can't tell you much about it."

In Jacksonville: "WAWS-30 is
indeed a Fox..." (There'd been
speculation that it had shifted
to WFT-47? "WBSC-41"
Brunswick, Ga. airs 10pm local
news, Rush at 10pm, and
closed at 11pm.

In Cocoa Beach: "WCPX-4 is now
putting a 7-day-a-week 10pm news-
cast on WCPX-16.

In Miami: "WAFB is testing as
"KCAB-tv" and other info in
Spanish." (Fred McCormack says
this station has been granted a
power increase to 101.2kw at 1560)
(Quite possibly the highest power
LPTV in existence!"

"WBSC-41" only airs Fox's prime time
schedule, with WSB-39 picking up Fox's
other stuff.

In Key West: "WESX-22 is
affiliated with Toledo's, WN, and
Showcase America." (Wow, how's
that for variety in programming?)
"Key TV" is on ch. 34 with local
commercials 24 hours a day ...do
you have any REAL calls for this
one?" Yep, W34AD. I believe this is
a tourist-oriented station. The
channel 46 LPTV in Myrtle Beach
owned by the same company was
reported by Stephen West with
tourist advertisements. Keith
wants W34AD as IDing as "KI34EZ".
"...they've been trying to get ch
5 (W5FW) on since 1985. They
want to be a PBS, and they're
applying for funds from NTIA.

From Silver Springs: "WQY-51
is indeed a Fox, not an independ-
ent... uniD on ch. 29 or 30 relay-
ing WQY-44. (Thought ch. 29
was a noncommercial ETValloca-
tion..."

"Yes, it is, but LPTVs don't have to follow the non-
commercial reservation. This is
WQY-51 Digitas.

Knoxville TN: "There's an
uniD in the middle 30s with HSC
Space..."

(Klong) "Almost certainly
DSBE-417" however, different from
WQY-51, the regular HSC affilia-
tion."

"It sounds like ch. 11 may have
Southern religious stations do;
WSBE-2 and WQY-15, and they
are asTexas and ch. 2 & 15.
Actually, they ID as "WMC" and
15.

Finally, Keith wrote to a
number of the VHF "Dark Stations"
listed a few months back. Some
interesting replies have been
received:

KOFT-3 Gallup NM: Chief Engineer
Chuck says they've asked the
FCC to move the allocation to
Farmington, NM, and the Commission
hasn't acted on the request.
No construction has been reported yet.

KTRA-10 Del Rio, TX: No construc-
tion yet. "We are trying to con-
firm a network affiliation.

DX ETC.

A bit of tropics, mostly
Louisville & Huntsville... but
it's warming up, hopefully tropics
will follow.

73 Ltdg.
Bay, NY. NY 11946-3297. Send a picture postcard qsl to Thomas Young, BM1. (Holbrook)

MD: WTVY. 722. 157.30 mHz. Vessel name: Cooehavn. Position: at West River, MD. 336 slop with letter and picture of boat. (Holbrook)

MD: WBOB-6500. 156.80 mHz. Vessel name: Channel Runner position off Ocean City, MD. at 508 Islands Push Tug. Letter from Nichols, VP of Marine Towing Inc., P.O. Box 940, Ocean City, MD. 21842. 25 watts. (Holbrook)

PA: WMUR-R. 147.33 MHz, 2 meter repeater of the Penn-Mar Radio Club, P.O. Box 763, Hanover, PA 17331. (Holbrook)

MD: WJUX-4638. 156.80 mHz. Vessel name was Captain Xeno's tug boat at Galvesville, MD. 25 watts at Smith Brothers Inc., P.O. Box 124, 4702 Woodfield Rd., Galvesville, MD. 27685-0124. (Holbrook)

MD: KMBW. 156.65 mHz. Vessel name Columbus, Ohio. A container ship by the Chesapeake Bay Bridge, MD. Home address is DEEBO CMI, Funksenveranstaltung, Postfach. 5003 29, 2000, Hamburg, Germany. 25 watts. (Holbrook)

TX: KNXN 89.3 Dallas. P.O. Box 71009, zip 75871. Letter from Ranger Rita, Operations Director. Saying thanks very much because I hail by all the postcards. We are supported by donations from the community. Mentioning its #1 station. (Eliving)

MN: KXAC. 100.5 St. James P.O. Box 465, zip 56081. Short letter from Dick Rogers, Manager mentioning it is on 24 hours, 7 days a week with all new equipment. Previous does best was Waterloo, IA. He also manager of KXAX 109.4 there must be a duopoly. (Eliving)

MD: WAQ-2644. 156.80 mHz. Vessel name: Bice Jai Too, an 80' Tristan Yacht, position at Chesapeake Bay at Annapolis, MD. (Holbrook)

MD: KSZK. 92.7. Kindred. 93301 S. University Dr., zip 85210. Long, friendly, instructive letter from Asey Johnson Lewis, owner owner of the station. Saying how it took 4 years of planning to move the station to Oakes, ND to Kindred, with transmitter in MN. "It was a long and complex and confusing undertaking and a lot of people are scratching their heads at how Ron Frisch, owner pulled it off." Send scratch pads, saying they ad no bumper stickers. (Eliving)

IL: WIPA 89.3 Pittsfield, 96 WSSU. Sangamon State Univ., Springfield, IL. 62764-9243. Letter from Jim Dunn, Eng. thanks for my report & says WIPA broadcasts WSSU off-air, simulcasting WSSU. They want to improve the signal by putting the receiver in Jacksonville IL & using an SFT. "The long path involved has caused problems during different propagation conditions" it is directional with main lobe at 240 degrees because of WDM-L FM. (Eliving)

IA: KTPR 91.1 Ft. Dodge. 320 Ave. "MV", zip 50501. Send short letter from Scott Lewino, GM saying "will be glad to know that we have in the great white north-well almost." (Eliving)

IA: KTSB 99.9 Sioux Center. 128 20th St. SE, zip 51250. Letter from Mark Hans send specific letter, mentions that Tom Aldrich had talked with me & even ordered an SCA Radio from me. Send bumper stickers & live OOF promo material. (Eliving)

TX: KMF-A. 89.5 Austin. 3001 N. Lamar, zip 78705. Letter from John N. Eddings, Jr. GM he mentions mine being the most distant report in 20 years, but a letter over 20 years he heard someone in Philadelphia "at a time when there were considerably fewer stations on the air causing interference" (Eliving)

TX: KLSF 96.9 Amarillo. 803 S. Rustic or P.O. Box 3470. Letter from Gracey Palavacini, Receptionist. Note: station also LMA's KXUR 107.1 (Coninggj)

TX: KERM 88.5 Mesquite. 2500 Memorial Parkway, zip 75714. Letter, bumper sticker & also auctions station recently moved (88.5) from 88.3 to January C. Griffin III Ed D. Du, of Radio "Mesquite 107.3." (Conigsgj)

KNEU 88.5 Tyler 3810 Brookside zip 75710-9420. Letter & sticker from Terry Clark, GM also send coverage-map and LMA's KXJS 107.3 Whitehouse. (Conigsgj)

TX: KALK 97.7 Winfield. 996 S. Jefferson Ave., Mt. Pleasant, Letter & window sticker from Donna R. Hill, Owner. Glad to get this verse as first time I've been able to hear something over CHTZ 97.7. (Conigsgj)

WI: WRHN 100.3 Rhinelander. P. O. Box 738, zip 54501-0738. Letter & pronou material, coverage map from Karen Thomas, Afternoon Announcer. (Conigsgj)

WI: WDWE 101.9 Watertown. 96 920 Grand Ave., Schofield, zip 54476. Nice letter, business card, bumper sticker, window sticker, and T-shirt from Shane Finch, PD. (Conigsgj)

MS: KIEE 85.3 35.58 mHz. Ridgeland. Letter from Joseph G. Montano, System Engineer. This is an pager operation station. Reply in 66 day. Elevation 1540 AMSL. 200 watts, transmitter test at Spartan Mtn., Rosewell, GA. (Webb)

TX: KDF 91.9 Austin. 3001 N. Lamar, zip 78705. Letter from John N. Eddings, Jr. GM he mentions mine being the most distant report in 20 years, but a letter over 20 years he heard someone in Philadelphia "at a time when there were considerably fewer stations on the air causing interference" (Eliving)

VA: WIBO 93.9 Norfolk. VA: WBRY 89.3 Norfolk. 5200 Hampton Blvd., zip 23660-9376. Letter from Herman Wood, CE. Antenna up 630 ft. an off 1000TH TV tower at 23kw. (Holbrook)


MD: WETM 108.1 Hagerstown. MD: WEKA 96.9 Washington. P.O. Box 2626, zip 20073. Letter from Joseph M. Davis, PE. (Brook)

ON: CBOF 90.7 Ottawa. Box 3220, Station C, zip 11914. Letter from J. M. Garri, Audience Relations. (Holbrook)

MA: WXKJ 94.5 West Yarmouth. 276 S. Ave., zip 02673. Letter from Vern Coleman, CE. He was the CE for old WOB in 1943, then into TV, & retired, and now back part-time back with WXKJ (Brook)

MD: WQO-4221 156.80 mHz. Name of vessel was Lady Laine II. Letter and picture of vessel 300 Sportcraft, Position at Ramsey Lake Selby Bay, MD. 25 watts. (Holbrook)

DE: WAAA 4014. 156.65 mHz. Name of vessel was Constitution. Marinas Operations Partners, 3 Parkway, Philadelphia, PA 19102. Tub boat on Delaware River approaching Delaware City, DE. 25 watts. (Holbrook)

VA: WPE 95.5 156.80 mHz. Letter from Allied Towing Corp., P.O. Box 717, Norfolk, VA 23501. Tag vessel name was Sea Hawk, position in vicinity of Delaware Light, 25 watts. (Holbrook)

NY: WMNY 105.80 mHz. Letter from U.S. Coast Guard Station Shinespeck, Hampton

CBLN3-64
Chatham Ontario
287 mile tropo
seen June 22, 1993
at 0026 CDT

CFPL-10
London Ontario
340 mile tropo
seen June 22, 1993
at 0425 CDT

Sarnia Ontario
284 mile tropo
seen June 22, 1993
at 0500 CDT

KHSH-67 Alvin
Texas
710 mile tropo seen July 25, 1993
at 0401 CDT

KMBH-60 Harlingen-McAllen-Brownsville
Texas
986 mile tropo seen July 25, 1993
at 0712 CDT

WGVK-52 Kalamazoo
Michigan
325 mile tropo seen July 27, 1993
at 0427 CDT

KWKT-44 Waco
Texas
678 mile tropo seen October 25, 1993
at 0130 CST

More from Robert next month.

KUSB-2 Vermillion South Dakota
973 mile skip seen January 21, 1993 at 0100 MT

KJRH-2 Tulsa Oklahoma
1184 mile skip or meteorscatter seen July 30, 1993 at 0200 MT

KABB-29 San Antonio Texas
445 mile tropo seen July 25, 1993 at 0230 CDT

K47DF Corpus Christi Texas
425 mile tropo seen July 25, 1993 at 2326 CDT "KDF-TV"

We will wrap up Jeff's DX photos next month.

Till next time

Dave
If you read this column regularly, you are well aware of my great interest in the ElfNet computer network. It's been a fascinating adventure, and I've learned a lot from the conversations I've been able to extract from the network. The people of ElfNet are a diverse group, and their discussions cover a wide range of topics. I've been particularly interested in their thoughts on the nature of consciousness and the role of technology in our lives.

One of the most interesting conversations I've come across was a discussion about the nature of reality. Some of the participants argued that reality is essentially a construct of our minds, and that our perceptions of the world are shaped by our beliefs and expectations. Others disagreed, and argued that there was a fundamental reality that was independent of our perceptions.

I found this conversation particularly intriguing, and I've been thinking about it ever since. It's a complex topic, and I'm not sure I have all the answers. But I do know that I've learned a lot from the conversations on ElfNet, and I'm looking forward to seeing where my exploration of this fascinating topic will take me next.

CONCLUDES NEXT MONTH
### FM STATISTICS - ALLTIME FM DISTANCE RECORDS

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Kissebux, cont. | APRIL 1994

Commentary

First time ever, I’ve experienced tropo to the Caribbean, in two years looking
here, the best opening so far was 3-4 days. New country Cuba with pro-
vincial station on 93.5 from Santa Clara, Cuba Jan 9th heard by WZC, though QRM
by others. Farthest station was 7000 miles, a 3 w transmitter in Australia at 905 miles
an average of 3-5, GRAND TOTAL: 652 stations, 88-92 144 stations, 27 states,
868 states & 7 F.T.O.

Todd Embley, 13 May St, Rockingham, WA 6168, AUSTRALIA

Equipment: Omegro 9/4000 FM Fm, two Tellus stereo 8 element yagi antennas, mounted hori-
izontally in 200 foot mast. We had a 5th mast at 400 foot mast on 160.4 meter band.

For the 60 meter band, a 60 foot mast, 71000-73000 kHz and 10400-10700 kHz.

For the 2 meter band, a 60 foot mast, 144-148 MHz, and 218-220 MHz.

For the 6 meter band, a 60 foot mast, 420-50 MHz, and 50-54 MHz.

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NORTHERN FM DX
GREG CONIGLIO
5100 GLENWOOD DRIVE
WILLIAMSVILLE, NEW YORK 14221
e-mail: conigl@acsu.buffalo.edu

For DXers in: MA, NY, CT, MA, NY, NJ, DE, MD, DC, VA, WV, PA
e-mail: conigl@acsu.buffalo.edu

The 5th: April 1994
DEADLINE: The 5th
LOG CUTTOFF: 3 months from postmark

A very small column once again this month. Weather patterns over the region have not been conducive to any tropo occurring at all, other than very isolated openings. No off-season e-skip to report this time around, either. Tropo-scatter is the only thing keeping FM DXers busy! Keep an ear out though, as now spring tropo may have kicked into gear.

RICHARD CONOTONE - 162-07 87th St. - JAMAICA, NEW YORK 11414

FEBRUARY 9, 1994 Tropo

9:01 WSHB 91.5 NY Lake Ronkonkoma, very faint, swing music of Long Island 50

91.9 is a DX home for me since all stations are low power. I've heard from the pirate on it, but heard a college station that listed on 50.3. Nothing else to report.

WELCOME NEW REPORTER!!

MARK ALEXANDER HUMENYK - 26 CRESTIDGE HEIGHTS, RD
WESTON, ONTARIO M9P 1A4 CANADA

Equipment: Hisachi SDR w whip antenna

New stations: 104.9 Irate FM, in English, with music by Bob Marley called "Buffalo Soldier", with ID as a "irate FM", with two times by OM, then abruptly off, February 27 at 1830. It thought it belonged to CHOW FM in Welland (What?). Is CHOW supposed to move to 104.9 now? oh no - (g), but no word on the QTH where Irate FM is at? I know of no such licensed station. It sounds like you had a pirate! If it was very strong the origin is likely very close to you place - (g). Can anyone in the Toronto area help WFTPD members to find a store full of TV/FM DXing supplies within the Toronto area, either new or used equipment. I am having a hard time finding those supplies, parts, and accessories so I can get involved in TV/FM DX. Thank you! (Mark, welcome to WFTPD! Hope to see you reporting often - (g))

D.BRUCHE HALL - 5 STIRTON AVE. - BRANTFORD, ONTARIO CANADA N3T 1E2

Equipment: JVC JR-820 receiver (IF and 3.110 kHz filter), Magnum Dynalab Sluth 205W amp, Probe 9 fed with RG# at 50 feet AGL, Crown Rotel. Distances are in kilometers.

FEBRUARY 1994 DX
7 TRS GW

1241 WSSB 104.3 MD Baltimore, "New Soft 104.3 slow relaxing favorites", ex: WVRT, WBCC 525
1301 WRST 103.7 PA Erie, "Star 104," WTRS Erie run, fall, new calls, ID ex: WCCU, WMEJ 111
13 GW TRS
1205 WRKZ 101.1 PA Russell, "You've grown up and has rock on Rock 101" (Bruce, note that they have been given new calls, ex WSG1-gc) 162
1219 WCZT 102.7 OH Sandysky, calls, 272
1234 WQRT 102.3 MI Port Huron, "WRGT sounds so great, you can listen all day" 177
1244 WAVY 101.9 PA Fortville, "American Top 40 on T20 FM" 433
1244 WVCC 101.7 PA Linesville, "This is the music you opt for your dial" 164
1306 WBTN 101.7 NY Utica, "Here on Country 101", new format 171

NORTHERN FM DX
RICHARD CONOTONE - 162-07 87th St. - JAMAICA, NEW YORK 11414

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FEBRUARY 9, 1994 DX cont.
10 TRS GW TRS
1235 WHBC 94.1 OH Canton, 94.1 WHBC 273
1244 WDNY 93.9 NY Danville, "FM meteorologist Glen Johnson for WDNY" 219
1318 WAYO 101.5 PA Wayneboro, "County 101.5, WAYO" 437
1339 WGCC 90.7 NY Bastia, "Give us a call at 343-9422, thats 343-WGCC" 171
1356 WKT 90.7 OH Struthers, "This is WKT Struthers, the 15,000 watt voice" 230
1401 WKAR 90.5 MI E. Lansing, legal ID 352

CHICAGO'S NEW 98.9FM

WESR 98.9FM BOSTON

REPORT TO THE VUD!!

FEBRUARY 24, 1994 TRS GW

1854 WHSL 107.7 MI Alpena, "Bay 107.7 new slogan delayed now on 107.3 WHST Tawas City still as" 280
1855 WGBTY 107.7 PA Gettysburg, 95, when WNBC goes, this one is in there almost 100% of the time 234
1701 WHLX 105.5 WV Beverly, faded up WWOJ with "Easy 105." and local masts, ads 228
1719 WRTS 103.7 PA Erie, at "Star 104" now 89

Still very slow DX-wise as of late. No ducing of any importance since mid-December. No doubt the wintry weather patterns have had something to do with this. It hasn't been the record breaking winter here in Buffalo that they have had elsewhere (as of this writing we are up to 98.3°F accumulation, which is about 14° above normal so far, but well under any record), but still a fairly bad winter. Thanks to Matt Sittel, and Bob Smolack who sent logs. I would also like to thank those of you who have assisted with sending in "station news". This information is very valuable to DXers, and is much appreciated. If one of your locals changes format, or in the sad event of a new local, let us know about it, so others can keep an eye or ear out for it!

END OF REPORT TO THE VUD!!

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END OF REPORT TO THE VUD!!
El Paso 4 is easy to log via meteor scatter at the times indicated. Their ID covers the entire screen.

Dubuque 40 was noted January 24 at 2105 with ID and a technical difficulties slide. They had no programming for several days. Most of the time they broadcast unic color bars.

John Ellsberg, 5843 County Road 47, Albion MN 55502
(218-345-6635) 
CST

Trace-equatorial E skip noted in Barbados from February 4-10, 1994. All times in CST - local time was two hours ahead (I did not change my watch). All on south coast of the island.

7 15:45-2040 chs 2-5 Spanish audio (channel 2 really active).
8 2000-2100 chs 2-3 MUF up to chs 4-5 @ 2100.
9 1500-2000 chs 2-5 Spanish audio. Had picture on 2; audio had echo. Heard "Colombia" mentioned @ 2200.
10 1700-2100 chs 2-5 Spanish. Images on chs 2 and 4. Opening in FM band at 97 MHz.
11 1800-2100 chs 2-4
12 1830-2100 chs 2-3 Spanish.
13 1600-2130 chs 2-5
14 1700-2150 chs 2-5 Spanish. Diminishing to only channel 2 @ 2000.

All E skip on east-west pattern using "rabbit ears" on top of set, second floor in a concrete building. Set was a 19" Sansung, Model TC 5655ST, manufactured in Mexico in September of 1991.

Never did notice any daytime E skip; always at night. The E skip is something like an intense auroral E skip opening - it is one hell of a mess with a very little audio to be heard. I'm sure there were a few other evenings which may have had some E skip, but was not about to hang around looking for it. Too many other things to do. Wore only shorts or swimsuits for two weeks and it was great!

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**SATELLITE NEWS**

There are many changes since the last column - so here goes

On the Satcom at 137° W - this should be labeled C1
C1 11 - Americana Television to C3
C1 12 - Neports VC2
C4 17 - Starnet (Procom)
G1 - now G1R with 16 watt transponders launched Feb. 94
2 - delete Action - add Galavision
3 - delete All Wave Network
6 - delete Univision - Nov Z - Christian Music
7 - now Disney - West VC2
10 - delete Pils VC2
15 - delete Z - Christian Music
16 - delete Showtime 2 VC2
20 - delete Galavision - now Action Pay Per View VC2
24 - delete - Disney West - now Univision
C3 20 - Informerica - delete Mind Extention University
C3 27 - new Americana Independent Network
A50 1 - TV Jade - Hong Kong from C1
4 - Hispano Sport Channel + MAC
9 - American Independent Network
11 - NNBC New York 31 and National Access Television and RAI
date times
O5 - 4 - Sci-Fi Channel now V0C2
Morelos 2 - 10 - XH1MT not XH1MT unless my Spanish is totally lost
E1 - C and KU remain basically as reported in last issue
T-302
3 - delete Keystone/Paramount feeds
4 - delete ABC
8 - delete ABC
10 and 11 - delete ABC feeds
13 - add Flx VC2
17 - Add - All News Channel VC2
19 - TV Ertisca - NOT YET SEEN
20 - La Cadena de Milagro - Hispanic religious
from Camuy, Puerto Rico
23 - ADD SHowtime 2 VC2
Satcom 2
5 - Add - Mainstreet TV
7 - Sky-Vision and a hodgepodge of others
8 - WPLG - Ch10 - Miami, Florida ABC VC2
10 - WUSA - Ch9 - Washington, DC CBS VC2
14 - WBC - Ch4 - Boston, Massachusetts NBC VC2
15 - add - Showcase America
17 - Add - Newport VC2
SOLARIDAD 1
5 - feeds
9 - XEMH - Ch 6 - Hermosillo, Sonora - Telemex
G6 - Many report that G6 has been moved to take the
place of G2 - if that's correct - who's here
with the following - at this writing (3/15/94)
9 - CFPM - Ch 10 Montreal, Quebec (French)
13 - Univision feeds
Galaxy 7
Spacenet 4
6 - Hispanic news feeds
11 - Puerto Rico - religious station
4 - CTV feed
6 - ANIX Data
8 - CTV Feed
10 - Flamingo Downs Racing
8 - CTV Feeds
11 - CNN feeds
12 - CTV Feeds
18 - Bell-A-Vision
T-401 C
Band
1 - StarNet
3 - Paramount feeds
6 - Buena Vista Television feeds
7 - suxtelevision VC2
8 - National Service
12 - delete Paris, France feeds
15 - Prostar
17 - National Home Network
4 - delete Belgrad services
ABC feeds noted on 11, 12, 20, 21, 22, 23
The 4 PBS feeds are on Ku
G5
8 - Access America
9 - Antenna Satellite - Athena, Greece VC2
19 - VTA TV
22 - Future Mart
23 - GOP Television (occasional)
24 - Sky-Vision
TDBS
11 - is now called America 1
13 - someone now testing in PAL format (maybe new
Polish service)
1 - drop Digitat - not seen recently
There are no other changes at this time. The new services
mentioned in the last column will be next month.
A brief comment or 2 on Tom Bryant's article in the FORUM.
All programming (almost all) from France in the French
areas of the Western Hemisphere currently originate from
Telemac 2A at 8 West transponders 1, 2, 4, and 5
using both PAL and SECAM color format and 615 lines.
As an integral part of France - they also send back to
France their news feeds and other programming. Their
ID's are quite colorful (tropical birds, flowers, etc.)
That's all for now - see you in 30