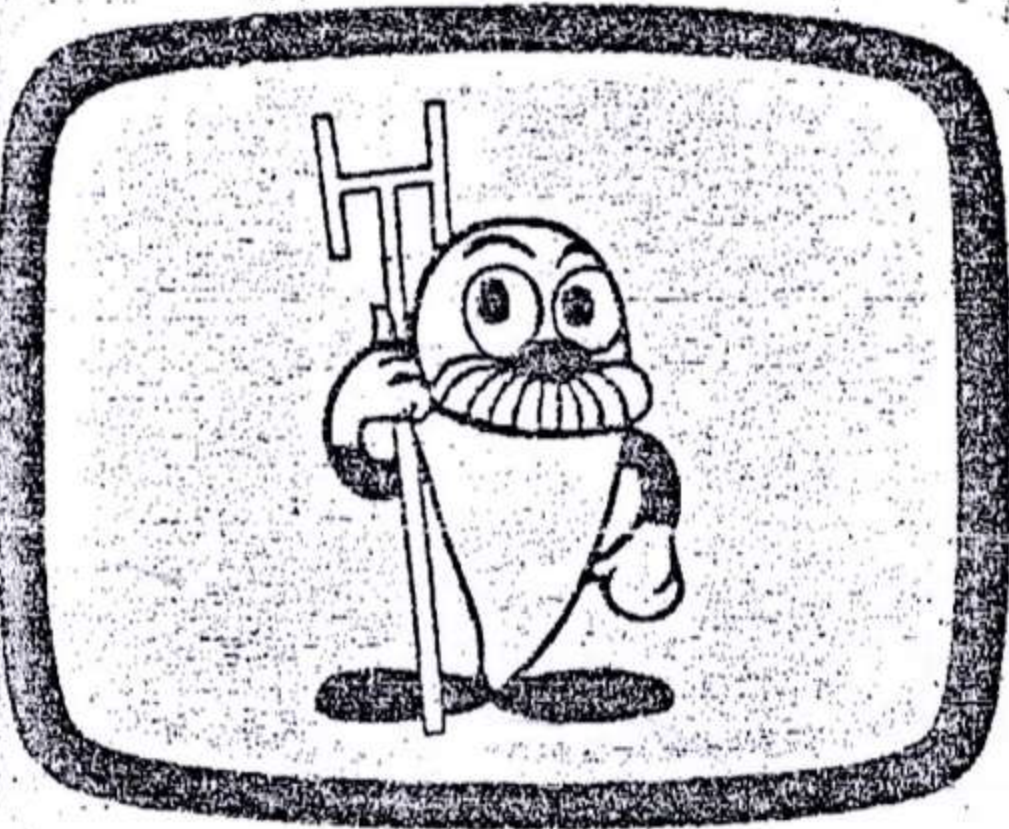


NEWS: CAROLINE CONTENTS

... 3 FINED

The events of the past few weeks have realised Caroline's worst fears-going aground-drifting-being raided by Police and Home Office Officials and 2 Court cases. Still, Caroline has once again weathered the storm. Last Mon. 15th Dec., in Southend, Caroline DJs Simon Barrett and Lloyd were fined £50 under the Marine Offences Act, section 1 which concerns broadcasting within territorial waters. The Dutch captain of The Mi-Amigo was fined £100 also. For full story see page 23.



DUNDRUM TELEVISION

Dublin's third local T.V. station came on the air last month in Dundrum, a suburb of the city of

Dublin. Similar services had already commenced in Ballyfermot and Tallaght both large suburban housing areas. A seminar on community Television was held in Dublin at the beginning of December. At present no advertising is allowed on the stations but attempts will be made to introduce commercials in the New Year. Programme contents consist of local news and events.

ITU.

The I.T.U. Conference for the re-allocation of medium-wave frequencies has taken place in Geneva (Report on Page 22)



I.T.U. Conference: While states talk, European Radio suffers an enormous Headache

- Page (1)... News
- Page (2)... VHF Reception
- Page (3)... History of BBMS
- Page (4)... BBMS(cont.)
- Page (5)... QSI Report
- Page (6)... DX News
- Page (7)... DX News(cont)
- Page (8)... Free Radio Publications
- Page (9)... Local Radio News
- Page (10)... Local Radio (cont)
- Page (11)... West German M/W DX
- Page (12)... North American DX
- Page (13)... N.American DX (cont)
- Page (14)... N.American DX (cont)
- Page (15)... Odds 'n Sods
- Page (16)... IRM Committee Report
- .. Members' News
- Page (17)... Radio Victory
- .. Radio Caroline North
- Page (18)... LBC Interview
- .. Radio TCD
- Page (19)... Local Radio (Part 2)
- Page (20)... Extra Terrestrial Relays
- Page (21)... Radio Sets in the USSR
- Page (22)... Pirates' Conference
- .. ITU Conference
- Page (23)... Radio Caroline
- Page (24)... Editorial

BBC suggests more local radio expansion

The BBC have suggested that an extension of Local Radio should take place firstly in England and then in the rest of the U.K. It also feels that it is desirable for local television to evolve along similar lines to Local Radio. Also envisaged by the BBC is breakfast TV or all night Radio. These are not considered to be priorities however. All this is included in a submission by the BBC to the Annan Committee which is at present examining broadcasting in the U.K. The BBC agrees with the Association of Independent Radio Contractors, (representing IBA stations) that a single broadcasting body to replace the BBC and IBA would not be desirable. The idea of one broadcasting body had been suggested by the British Labour Party.

VHF ... FOR BETTER RECEPTION QUALITY BY JOHN DOWLING ...

Interference on the medium wave band creates quite a few problems these days especially for those listeners who like to sit down and enjoy programmes of music. This interference is caused by overcrowding - originally the medium wave band was allocated for a certain number of stations and power limits and standards were recommended.

Of course, these "rules and regulations" could not be enforced, and now we have the situation where there is severe overcrowding on the broadcast band. There are three or four times the number of stations broadcasting now on medium wave as when the Copenhagen Plan was adopted back in 1948 - and the transmitter powers have been increasing, too. Almost all European countries have "broken" the Copenhagen Plan - at the same time, these same countries enact punitive legislation against off-shore stations! Britain, when introducing the MBOA back in the mid 60's, claimed that the off-shore stations could not be allowed to continue on land as there were no frequencies available. Now, ten years later, the BBC and the IBA operate dozens of stations all over the medium wave band - even on some of the frequencies used by the "pirates"!

During the day time, interference may not be all that noticeable, the signals from stations a long way away may not be audible, but when it gets dark, the properties of the ionosphere (layers of the upper atmosphere which affect radio signals) change, and then medium wave signals travel very long distances. This will mean annoying noises or other programmes interfering with your reception...

Effectively, then, the area where good reception is possible is much smaller at night, and, in practice, it can be reduced by as much as two thirds.

VHF transmissions, however, do not suffer from this problem, and, indeed, the size of the VHF service area is almost identical during both day and night, except during fairly rare weather conditions.

The quality of sound from your radio is obviously influenced by the design of the set (and perhaps the sound properties of the room in which you are listening). But, apart from this, VHF reception offers potentially much better reproduction, largely because of the way in which the radio waves carry the signals from the transmitting station. On VHF the system used is known as frequency modulation (or FM) and on the medium wave band the system used is amplitude modulation (or AM).

A radio which is receiving an FM signal can produce music or speech with very little background hiss, and this allows the station to do two things...

Firstly, almost all the audible overtones of speech or music can be transmitted. Secondly, a wider volume range can be transmitted.... By transmitting almost all the "audible overtones" almost the complete "timbre" can be reproduced. By being able to transmit the wider volume range, the station can reproduce the differences between the quietest and loudest parts of the programme... Together, the good frequency response and the wide dynamic range which the VHF service offers means potentially high-fidelity reproduction.

AM service (on medium wave) has a limited frequency response and dynamic range, and also the relative amounts of background hiss and distortion which are produced are higher. The dynamic range is in fact electronically compressed at medium wave transmitting stations prior to transmission. There are, however, advantages in doing this... For some situations it makes listening easier, for example, when listening in a car against a background of engine noise, and indeed some feel that a more uniform volume level is an appealing feature of certain programme material.

The new high power RTE transmitter on 566 kHz will, no doubt, improve reception of RTE in many parts of the country, but interference will not be completely eliminated. There are five high power VHF transmitters broadcasting RTE programmes throughout the country, though, in some areas, an outdoor VHF aerial may be necessary for good reception. You will not be disappointed with the quality. If you are seeking QUALITY try VHF - the difference is remarkable. I know we only have RTE and Radio na Gaeltachta on VHF, but those members with piped television can use the aerial to bring in good signals from Britain. Here in south Carlow, the BBC can be received clearly with the aid of a good outdoor VHF antenna and a good tuner.

HISTORY OF BBMS (BRITAIN'S BETTER MUSIC STATION) BY THE STATION OPERATORS

The first transmission from BBMS was during the second week of August, 1974. Transmitter used was 40 watt, but the possibility of purchasing this transmitter had to be abandoned as the price was too high... Our monitor in IRELAND reported that the signal strength of this first transmission was good, but the frequency used - 6202.5 kHz caused interference to a nearby distress channel.

The next transmission was on September 15th - this time using a 15 watt home-made transmitter. Again, our monitor in Ireland reported a good signal, but the frequency used, this time 6205 kHz, again interfered with a distress frequency.

We were not on the air the following Sunday, as the new crystal (government surplus) had not yet arrived.

Then, on Sunday the 6th October, 1974, we commenced transmissions on the new frequency of 6210 kHz and used 52 Oakfield Road as our mailing address. We received approximately 30 letters on this transmission, most of the reporters stated that we were operating too close to Regarlund Radio - an SSB coastal station operating from Norway on 6212 kHz.

On October 13th, 1974, we decided to use 6235 kHz... Reports were received from about 25 listeners, many of them pointed out that we were suffering from RTTY interference...

We were not on the air on the following two Sundays, as we were working on our power supply - mains power rectifiers blown!

On November 3rd we received tapes from Thomas Drescher in West Germany, and BBMS featured station identifications in German and Dutch for the first time. This week the frequency used was 6230 kHz, but there was still interference from some unidentified source...

Then we decided to work on a new transmitter, with a higher power output, so we were not on the air during the following three Sundays. We had some car stickers printed around this time, and we also were on the lookout for new locations from which to broadcast.

On December 1st, we operated from East London on 6216.5 kHz. On the night before, we brought the equipment to a friend's apartment - on the 22nd floor of a tower block! We strung the aerial from the flat to a point at the same height on the opposite block, but due to snow, rain and static build-up we could not stay on the air. Reporters stated that they heard plenty of sparking (any wonder!?). Our power output at that time was 25 watts.

We did not transmit on the following four Sundays. We decided we had earned a good rest, and anyway short wave did not produce sufficient reward for the amount of trouble involved.

However, BBMS was back on the air on January 5th, 1975! We operated on 6225 kHz from 1000 to 1030, then changed to the old frequency of 6216.5 kHz and continued broadcasting until 1200. We asked for reports, and when these eventually arrived we learnt that only the second half of the programme was heard - the reports stated that 6225 kHz was not heard...

From January 12th to March 23rd inclusive, we were not on the air for various reasons - bad weather, location problems, trouble with equipment, illness of one of the team.

On March 30th, we went to South London - stayed overnight with sleeping bags, flasks of soup and a Honda generator (an interesting combination!) We operated from an old factory which was well above sea level. However, static build-up on the aerial forced us to close down before our scheduled sign-off time. We were using 25 watts on 6216.5 kHz and our sign-on was at 0945 BST. Programmes were on tape, and quite a few letters were received.

We decided to operate from home on April 6th, 1975 - things went very well for us (not before time!) We received no less than 40 letters - from East and West Germany, Sweden, France, one from Denmark and even one from Switzerland. We also received some taped reports. The band was wide open....

Again, we decided to build another new transmitter, and we remained off the air for five weeks. We returned to the air on May 18th with new transmitter on 6216.5 kHz and did a three hour programme. Listener response was fan-

tastic - quite a pile of mail. Very good reception was reported from Wales, Scotland and Ireland, and we received several letters from France, and also we received, as requested, some tapes with stations identifications in various languages on them - so, for the first time, we had station identifications in French, Swedish and Flemish, as well as German and Dutch.

Sunday May 25th, 1975, BBMS still on the air... Response from listeners still very good. We continued broadcasting right through until July 6th. The number of letters received was still increasing and we were making many friends and building up a good reputation for our selves, because of our honesty in returning tapes, writing personal letters and our family style of radio.

We closed down for holidays, and spent three very enjoyable weeks motoring through Luxembourg, Germany, Belgium and Holland, and we met a number of BBMS listeners.

On our return, we found that we had lost our mailing address at 52 Oakfield Road. This address had been visited by Home Office personel, and mail for us and for other users had been confiscated.

We were now held up due to lack of mailing address, but a friend in Nottingham came to our rescue. He telephoned us to enquire about the welfare of BBMS. We told him about our mailing address problems and he indicated that he would provide us with a mailing address. Our sincere thanks to him...

Arrangements for the new address took two weeks, and so we did not return to the air until August 24th - with a new transmitter and a power output of 65 watts, but, unfortunately, the extra power did not help us due to long fades and short skip - particularly on August 31st. On that date, we all tuned to ABC Europe, which, as you probably know, had a special programme, History of Off-Shore Radio. We noticed the band very bad, with ABC quite weak at times.

We were not on the air on September 7th as our Honda generator was being repaired...

For the following Sunday, we set up all our equipment, and, as usual, set up the aerial on the Saturday night, ready for the Sunday broadcast - one of the many reasons BBMS is not on the air some Sundays is lack of permanent aerial locations/installations... Well, on this particular Saturday night/Sunday morning, 60 miles an hour winds plus rain brought down our antenna... This broadcast was to be a link-up with a medium wave station.....

BBMS is lucky in many ways despite all the troubles - we do have a number of high sites from which to operate, so, even with our relatively low power, we achieve fair to good coverage. Our printing is done free, including our QSL cards. Most of our electrical equipment can be replaced quite cheaply, and we ourselves are very disappointed we cannot be on the air every Sunday. We do our utmost to be on every Sunday, as we feel we are letting our listeners down otherwise.

We realise we are not the only pirate station on the air - but our aim is to stay free and friendly.

BBMS.... Main Deejay ... GARY STEVENS
Correspondence, Deejay ... MISS MATA HARI
Visiting Deejay ... MR. KEITH WATTS
Sound Engineer, Deejay ... Mr. L.P.

RADIO CAROLINE

BY JOHN DOWLING

Not being one of Radio Caroline's most ardent listeners, I was nonetheless saddened at hearing the news on Radio Tees which stated that the ship had been boarded on the night of 14th/15th November, 1975, and two deejays, the captain and the engineer had been arrested.

The news item stated that these four people had appeared in court charged with broadcasting without a licence from within British territorial waters. The four had been remanded on bail of £1,000 each....

This surely is the end of an era in the history of European broadcasting. I hope we'll have more detailed information about the closure of Caroline elsewhere in the magazine....

QSL REPORT BY KEVIN RYAN

BRAZIL... Radio Clube de Pernambuco verified by card in 14 days. Station operates on 11865 kHz, and its address is... Av. Cruz Cabuga 394, Recife, Pernambuco, Brazil.

Radio Bandeirantes verified by form letter and view card in 110 days. Station operates on 11925 kHz, and its address is... Caixa Postal 372, 05613, Sao Paulo.

GREECE... VOA, Rhodes, on 6015 kHz verified by usual card in 45 days. The address for a detailed card is... Frequency Division, Voice of America, Washington, D.C., 20547.

MALAYSIA (EAST)... The Voice of Malaysia, P.O. Box 1074, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, verified by personal letter and programme schedule in 37 days. The station operates in English from 0625 to 0855 GMT on 15275 kHz, and can be best heard around 0830.

MALTA... "Malta Calling", P.O. Box 82, Valetta, Malta, verified by form letter and tourist brochures in 29 days. Frequency was 9755 kHz and the time 2045 GMT. (N.B. This station operates on Saturdays only. Also, a new frequency, 6055 kHz, is being tested at present as there was a lot of interference on the 31 metre band frequency.)

IBRA Radio, P.O.B. 396, 101 25 Stockholm, Sweden, verified with a special test QSL card in 34 days. This station can be heard via the Malta transmitter after "Malta Calling" at 2100 GMT on Saturdays.

PAKISTAN... Radio Pakistan on 7085 kHz (2100 to 2145 GMT) verified by QSL card and programme schedule in 11 days. The new address for Radio Pakistan's World Service is... World Service, Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation, P.O. Box 443, Karachi, Pakistan.

Kevin Ryan

EDITOR'S NOTE... Kevin logged all these stations on his domestic radio, which just goes to show that you do not need a communications receiver to achieve very good results. Congratulations, Kevin, on some very nice QSLs there...

John

SOME MORE QSL's FROM JOHN DOWLING'S COLLECTION

RADIO ATLANTIS - QSL

Radio Atlantis thanks you for your reception report dated 10.3.74

We hereby confirm that it was our station that you were listening to.

Radio Atlantis broadcasts 24 hours a day from the Motor Vessel 'Jeaniene' anchored in the international waters of the North Sea.

We broadcast on the following frequencies:

962 KHZ.

Thank you once again for your report.

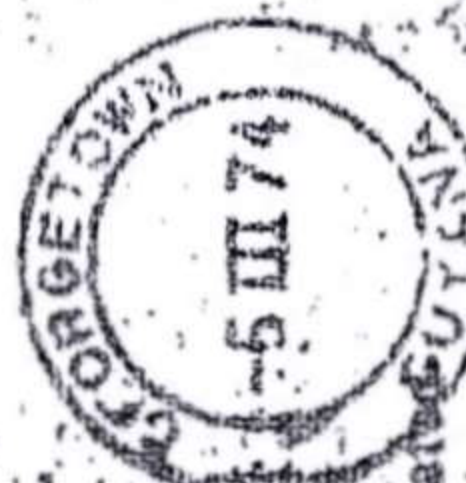
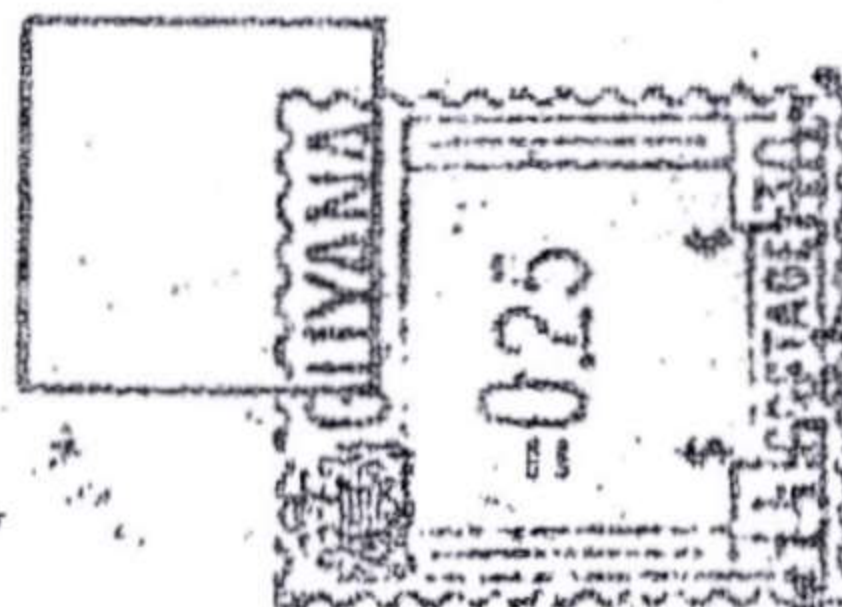
Andy Anderson, The Chief Radio Engineer. P.O. BOX 385, OOSTBURG, HOLLAND.



Radio Valleri QSL Card

We are pleased to confirm your reception of our broadcast

from Tinang Relay Station..... On 7/22/73 At 12:59-13:10 on 15345



Mr. John Dowling, Ballytielea, Borris, Co. Carlow, Ireland.

ARRIVAL

FREQUENCIES VIA AIRMAIL
760 kHz 305 metres
10 KW Medium wave
5980 kHz 49 metres
3265 kHz 80 metres
2 KW shortwave

We thank you for your report dated 20th Feb. 1974 which we are pleased to confirm.

John
Engineer-in-Charge

Radio Deyverera, P.O. Box 961, Georgetown, Guyana.

THIS WILL VERIFY YOUR RECEPTION OF WOAI RADIO IN

ON October 24, '75

Ireland

ANTIGUA.....Caribbean Radio Lighthouse, P.O. Box 1057, St. John's, operates on 1165 kHz MW from 1000-1300 and 2200-0200 with a power of 8 kW, but this will be upped to 10 kW shortly. This station commenced tests on August 28th, and regular transmissions began on September 7th.

AUSTRALIA.....Radio Australia now broadcasts to Europe from 0815-0915, with the General English Service beginning at 0700. Frequency is still 9570 kHz. "DX-ers Calling" is now on the air on Sundays at 0900, The Mailbag programme with Keith Glover is at 0830... The new relay station at Carnarvon will probably be on the air by December 20th, which is the 36th anniversary of the founding of Radio Australia.

AUSTRIA.....ORF now broadcasts to Europe on 6155 kHz from 0500-2200, on 7170 kHz from 0900-1200, on 9770 kHz from 1200-1600, and on 9715 kHz from 1900-2000. English is one of the languages included in these broadcasts... Listeners who wish to receive regularly a comprehensive listing of all broadcasts directed to Europe may have their names placed on a regular mailing list if they write to Austrian Radio, Technical Department, P.O. Box 200, A-1043, Vienna. The list is sent out four times a year and is well worth receiving -- for the price of a stamp!

CANADA.....Radio Canada International broadcasts to Europe as follows (in English)... On 11720, 9655, 6140 and 6125 kHz from 0620-0640, 0700-0720, 0740-0800. On 11895, 9640 and 6145 kHz at 2100-2157. On 11865 at 1800... At the beginning of 1976 Radio Canada will introduce a new QSL policy - they will send out with each new programme schedule a QSL card which the listener can fill in and return to Radio Canada. If the details are correct the report will be verified and the card sent back to the reporter. By the way, the Northern Service of Radio Canada is not affected by this new QSL policy, so reports for the Northern Service should be clearly marked as being for that department.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA..During the period November 2nd to May 2nd Radio Prague's Inter-Programme will be broadcast from 0630-1200 on 6055 and 9505 kHz. Every hour is divided into segments in Czech, German, French and English. There are also English language broadcasts as follows... 163 on 5930 and 7345 kHz, at 1900 on 5930, 7245 and 7345 kHz, at 2000 on 5930 and 7345 kHz, at 2130 on 1286 (medium wave) and 6055 kHz.

EGYPT.....Radio Cairo broadcasts to Europe in English on 9805 kHz from 2145-2300.

FINLAND.....The Finnish Broadcasting Company is installing a new 250 kW transmitter which should be testing by summer next year (1976). FBC currently broadcasts in English as follows... On 9720 kHz at 0300, on 6120 at 0730, on 6120, 11755 and 15185 kHz at 1400, on 9550 and 11755 kHz at 1830 and on 6120 kHz at 2030.

GREECE.....EIRT, Athens, now known as "The Voice of Greece" has been heard in English at 1215 on 9520 kHz.

HUNGARY.....A new MW station is under construction at Solt. The output will be no less than 2000 kW. The transmitter is being supplied by the Soviet Union and most of the structural parts for the 150 tonne antenna tower has already arrived. The station will be completed by the end of 1976.

INTERNATIONAL WATERS According to the French newspaper, "Valeurs Actuelles", the Portuguese Socialist leader, Dr. Mario Soares, intends contacting MEBO in order to discuss the possibilities of broadcasting socialist propaganda from RNI anchored at sea off Lisbon.

ITALY.....RAI, Rome, now broadcasts in English to the U.K. (and Ireland!) at 1935-1955 on 11800, 9710 and 7275 kHz.

LIBERIA.....Radio ELWA, P.O. Box 192, Monrovia, Liberia, broadcasts in English on 710 and 4770 kHz as follows... Sunday 0700-2245, Monday thru Friday 0600-0815 and 1530-2300, Saturday 0600-2300.

MADAGASCAR.....The Radio Nederlands relay station in Madagascar broadcasts to Europe at 2000 on 11730 kHz.

MALAYSIA.....The English service of RTM operates from 0625-0855 daily on 6175 and 15275 kHz.

MAURITIUS.....It has been reported that a new 250 kW transmitter will operate 24 hours a day on 7200 kHz with a non-directional antenna.

MEXICO.....Radio Mexico, which operates on 9705, 15125 and 15385 kHz has a regular DX programme at 0300 with musical identifications of various stations. (Day or days not known....)

PAKISTAN.....Radio Pakistan broadcasts in English on 15520 kHz at 1305-1310 hours.

PHILIPPINES.....Radio Veritas is reported testing on 11910 kHz at 2200-0200 and 1300-1500. Address is Overseas Service, Radio Veritas, P.O. Box 373, A.C. Quezon City, Philippines.

PORTUGAL.....Radio Portugal broadcasts in English as follows... at 0230 and 0430 on 6025 and 11935 kHz, at 1400 and 1600 on 17895 and 21495 kHz, at 1800 on 11875 and 21495 kHz, and at 2030 on 6025 and 9740 kHz. Radio Renascenca, the station formerly owned and operated by the Catholic Church, is currently heard on 1169 kHz medium wave with identification as usual... "Radio Renascenca, Emissora Catolica Portuguesa". The Lisbon transmitter of this station was recently blown up on government instructions as the station had been occupied by extreme leftist forces and they steadfastly refused to give up the station. In fact, the troops sent by the government to take over control of the station joined with the leftist occupiers of the station. It is presumed that the transmissions heard on 1169 kHz originate from the northern city of Oporto.

SOUTH AFRICA....Radio RSA currently broadcasts to Europe and West Africa at 2100-2150 on 11900, 11970 and 15155 kHz.

SWITZERLAND.....SBC's "Swiss Short Wave Merry-go-Round" was extended by a few minutes at the end of October following the dropping of the long-running religious programme, "In His Name" from the schedule.

THAILAND.....Radio Thailand has a European Service at 1025 on 9655 and 11905kHz - this is really part of the Asian Service which commences at 0930 with chimes and announcements in English.

U.S.A......WINB, Red Lion, Pa., 17356, broadcasts in English at 1930 on 17720 kHz.

U.S.S.R......Radio Tashkent has been logged at 1215 hours in English - frequencies used are 6025, 9540, 9600 and 11925 kHz.

VENEZUELA.....Radio Nacional de Venezuela has recently been heard with strong signals on 15400 kHz. According to announcements, the station operates from Caracas over YVRN on 11750 kHz and YVRO on 15400 kHz. Programmes were heard in Spanish and English 2100-2200.

YUGOSLAVIA.....A year long campaign to hunt down the many "pirates" in Belgrade has proved ineffective because of widespread support for the operations. Last Autumn the Federal Administration for Radio Communications said there were over 800 stations operating daily using simple equipment costing under £6.00. It is the political content which worries the authorities and one person was recently tried for "providing a false and malicious account of the social and political conditions in Yugoslavia and inciting listeners to overthrow the system by force." Frequencies used are mostly around 190 and 220 metres. Stations are called "Hawk", "Joe Frazier", "Apollo", etc.

In compiling the above DX TIPS I made use of material from the following sources..

CONTACT, monthly publication of the World DX Club, 11 Wesley Grove, Portsmouth, Hampshire, England, PO3 5ER,

DX MAGAZINE, monthly publication of the World Wide DX Club, D-6380 Bad Homburg 1, Postfach 1263, West Germany,

SWEDEN CALLING DX-ERS, the weekly programme broadcast by Radio Sweden - one frequency used by Radio Sweden is 1178 kHz and the DX programme may be heard during the English language broadcast on Tuesday nights at 2300 GMT,

I also wish to thank Pat Callaghan and Kevin Ryan for supplying information for this section.

I look forward to receiving your tips and suggestions for the next issue of MEDIUM.

73's es gud DX de JOHN DOWLING

LOCAL RADIO NEWS

BY JOHN DOWLING

The final low powered medium wave transmitter of BBC South-West came into service on 31st October on a frequency of 989 kHz. Five low powered medium wave transmitters are now being used by BBC South-West - they are as follows...

Barnstaple	683 kHz	2 KW
Redruth	755 kHz	2 KW
Torquay	854 kHz	1 KW
Exeter	989 kHz	1 KW
Plymouth	1457 kHz	1 KW

Listeners can receive letter verifications for reporting on these transmitters. Local programmes are broadcast in the morning time and there is a bulletin of local news at 1255 GMT daily. You may send your reports to this address

BBC South-West,
Broadcasting House,
Seymour Road,
Plymouth, England,
PL3 5BD.

A total of nineteen Independent Local Radio Stations has now been authorised. Most of these stations have already come into service - the following stations are scheduled to commence regular broadcasting in the early part of 1976...

- Radio Kenneth, Reading, 1410 kHz
- Community Radio Services, Belfast, 1025 kHz
- Beacon Radio, Wolverhampton, 989 kHz

CONTACT reports that some tests have been heard from Radio Kenneth and I have heard tests from Beacon Radio on 989 kHz which were verified with a QSL CARD by the IBA at Winchester.

Trade test transmissions are scheduled to commence from the Belfast station in March, but tones may be heard well in advance of that date. "Downtown Radio 293" will be the slogan used on the Belfast station.

On this and on the following page you will find the addresses and frequencies of all ILR stations, together with reproductions of each station's "trade mark".

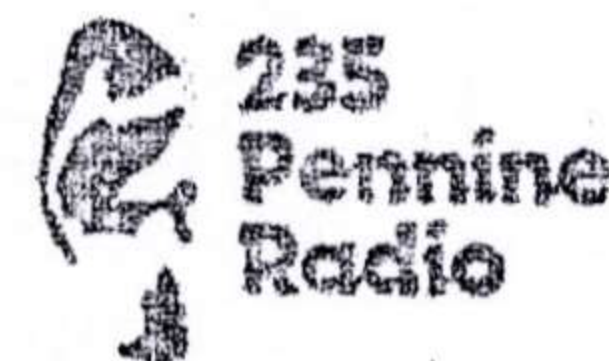
More local radio news on next page...



ILR Belfast
Community Radio Services Ltd,
Rademon,
Crossgar, Downpatrick, Co. Down,
Northern Ireland
Tel: Crossgar (039683) 491
293 metres (1025 kHz), VHF 96.0 MHz



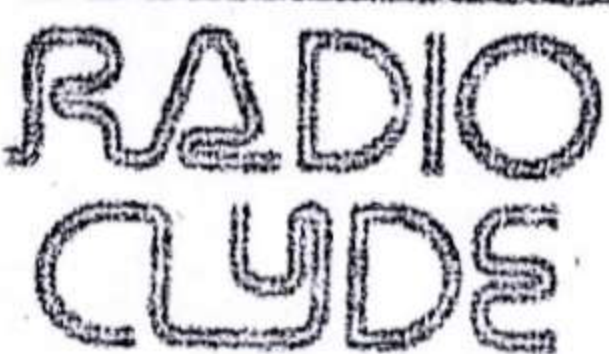
ILR Birmingham
BRMB Radio
(Birmingham Broadcasting Ltd),
Radio House, PO Box 555,
BIRMINGHAM B6 4BX
Tel: 021-359 4481/9. Telex: 339707
261 metres (1151 kHz), VHF 94.8 MHz



ILR Bradford
Pennine Radio
(Bradford Community Radio Ltd),
PO Box 235, Pennine House,
Forster Square, BRADFORD BD1 5NP
Tel: Bradford (0274) 305600
235 metres (1277 kHz), VHF 96.0 MHz



ILR Edinburgh
Radio Forth Ltd, Forth House,
Forth Street, EDINBURGH EH1 3LF
Tel: 031-556 9255. Telex: 727374
194 metres (1546 kHz), VHF 96.8 MHz



ILR Glasgow
Radio Clyde Ltd, Ranken House,
Blythswood Court, Anderston Cross
Centre, GLASGOW G2 7LB
Tel: 041-204 2555
(Sales: 041-221 6615/8)
261 metres (1151 kHz), VHF 95.1 MHz



ILR Ipswich
Radio Orwell Ltd,
Electric House, Lloyds Avenue,
IPSWICH IP1 3HU
Tel: Ipswich (0473) 311762
257 metres (1169 kHz), VHF 97.1 MHz



ILR Liverpool
Radio City (Sound of Merseyside) Ltd,
PO Box 194, 8-10 Stanley Street,
LIVERPOOL L69 1LD
Tel: Liverpool (051) 227 5100
Telex: 628277
194 metres (1546 kHz), VHF 96.7 MHz



ILR London
General and Entertainment service
Capital Radio Ltd, Euston Tower,
LONDON NW1 3DR
Tel: 01-388 1288
194 metres (1546 kHz), VHF 95.8 MHz



ILR London
News and Information service
London Broadcasting Co. Ltd,
Communications House, Gough Square,
LONDON EC4P 4LP
Tel: 01-353 2010
261 metres (1151 kHz), VHF 97.3 MHz

Radio Pennine, Bradford, commenced transmissions on 1277 kHz on the 16th September, 1975. The signal from this station is regularly heard here in south Carlow except during parts of the evening and night when the station is almost blotted out by Radio France on the same frequency. I've noted that the signal after midnight is rather "fluttery". The transmitter power is listed as only 100 watts.

Radio Victory, Portsmouth, commenced transmissions on 1169 kHz on the 14th October, 1975. I have not been able to log this station due to the severe congestion on that frequency. Perhaps the best way to sort out this station is to monitor the frequency in the wee hours and perhaps one could hear a "voice mirror" identification on the station's carrier.

Radio Orwell, Ipswich, commenced transmissions on 1169 kHz on the 28th October, 1975. Again, it has not been possible to log this station, but the late night monitoring of the frequency might produce an identification on the station carrier.

With the loop antenna I find it is now possible to clearly separate Swansea Sound and Radio Tees on 1169 kHz.

The experiment in local community radio continues here in Ireland. RTE's mobile transmitter will be operating from Kilkenny during the week commencing 24/11/1975. Programmes will be broadcast on the usual FM frequency (96.6 MHz) and on the medium wave frequency of 1484 kHz (202 metres). Kilkenny is only 16 miles from my QTH so I will avail of the opportunity to try and establish the coverage of this station. When the mobile station visited Ballinasloe, our good friend noted good reception on VHF about 6 miles from the town, but medium wave reception was poor.....

Those of you who are members of the Danish Short Waves Clubs International may have read my article in the October edition of SHORTWAVE NEWS - and those who are even more observant will have noticed my photo on the cover of that issue!

73' John

RADIO KENNET

ILR Reading
Radio Kennet Ltd,
22 South Audley Street, LONDON W1Y 6ES
Tel: 01-499 9252
210 metres (1430 kHz), VHF 97.0 MHz



ILR Sheffield & Rotherham
Radio Hallam Ltd, PO Box 194,
Hartshead, SHEFFIELD S1 1GP
Tel: Sheffield (0742) 71188
(Sales: 0742 78771)
194 metres (1546 kHz).
VHF 95.2 MHz (Sheffield), 95.9 MHz (Rotherham)



ILR Swansea
Swansea Sound Ltd, Victoria Road,
Gowerton, SWANSEA SA4 3AB
Tel: Swansea (0792) 893751
257 metres (1169 kHz), VHF 95.1 MHz



ILR Teesside
Radio Tees, 74 Dovecot Street,
Stockton-on-Tees, CLEVELAND
Tel: Stockton-on-Tees (0642) 615111
257 metres (1169 kHz), VHF 95.0 MHz



ILR Tyne/Wear
Metro Radio
NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE NE99 1BB
Tel: Newcastle upon Tyne (0632) 884121
261 metres (1151 kHz), VHF 97.0 MHz



ILR Wolverhampton
Beacon Broadcasting Ltd,
56-57 Queen Street, WOLVERHAMPTON
Tel: Wolverhampton (0902) 29634
303 metres (989 kHz), VHF 97.2 MHz



ILR Manchester
Piccadilly Radio Ltd,
127-131 The Piazza, Piccadilly Plaza,
MANCHESTER M1 4AW
Tel: 061-236 9913
261 metres (1151 kHz), VHF 97.0 MHz



ILR Nottingham
Radio Trent, 29-31 Castle Gate,
NOTTINGHAM NG1 7AT
Tel: Nottingham (0602) 581731
301 metres (998 kHz), VHF 96.2 MHz



ILR Plymouth
Plymouth Sound Ltd, Earl's Acre,
Alma Road, PLYMOUTH PL3 4HL
Tel: Plymouth (0752) 27272
(Sales: 0752 25744)
261 metres (1151 kHz), VHF 96.0 MHz

Radio Victory

ILR Portsmouth
Radio Victory, PO Box 257,
PORTSMOUTH PO1 5RT
Tel: Portsmouth (0705) 831243 - until Sept;
(0705) 27799 - from Sept.

WEST GERMAN MEDIUM WAVE QSL-ING BY GERRY DELANEY

The Federal Republic of Germany has many easily heard, high powered medium wave (and also short wave and long wave) stations. Therefore, it is quite easy for the beginner DX-er to add some extra QSL cards to his collection. Here, then, is a list of stations which I have verified by QSL cards from West Germany...

- (1) 180 kHz LW 400 kW Best time of reception.... 2300 hours G.M.T.
- (2) 573 kHz MW 300 kW Best time of reception.... 2200 hours G.M.T.
- (3) 566 kHz MW 100 kW Best time of reception.... 0100 hours G.M.T.
- (4) 593 kHz MW 400 kW Best time of reception.... 2300 hours G.M.T.
- (5) 665 kHz MW 300 kW Best time of reception.... 2200 hours G.M.T.
- (6) 971 kHz MW 300 kW Best time of reception.... 2315 hours G.M.T.
- (7) 989 kHz MW 300 kW Best time of reception.... 2300 hours G.M.T.
- (8) 1079 kHz MW 100 kW Best time of reception.... 1700 hours G.M.T.
- (9) 1268 kHz MW 600 kW Best time of reception.... 1840 hours G.M.T.
- (10) 1421 kHz MW 1200 kW Best time of reception.... 2300 hours T.M.T.
- (11) 1585 kHz MW 800 kW Best time of reception.... 0010 hours G.M.T.
- (12) 1602 kHz MW 370 kW Best time of reception.... 2300 hours G.M.T.
- (13) 6010 kHz 49mb 500 kW Best time of reception.... 0100 hours G.M.T.

It should be pointed out that several of these stations are audible for very long periods, and now, during the winter months, some of them can be heard almost any time of the day or night...

Now, here are the names and addresses of the stations listed above...

- (1) Europe No. One 6600 Saarbrücken, P.O.B. 301
- (3) Sender Freies Berlin Masuren Allee 8-14, 1 Berlin 19
- (2) Sudeutscher Rundfunk D-7000 Stuttgart-1, P.O.B. 837
- (4) Hessischer Rundfunk 6000 Frankfurt (Main) 1, P.O.B. 3111
- (5) Sunwestfunk 7570 Baden-Baden, Hans-Bredow-Strasse
- (6) Norddeutscher Rundfunk Hamburg 13, Rothenbaumchaussee 132/134
- (7) RIAS-Berlin 1 Berlin 62, Kufstreiner Strasse 69
- (8) Radio Bremen Heinr. Hertz Str. 13, D-28 Bremen 33
- (9) Deutschlandfunk 5 Köln 51, Lindenallee 7
- (12) Bayerischer Rundfunk 8 München, Rundfunkplatz 1
- (11) Westdeutscher Rundfunk Appellhofplatz 1, 5 Köln.
- (10) Saarland Rundfunk 66 Saarbrücken P.O.Bo. 301 (Box 1050 in WRTVH75)
- (13) Deutsche Welle Bonner Strasse, 211, P.O. Box 10 04 44, 5 Köln 1.

This list, of course, does not include Army stations (AFN, etc.) and the propaganda stations (Radio Free Europe, Radio Liberty, etc.) which transmit from West Germany.

I hope this article will be of some assistance to some DX-er somewhere, sometime!

Best 73's de Gerry Delaney

EDITOR'S NOTE... Apologies for not having the addresses above in strict numerical order, but, apart from that, I will stake my reputation on the fact that they are all correct. Must be loosing my concentration ... in my old age ... Hi.

The Voice of Hope continues to broadcast from Sines, Portugal, despite the turmoil in that country. Excellent reception is noted every Sunday morning on 9670 kHz. A DX programme, which is produced by the World DX Club in Britain, is presented every Sunday at 0935-0945 hours G.M.T.

REQUIRED URGENTLY.... Contributions from ALL members - and that includes YOU - for the next edition of MEDIUM. The next deadline is 20th February, 1976, but please have your contributions with the editor as far as possible in advance of that date in order that stencils can be prepared early....

We now present a selection of MEDIUM WAVE DX stations recently logged by our Editor, using a TRIO 9R-59DS communications receiver and a loop antenna - which was described in detail in the last edition of MEDIUM...

- 590 VOXM St. Johns, Newfoundland, regular - nightly when conditions good.
- 640 CBN St. Johns, Newfoundland, fair to good reception - quite regular.
- 650 Godhavn, Greenland - heard quite often. Noted several times broadcasting programmes of IRISH folk music and songs!
- 660 WNBC New York City - regularly heard when conditions are fair to good
- 710 CKVO Clarenville, Newfoundland, excellent signal - regularly heard
- 710 YVKY Radio Capital, Caracas, Venezuela. When propagation conditions favour reception from Latin America (rather than from North America) this station comes in with a powerful signal
- 710 WOR New York City - not heard too clearly now, due to strong competition from stronger stations on the same channel...
- 720 PZX26 Stichting Radio Omroep, Surinam (in Dutch) - another regularly heard station. Watch for heterodyne with Radio Free Europe (and jammer) on 719 kHz.
- 740 CBNM Marystown, Newfoundland - regularly heard, good reception.
- 760 8RG Radio Guyana, Georgetown. Often noted with a good signal - reception made a bit easier as the adjacent European channel of 964 kHz is often vacant
- 770 WABC New York City. Yet another "easy" station to log. (Is this Mark Story's favourite DX station!?)
- 810 WGY Schenectady, New York. Some years back this station was among the "regulars", but I only occasionally hear it now. Good reception noted around 0200 GMT on 28/10/1975
- 820 WBAP Fort Worth, Texas. A very hard to hear station, which broadcasts country and western music. Not many European loggings noted, but at 0130 GMT on 28/10/1975, I logged this station with several positive identifications and fair signal.
- 840 WHAS Louisville, Kentucky. Heard quite often - can be very strong when conditions are favourable (as they were during the second half of October).
- 840 Radio Caribbean International, St. Lucia. Heard occasionally. Noted with programmes of C & W music (which, in case you do not know, is our Editor's favourite type of music!)
- 850 WHDH Boston, Mass. Quite often heard, but signal does not seem to be as consistent as it was a few years back, when WHDH was almost always there!
- 860 CBH Halifax, Nova Scotia. Often clearly heard.
- 863 Morocco. Not really DX, but I noted this station recently with a news broadcast in English at around 2305 GMT. It was during the crisis between that country and Spain over the proposed march by Moroccan "volunteers" into Spanish Sahara.
- 880 WCBS New York City. Another regular, even noted when conditions are not too good. It could be heard much better if the BBC would switch off its carriers on 881 kHz - what is the point of leaving these carriers on half the night.....?
- 920 CJCH Halifax, Nova Scotia. Suffers from severe interference from a Spanish station on the adjacent channel of 917 kHz. Perhaps the best time to log this station is in the morning about daybreak when the Europeans are beginning to fade out and signals across the still dark Atlantic path are good.
- 930 CJON St. Johns, Newfoundland. Well, it's all been said about this station before! It must surely be the most regularly heard of all trans-Atlantic stations. If you don't hear CJON you won't hear anything else from North America!

- 930 CX30 Radio Monte Carlo, Montevideo, Uruguay. When conditions are favourable for South American DX-ing this station is noted with a good strong signal. During the middle of November conditions favourable to SA DX-ing have existed.
- 940 CBM Montréal, P.Q. Often heard with a strong signal, overcoming all other stations on this frequency.
- 940 WINZ Miami, Florida. Noted with a fair signal around 0030 GMT on 20/11/1975 - no sign of CBM!
- 940 WFAI Fayetteville, North Carolina. When monitoring this frequency between 0015 and 0030 GMT on 20/11/1975, the call-sign, WFAI, was positively heard and recorded. (The WRTH gives WFNC as the call-sign for the Fayetteville station on this frequency... But, a check in an old edition of "White's Radio Log" definitely indicates that WFAI is located in Fayetteville, but gives a different frequency... A bit confusing, but I've sent off a reception report and the reply should clear up the situation.)
- 950 CHER Sydney, Nova Scotia. No mistake about this one... Regularly heard. Early Monday mornings (GMT) this station carries a programme of Scottish music and song, with talk in Gaelic.
- 960 CHNS Halifax, Nova Scotia. Another "regular".
- 1000 CKBW Bridgewater, N.S. Regularly heard with a strong signal.
- 1000 WCFL Chicago, Ill. Fair signal early on the morning of 28/10/1975. This must have been the best night for years for logging North American stations... The following night, almost all the NA's had disappeared! Thought first my receiver had gone wrong!
- 1000 PRB9 Radio Record, Sao Paulo. Excellent when conditions favour LA stations.
- 1010 WINS New York City. This all-news station is one of the most regular and consistantly heard stations.
- 1010 CFRB Toronto, Ontario. Good peaks on the 28/10/1975. Alternating with WINS for domination of the channel. Unfortunately, I cannot post a report I have for this station due to a strike of postal workers in Canada. Irish Post Offices are not accepting mail for Canada at present...
- 1020 KDKA Pittsburg, Pa. One of the oldest stations in the U.S. and unusual in regard to its call-sign. Almost all stations west of the Mississippi have call-signs beginning with W... This station was heard clearly at 0000 on 28/10/1975. The station could be heard more often if the European station on 1016 (SWF in Germany) closed down at night... Is it really necessary for Germany to occupy so many channels at night time, all carrying the same music programme???
- 1020 YVRS Radio Margarita, La Asuncion. Another "regular" from South America when (yes, I'm going to say it again!) conditions favour LA reception.
- 1030 WBZ Boston, Mass. Heard occasionally with a weak signal - badly "crushed" by Europeans on adjacent channels...
- 1040 WHO Des Moines, Iowa. A nice one to catch and a very good verifier. Broadcasts country and western music. Again a lot of trouble from adjacent-channel Europeans.
- 1050 WHN New York City. If the BBC on 1052 kHz would switch off its carrier at the end of the day's programmes, this station would come in like a ton (or is it now "tonne") of bricks. Even with the carrier on, WHN is often heard quite well, with C & W music.
- 1070 CBA Moncton, N.B. In former years this was one of the most regular stations... It still is heard quite often, but there is a lot of co-channel QRM from France which now remains open on this frequency during the night....

- 1080 WTIC Hartford, Conn. A Spanish station on 1079 kHz prevents reception of this station until late into the night (or is it early in the morning!?) Often logged, with fair signal.
- 1090 WBAL Baltimore, Maryland. Before the BBC World Service commenced broadcasting on 1088 kHz a few years ago, this station was one of the best heard from North America. It is still heard quite often, but reception is distorted. Perhaps a good time to try would be shortly after dawn.
- 1100 ZDK St. John's, Antigua. Regularly heard, but signal this year not as good as it was last season when it was very often heard from around midnight.
- 1110 CBD St. John, N.B., Another station fairly easy to log.
- 1110 WBT Charlotte, North Carolina. Heard occasionally with a fair to good signal.
- 1120 KMOX St. Louis, Mo. This station was heard with an excellent signal on several occasions towards the end of October.
- 1130 WNEW New York City. Yet another "very easy to log" station.
- 1140 CBI Sydney, Nova Scotia. Often heard - watch for a heterodyne with AFN on 1142 kHz. Despite the proximity of AFN, CBI's signal can be quite strong and fairly free of interference.
- 1180 WHAM Rochester, New York. Very good around 0100 GMT on 25/10/1975. This station is often logged in these islands.
- 1180 Voice of America, Marathon Key, Florida. Often heard mixed with WHAM's signal. Programming is in Spanish.
- 1180 ZYD65 Radio Globo, Rio de Janeiro. A very "regular" station, often interfering with Radio Sweden on 1178 kHz.
- 1190 WOWO Fort Wayne, Indiana. Very good signal on 25/10/1975 - after 0200 GMT. Now, with Caroline off the air, this station will, no doubt, be more regularly heard.
- 1200 WOAI San Antonio, Texas. During a long session at the radio on 25/10/1975, this station was heard several times with an excellent signal.
- 1210 WCAU Philadelphia, Pa. Regular, Heard very clearly after the close-down of BBC Radio One on 1214 kHz shortly after midnight.
- 1240 ???? Several low powered U.S. and Canadian stations operate on this frequency. Traces of some have been noted, but no positive identifications, though last year, a VOCM relay station was heard identifying itself.
- 1265 Radio Paradise, St. Kitts. Very regularly heard. Even though this station operates very close to DLF on 1268 kHz, it can produce quite a readable signal. Programming is religious.
- 1270 CJCB Sydney, N.S. Often heard, but with interference from DLF.
- 1280 ZYD74 Radio Tupi, Rio de Janeiro. Strong signals from this station noted very often.
- 1300 WERE Cleveland, Ohio. Good signal, and identification heard on October 28th. Not heard very often.
- 1310 WLOB Portland, Maine. Often heard after about 0100 hours GMT with fair to good signal.
- 1320 CKEC New Glasgow, N.S. Regular. Signal not as strong as in former years when it was one of the most dominant North Americans on MW.
- 1330 WPOW New York City. Good. Regular.. Programmes in various languages, religious in nature.

 There we will leave our log for this time. Apologies to those who found it VERY boring, but this is the time of year for MW DX-ing and if you are interested the listing on these pages should prove to be a useful reference. More stations can be heard above 1330 kHz - perhaps we'll deal with them next time

JOHN DOWLING (22/11/1975)

ODDS AND SODS

WITH MARK TEE AND JOHN DEE

With the final close-down of Radio Caroline, the only legal radio ship now on the air is "The Voice of Peace" which operates in the Middle East area. The Israeli government refuses to enact legislation against this station in view of its unusual role.....JD

Capital Radio from Dublin heard down hear in Carlow on Sundays at noon with varying degrees of signal strength - some Sundays poor... some Sundays good and some EXCELLENT. Frequency is 220 metres medium wave.....JD

Doctor Don on Radio Westside continues on 6210 kHz every Sunday. Signal down here is usually very good. Some overseas pen-friends report that 6210 kHz is not the best channel as there is severe interference from other stations on the same or adjacent channel. Now you know, Doctor!.....JD

Letter from Kevin Ryan states that he is now studying to be a Telecommunications Technician in Kevin St. College of Technology. Congratulations, OM, and lots of success with your course.... Kevin also tells me that he has now purchased a Russian VEF206 receiver, and he is very pleased with it.....JD

The Voice of Peace operates on 1540 kHz but there is strong competition from DLF on 1538 kHz. Only heterodynes and traces of speech heard here recently - not enough to establish 100% positive identification.....JD

A word of thanks to our Scottish Representative for continuing to send us plenty of newspaper cuttings - all very much appreciated. We are keeping many of these cuttings for possible use in the future.....JD

And a word of thanks to Pat Callaghan for sending me the tape of Radio Ballinasloe - I will return the tape shortly with something recorded on the back of it.....JD

Why not have a try at picking up the Australian Domestic Radio Service on 6150 kHz - this channel is clear from 1000 GMT to 1100 and 6145 kHz is also clear until about 1055. Austria on 6155 kHz can be used as your guide when trying to locate the channel.... I heard Australia very weakly on this frequency recently. It's worth a try though, as conditions change from week to week.....JD

Don't forget to send in all your bits and pieces, articles, "odds and sods", etc. for the next edition of the magazine. Hope to meet some of you IRM folks at our AGM!.....JD

Spangles Muldoon, the man who pulled off the "Caroline Club" confidence trick twice, and profited considerably by doing so, is now on Luxembourg where he is in the process of changing back to his real name, Chris Carey. Maybe the old name is giving him trouble - certainly hope so...MT

Ted Allbeury, the old Radio 390 boss, is back in radio after nearly ten years. Off-shore listeners in the '60s will remember that Radio 390 had to close down in early '67 because of court action by the Post Office. His new job is with BBC local station, Radio Medway. He is on its advisory council.....MT

Paul Jellet of the Belfast Telegraph is the man responsible for the re-naming of Belfast's new commercial station. It will be known as "Downtown Radio" on 293 with the idea of giving the station a modern appeal. For his efforts, he was rewarded with a gallon of Bushmills Whiskey (my own favourite - MT). Station will be on the air early 1976.....MT

With this issue of MEDIUM, Ken Sheehan is standing down as President and will not stand for re-election. Obviously, this will be a great loss to the IRM but, hopefully, he will be retained on the committee.....MT

Victor Pelli, ex RNI Programme Director, was back in London last month for a three-week stay "on business". Wonder what he wanted!?MT

Poor Michael Lloyd being caught up in the Caroline court case on December 11th. He is out on £1,000 bail just now. Michael came over to Europe from the U.S. to get some different radio experience.. Well, he sure is getting it..MT

Tony Allen has left Radio Forth in Edinburgh. He left abruptly after a row with Ian Anderson, the programme controller, and headed off to Holland. Perhaps he intended to go out to Caroline again???.MT

Simon Barrett, who will appear in court on December 11th in Southend has improved greatly since his arrival on Caroline several months ago. We hope his present troubles will not prevent his return to the airwaves in the near future.....MT

Revenue from advertising for the Independent local radio stations has now increased considerably. The September figures show a 50% increase over the month of August.....MT

CHEERIO FOR NOW FROM MARK TEE AND JOHN DEE... MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL...!

IRM COMMITTEE REPORT ... BY MARK STORY

During the autumn the IRM re-commenced its weekly committee meetings after the summer break. Fewer members turned up at these meetings, especially for the first two weeks, although numbers did not go below the quorum of four...

The most important item to come before the committee was a proposal from the Secretary that the name of the Club be changed to "IRISH RADIO SOCIETY". This has been discussed and agreed at two committee meetings. The reason for the change of name is confusion between the IRM and another organisation, the IIRM, which provides an information service to its members. The IRM has no connection with the IIRM although several persons have confused the two organisations. This has undoubtedly caused inconvenience to both Clubs.

It is also apparent that the IRM may be confused with other organisations in this country which is marred with political strife. Certainly, in the Irish context the word "MOVEMENT" would seem to have political connotations. Of course, this Club is strictly non-political and the confusion can only do harm to the IRM. It has been decided to leave the final decision on the change of name until the AGM later in December - see front page for date and venue. If you cannot attend the AGM you can exercise your right of opinion by post, together with your vote for the Committee, Secretary and President. See the enclosed sheet giving details of this.

Concern has been felt by the IRM committee with regard to land-based "pirates" which broadcast on occupied frequencies and whose standard in both programming and transmission is of extremely low quality.

The IRM committee also feels extremely annoyed at the British Government which has put Radio Caroline off the air... The station is actually back on the air again, and we will have to wait and see what finally happens. The committee is committed to supporting this station.

Finally, and inevitably, the committee decided that the IRM annual membership fee should be increased to 75p -- an increase of 25p. While this may seem considerable, it must be remembered that all our costs have gone up and this is the first subscription increase in two years. Even after deciding to increase the fee to 75p a year, we have learnt that postage rates in Ireland are being increased by up to 50% as and from January 1st, 1976. The postage on this magazine will be up from 5p to 7p. The new letter rate will be 9p....

To soften the blow somewhat, we shall charge the old rate of 50p until 31/1/1976 and we urge you to re-join immediately...

The subscription of 75p is still calculated to bring us to a no-profit situation at the end of next year, as opposed to this year's loss which has been borne by the President, Committee and Editor (and Secretary - JD).

Members who have received two copies or less of MEDIUM are not affected by this, and their membership continues until the middle of next year. All other members should have received at least four editions.

MARK T. STORY (SECRETARY)

MEMBERS' NEWS.... BY JOHN DOWLING

From Sean Keevey, Golden Grove, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary, I have received a nice letter. Sean said he decided to try his hand at MW DX-ing after reading an article in MEDIUM. Although he did not pick up any LA or NA stations, he did pick up Radio Moscow, Radio Prague, Radio Norway, Vatican Radio and several other stations. Sean is a beginner at the DX-ing game and he said he found the article on how to improve the writing of a reception report very useful and he feels sure his percentage of QSL returns for reports sent out will now increase as a result of what he learnt in the article..... Very nice hearing from you, Sean, I am always particularly interested in hearing from those who are just beginning to take an interest in DX-ing. Let's hear from you, Sean, soon again.....

Brendan Kehoe, Trinity, Taghmon, Co. Wexford, writes to say he picked up a copy of the magazine when visiting Dublin recently. He was very impressed and even purchased a variable capacitor before leaving Dublin in order to construct a loop antenna. Brendan uses a Murphy domestic receiver and he tries to pick up programmes of American country music from foreign stations... Before reading MEDIUM he was not even aware of the fact that North American stations could be picked up on medium wave here in Ireland.

Why don't YOU drop us a line or two and we shall acknowledge it here in MEDIUM...



Radio Victory, the IBA local commercial radio station in Portsmouth, opened in October with a very impressive line-up - in the wake of a good deal of publicity ensuring public attention - and despite the inevitable financial problems hounding commercial radio. While LBC in London and many others have shelved elaborate plans and are now concentrating on survival Radio Victory is optimistic.

Certainly it has the most impressive line-up of any station outside London - including the "wireless wizard" himself, Kenny Everett, who does the "Clean Air" show on Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Apart from Ken, Don Moss - the veteran broadcaster - has also been signed up... Sarah Ward, who was very successful on Capital Radio and earlier on BBC's "Junior Foot", does the Saturday night 8 - 9 spot, with a progressive music format. Even ex-Luxembourg deejay, Dave Christian, is included doing the "Going Home" show from 6 to 9 p.m. Finally, one of my old favourites, Jack McLoughlin, has re-appeared. He was one of the Radio Scotland clan before the 1967 Marine Broadcasting Offences Act. Now, he does the "Breakfast Show".

The one thing which stands out about Radio Victory is that most of those involved have very little to do with Portsmouth - which is worrying when one remembers that the commercial stations are LOCAL, or, more accurately, almost regional, and they must serve their area by being relevant to that community - not merely as "musical wallpaper".

BY MARK STORY (SECRETARY)

Radio Victory is on the air 16 hours a day on 257 metres (1169 kHz) and 95.0 MHz VHF in Stereo

Garra swoop silences Radio Caroline North

Well, it has happened... Radio Caroline North, the Managh-based station which has been broadcasting on "266 metres" medium wave for the past couple of years, has been silenced by the authorities. I first heard the sad news on Tuesday night - RTE referred to the raid in their "News Extra" programme on radio. Confirmation followed when I read about the closure of one of my favourite stations in the Evening Press the following day. Caroline was extremely popular in rural Ireland and it often received over a hundred letters a week. Programmes were broadcast on Sundays from 1 p.m. onwards - lasting for several hours. From the number of requests read out over the air, it was quite evident that the country and western and "pop" format was what the punters wanted. Reception down here in south Carlow was always very good - Sunday afternoons will never be the same again. Like the station operators, I, too, am "very disappointed". Most of the equipment confiscated was home-built... The station, which operated from a van located at Scotstown near the Fermagh border, was run by three local lads. They had been contacted previously by the gardai who had allowed them to operate last Sunday (23/11/1975) without indicating that the swoop was imminent. The station is now silent...and forgotten -- NEVER! The many fans of Caroline North will not, and should not, allow this station, which brought so much enjoyment to so many people, to be forgotten...

BY JOHN DOWLING (29/11/1975)

417 LONDON BROADCASTING

INTERVIEW with sarah kershaw

LBC's publicity officer, Sarah Kershaw, talks to Mark Story...

Sarah Kershaw is the extremely pleasant and competent publicity officer for LBC - the all-news commercial radio station which serves London, along with Capital Radio which has a Top 40 programme format.

On a recent visit to the radio station's location in Gough Square just off Fleet Street I talked to her about the station, its problems and its plans...

The first thing one notices about LBC is that it is situated right in the centre of newspaper land. I wondered was this intentional or was the building just the most suitable one available. She agreed that this was intentional... LBC is run more on a newspaper format than that of a conventional radio station. It is in essence a "newspaper of the air", with editors and sub-editors and thus the Fleet St. location was the most logical. After all, it is here that all the news agencies' offices are located, and it is here that city news stories tend to break...

LBC is in competition with BBC Radio London - a local station to a certain extent - and, as LBC have extended their magazine format, this has become more apparent.

I wondered how LBC saw the local BBC stations. Sarah Kershaw ventured the opinion - which she hastened to add was her own - that the BBC local stations were largely irrelevant with the advent of commercial radio. While the BBC do not accept the IBA's market research techniques, it is nevertheless true to say that the commercial stations have made a marked impact on the BBC local and national audiences.

She told me that the BBC and the commercial stations, particularly LBC, are feeling the effects of the economic recession. LBC has had to make drastic cuts in its staff and has abandoned 24 hours a day broadcasting. These cuts have been especially drastic in LBC's case because the British advertisers have been slow to take to the new format of broadcasting news round the clock, and advertising revenue has been slow. Sarah Kershaw argues that this reticence is unfounded. She claims that more people listen intently to LBC. While music will gain a large audience the spoken word needs a certain amount of concentration - and thus concentration on the commercials, too.

This has been the case with regard to LBC's American counterpart, WINS, on which it is modelled. WINS is now a very successful commercial station.

She is also upset by the apparent abandonment of the plan for 60 commercial stations in Britain and Northern Ireland. This has been reduced to less than a third of the original number. She feels that the British Isles can sustain the full number of stations. The number of commercial stations is of very immediate commercial interest to LBC whose subsidiary company, IRN (Independent Radio News), supplies news to all the local commercial stations for a fee. Obviously, the fewer stations, the less revenue... This could have a very drastic effect on the viability of LBC. Nevertheless, Sarah Kershaw is confident that LBC will continue to gain listeners and narrow the gap between it and its commercial rival, Capital Radio.

LBC programming is in no way affected by its advertisers and, like the other commercial stations, is subject to the IBA's code of advertising. This ensures that LBC's reporting is objective and that it is a station "where news comes first."

RADIO T.C.D.

Following a meeting in Dublin University's Trinity College on December 8th it was agreed that a request would be made by Mr J. Haughton, President of the Students Union, for a licence to operate a special Campus Radio in the University. It is hoped that a license will be granted in the new year for such a station using the Inductive Loop Aerial popular with such stations in Britain.

LOCAL RADIO -- (PART TWO) ... BY PADDY BRENNAN

In the last part I dealt with some of the technicalities involved with local radio. This article will take a look at programme content and studio layout.

In Britain in the 1950's and '60's, the national radio networks fell roughly into the pattern of news, serious programmes and entertainment (Home Service), music and entertainment (Light Programme), and serious music and literature (Third Programme). This pattern was shaken violently in the early 1960's by the arrival of pirate stations, such as Caroline. These provided continuous pop music and advertisements which were received in most of England.

Apart from Radio Luxembourg, this was virtually the first taste of commercial radio in Britain. The various pirates - both landbased and at sea - came and went. Their effect was to cause the BBC to develop a whole new pattern of national broadcasting with the introduction of the present Radios 1, 2, 3 and 4.

They also raised the question of an alternative source of radio to the BBC, together with the problem of how to finance it.

The BBC put forward its ideas on a local radio network. It was to provide a community service run for and by local people and would give information on anything that might be of interest to the surrounding area.

The BBC obtained the goahead, and set up stations around Britain. Later, the IBA set up its own chain of stations after the passing of the Broadcasting Act of 1972.

On the financial side, the government at first looked to local authority grants for the BBC network, but decided instead for an increase in the licence fee. The IBA stations are being financed entirely by advertising revenue.

One station, in particular, is very popular, i.e. Capital Radio, transmitting to the Greater London area with over eight million of a population.

These new stations are in a position to install the most up to date radio technology, and this they have done with complex mixing desks and studio controls for stereo sound. On the transmitting side, solid state transmitters and new advanced aerial designs work together to bring clear undistorted programmes.

To get back to Capital, the staff at the station consists of a Managing Director, Programme Controller, Chief Engineer, Company Secretary, Sales Director, Disc Jockeys and twenty-six engineers to cover all the studio and outside broadcast operations twenty-four hours a day.

At this point, I would like to take a quote from the IBA Handbook, "Those engineers employed as technologists could expect to have some operational duties and depending on the individual would be encouraged to become involved in programme operations. Equally the specialists in operations were expected to have a first-line maintenance capability and would be encouraged to take an active part in engineering development."

SUMMARY... Local radio is only in its infancy, but the future holds promise. Ireland has been granted some additional frequencies for local radio by a recent conference of the I.T.U. and this I hope will lead to experiments in Irish radio within the near future.

This concludes my articles on local radio.

PADDY BRENNAN

If we can overcome the problems involved in reproducing photographs, we will show on the next page a picture of Marsha Hunt presenting a programme on Capital Radio - see above article - and we shall also include an article of interest to off-shore enthusiasts, TV DX-ers, etc. - this article - received courtesy of Paddy Brennan - tells the story of TV NOOrdzee, complete with pictures. If we cannot reproduce the photographs, we will carry over the NOORDZEE article until the next edition and instead print an interesting article entitled "Extra Terrestrial Relays".

(cont'd from page 20) ... stations. The possibilities opened for free radio and to some extent free television are obvious...

Our sincere thanks to DAVID A. O. BARRY for this very interesting article - JD

EXTRA- TERRESTRIAL RELAYS.....By DAVID A.O. BARRY

Was the title Arthur C. Clarke, now best known as a science fiction writer (co-author of 2001) but a research scientist in his own right, gave to a paper he wrote for "Wireless World" in the early 1940's. In it he proposed and predicted the use of communications satellites. He pointed out that if a satellite is put into orbit 22,000 miles up it takes exactly one day to go around the earth. Thus, if it is placed above the Equator, it will appear to hang motionless in the sky. This makes it an ideal communications relay, capable of blanketing one third of the Earth's surface at one time. This principle is used now by the various communication satellites.

However, an important feature of Clarke's plans has not yet come to fruition. At present, all satellites transmit via ground stations - Clarke proposed that they transmit directly to the domestic receivers on the ground. This would be radically different from the present situation. It would be quite impossible to jam signals from satellites - Clarke pointed out the potential for propaganda stations. Moreover, the viewing audience which could be reached by such a station would be such that it would be practical to cater to minority tastes no matter how unusual, since the viewing audience would always be enough to justify a channel which, say, did nothing but broadcast replays of Grandmaster Chess matches. (Because of the Ultra High Frequencies required to penetrate the ionosphere, a virtually unlimited number of channels would be available to the satellite broadcaster.) Indeed, it was argued that during the cold war the Americans were foolish to concentrate their efforts on getting a man to the moon, instead they should have been aiming for a direct broadcast TV station to blanket the Soviet Union. Another application of direct broadcasting would be (and probably will be) in countries like India and China, with huge land masses to cover, and an illiterate population. Here, television would be a medium capable of carrying out the most gigantic mass-education programme the world has ever seen. Indeed, a substantial proportion of the world may jump straight from aural tradition to television without passing through a literate stage - at least not in the conventional sense.

To return to Clarke's essentially optimistic vision - a global village where global broadcasting makes possible the achievement of freedom of passage of information (specified in the Convention on Human Rights), where minority tastes, insignificant on a national scale, may be catered for on an international scale, and where the Open University could be the forerunner for a great freeing of the Human spirit. Will it come to pass?

Unfortunately, I fear that world governments, concerned to keep control over broadcasting, will, by a series of conventions, limit these developments. One can imagine them agreeing not to broadcast their own programmes into another jurisdiction and licensing their own stations on as rigid basis as before. Governments are not noted for their imagination so that minority stations might find it difficult to surface under these conditions. In any case, the only nations likely in the near future to be able to launch these satellites are Russia and America,

who would tend, especially in these days of detente, to keep a fairly close eye on the whole thing... You are probably wondering what relevance all this has to free radio, apart from the suggestion that the objectional features of national broadcasting today may be perpetrated in the satellite broadcasting of the future... Well, satellite broadcasting would empty the medium and short wave bands of national

(cont'd at bottom of page 19)

ATTENTION!

Back issues of

MEDIUM

(EDITION 1977)

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 RADIO SETS IN THE SOVIET UNION by ARNOLD J. LAUSEVICH (MILWAUKEE, U.S.A.)

For the Soviet radio electronics industry, the beginning of the ninth five-year development plan was marked by a substantial improvement in the quality of the equipment produced, including receiver sets.

Equipment is improved along several lines... integral circuits and new components and parts are introduced, the acoustics parameters, and also the finish of the encasement, are improved.

This is a great leap forward and the market caters for all types of demands - valve radios and transistor sets - pocket, portable and stationary.

The most popular transistor sets in this country are those belonging to the great family of VEF receivers, produced by VEF Radio Works in Riga in Soviet Latvia. It is no exaggeration to say that every other family in the Soviet Union has a VEF transistor receiver.

It all started about 15 years ago when the "Spidola" and then the "VEF Spidola 10" was put on the market. Later, new improved models appeared... VEF-12, VEF-201 and the VEF-202. In these last three models a high frequency amplifier stage was introduced, which increased the sensitivity of those models and reduced cross-modulation interference.

Finally, another VEF receiver should be mentioned - the very sophisticated 17 transistor called "Okean", which in English means "Ocean".

With all the advanced qualities it could possibly have, this 1972 model is a super-class receiver. It is exported to many countries - including Britain. The export model is called "ASTRAD (VEF)-17". It is a portable radio and communications receiver, 28 transistors and diode. Sensitivity of this receiver is such that worldwide reception is possible of thousands of transmissions in the standard long, medium and short wave bands, including all normal transmissions plus local and new stations, ships at sea, short mobile transmissions and messages all over the world. There is also a wide band spread for absolute "pin-point" station selection. Fine tone quality controlled from a whisper to a roar! Genuine push-pull output. Runs on standard batteries or direct through battery eliminator from 220-240 volts mains supply. It can also be used as a car radio.

In these Russian receivers there are special built-in devices to increase selectivity and reduce interference and noise. They compare favourably with many American, Japanese and European models of the same class. This makes them useful as portable receivers for world DX-ing.

NOTE... The poor Soviet people themselves have to pay very high prices for these receivers in comparison with the prices we in the west have to pay for them... It must also be noted that DX-ing is frowned upon in Russia - in fact, it is positively discouraged. The mighty jammer continues to be the most powerful "voice" of radio in the Soviet Union. It is not uncommon to count a dozen or more channels jammed in any one of the short wave bands.... (JD)

Some QSL cards have been coming in here to Ballytiglea during the past few weeks - these are the fruits of a big effort at reception reporting during the month of October...

Here are a few of the details...

QSL card from Radio Valleri, Dublin, in 5 days (6260 kHz)... Prepared QSL card from The Big D (Radio Dublin) in 5 days (1183 kHz)... Prepared QSL card from Radio Westside in 4 days (6210 kHz)... Prepared QSL card from Capital Radio in 38 days (1367 kHz)... QSL card from WTOP in Hartford - 14 days (1410 kHz)... Verification Letter from WOAI in San Antonio, Texas - 30 days (1200 kHz)... QSL card from WHAM in Rochester, New York - 8 days (!) (1180 kHz)... QSL card from WHO in Des Moines, Iowa - 13 days (1040 kHz)... QSL card (very nice one) from Radio Tallinn in Estonia, USSR, in 31 days (1034 kHz)... QSL card from Plymouth Sound in 7 days (1151 kHz)... QSL card from IBA Wolverhampton in 10 days (989 kHz)... Letter verification from BBC South-West in 8 days (989 kHz)....

German pirate heard on Sunday (30/11/1975) on 6225 kHz - Radio Channel 292, P.O. Box 512 in Rheine, Germany (Post code sounded like 3444)... Address of Adventist World Radio now is... 123 Regent St., London, W1R 7HA. 73's de JOHN

On December 5th, 1975, the operators of all the medium wave free radio stations in the Dublin area met in conference. A very fruitful discussion took place, and it was agreed that all stations will, in future co-operate better than in the past. This co-operation will include a common programme schedule which will list all radio stations, programmes and times... Also planned is an insurance scheme for all stations - this will afford protection against loss of equipment and possible fines.... An experiment in synchronised programmes on the same wavelength is also envisaged. For this experiment all stations will join forces to provide a continuous service on the same frequency.

The stations involved were Radio Venessa, Radio Galaxy, Capital Radio, Radio Westside and Radio Dublin.

 CAPITAL'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAMMES - (on 220 metres medium wave) ...

CHRISTMAS EVE... Capital opens at 2330 and signs off at 0100 hours GMT

ST. STEPHEN'S DAY... Signs on at 1200 and goes through till 1450 hours GMT

NEW YEAR'S EVE... Programme, which will be live, commences at 2330 and continues right into 1976 - till 0100 hours GMT

SUNDAY 28/12/75... Programmes commence at noon and continue till 1520 hours GMT

NEW YEAR'S DAY... Programmes commence at noon and continue till 1440 hours GMT

Capital's deejays are Ed McDowell, C.B., Alan Russell and Ken Murphy

The I.T.U. conference on the re-allocation of medium wave frequencies throughout the world, with the exception of the Americas, recently concluded its work.

One report states that only two countries came away satisfied - Austria and IRELAND... Britain's BBC Radio Three will lose its main medium wave outlet on 647 kHz - this frequency has been re-allocated to Albania. With the loss of their MW outlet the Radio Three audience will drop down as low as 20% of the present audience... Also in Britain, the local stations - BBC locals and commercial locals - will be confined to three frequencies. This will result in considerable congestion of these three frequencies, so more directional antenna systems will be employed. Commercial stations will also have to lower their powers.

Will this mean the end of the BBC local stations?? Will the Labour Government in Britain now grant any more licences for new commercial stations in view of the frequency and power restrictions??

Now back to Ireland... RTE has been given the go-ahead to fully utilise its new £750,000 five hundred kilowatt transmitter at Tullamore. This will enable RTE to broadcast to the whole of Britain and the remainder of Western Europe. RTE has got several other concessions - including the right to start a second nationwide service, if it wishes, and also to open low-power city, town and local stations throughout the country. The new Tullamore transmitter will be fully operational in the New Year when agreement has been worked out with SFB in Berlin and an RAI station in Sicily regarding overlap problems - these stations also operate on 566 kHz. Should it be found necessary to help eliminate areas of bad reception, the following locations have been selected... Slane, Dungarvan, Bundoran, Westport, Killarney and Enniscorthy. RTE has also been allocated a long wave frequency. Ireland has not up to now had a long wave frequency allocation.

Additional frequencies for Radio na Gaeltachta have also been allocated and this will mean that booster stations can be built at locations in Donegal, Kerry, Galway, Mayo, Cork and Ring in Co. Waterford.

JOHN DOWLING

 My thanks to Mark Story for some of the information contained in the above article. I also made use of an article which appeared in the "Irish Independent". Paddy Brennan hopes to obtain a good deal more information from the I.T.U. about the outcome of the conference. We will publish this information next time, D.V.

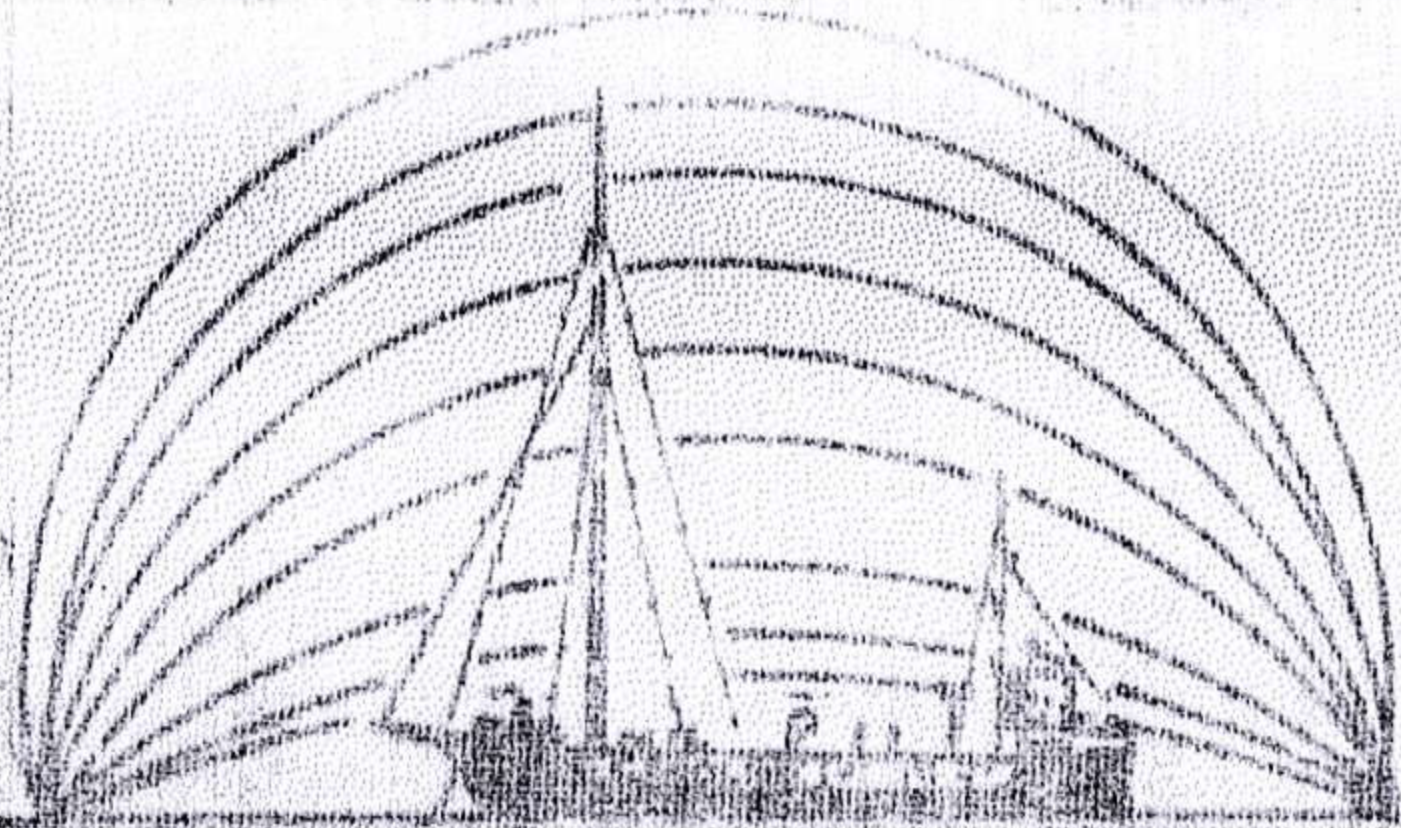
(JD)

 A letter and report to WCAU in Philadelphia has brought the following by way of reply... A 64 page Philadelphia newspaper, 17 promotional leaflets complete with glossy folder, five page report on news stations in the U.S., QSL CARD, long personal letter, and IRC returned! The cost of sending the parcel by first class airmail was \$2.89. What a great service WCAU provides for DX-ers...

JOHN DOWLING

RADIO

CAROLINE

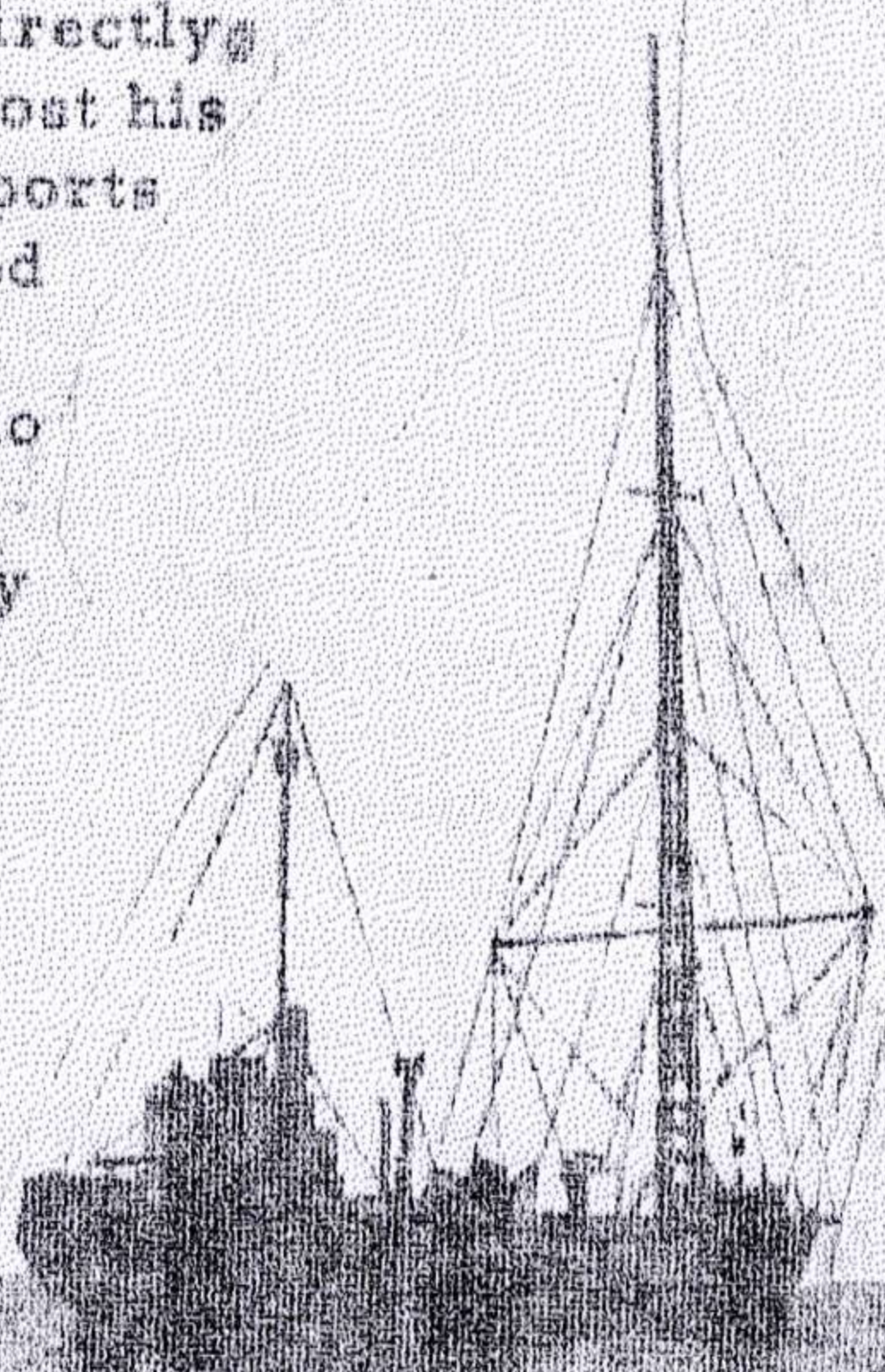


On the 8th November Radio Caroline broke from its moorings and started drifting. Soon it became apparent that they were entering territorial waters and Peter Chicago, the transmitter engineer, came on air to announce that they would have to cease transmissions in order to avoid legal action by the British authorities. He gave the ship's location and asked for anyone listening to inform the Coastguard. This message was also transmitted on V.H.F. After going aground on a sand-bank the Mi Amigo managed to re-float itself at high tide, but once again headed towards land. Finally, with the help of an American tug the ship dropped anchor off Margate and transmissions restarted on Thursday 13th November. All went well, Simon Barrett thanked everyone who had helped to get Caroline back on the air. Caroline was back but not for long. The following day the British Home Office aided by Essex police raided the Mi Amigo while the programmes of Radio Mi Amigo. All those listening heard the tape being stopped and a microphone being switched on. A Home Office official demanded that the tape be turned off and a scuffle could be heard, then silence. The Caroline crew believed that the ship was in International Waters. In fact recent legislation brought the disputed area within British territorial limits according to the court case. The charts on board the Mi Amigo were outdated. During the raid the Mi Amigo's Captain, Engineer Peter Chicago (Peter Murtagh) and the two Disc-Jockey's on Board, Simon Barrett and Michael Lloyd were arrested and taken to Southend. The crew were left on Board. As reported on Page (1) of MEDIUM 7 the boarding of Radio Caroline was to be expected. Our lead story on page 1 speculated;

"...It can be expected that the British Government will attempt to put Radio Caroline off the air by some method in the next few months"

It is clear that the raid by the Home Office was a failure, fines amounting to £200 hardly justify such an operation. Perhaps the most ominous thing is that Radio Caroline's anchor should have suddenly broken. The crew on board the Mi Amigo felt that the anchor had weathered far worse weather and think that it might have been cut. The English pop-music papers also speculated that this might be so. For several months a post office vessel with Radio Monitoring equipment on board had been moored beside the Radio Ship. This summer Radio Orwell in Ipswich had been told that they should use 257 metres and the understanding was that the British Government would silence Caroline. Meanwhile, Radio Mi-Amigo continues to grow in popularity in the Benelux. Advertising on the station has almost doubled and old favourites like Timex watches and Stimorol Chewing Gum have signed contracts with the station. Perhaps the most popular Disc Jockey on the station is Stan Haag who had previously worked for Radio Veronica.

In England, a second trial involving Johnny Jason is also taking place. Johnny was apprehended while entering England directly from the Mi-Amigo over six months ago. Although he lost his case in the court of first instance according to some reports it is not altogether clear if this true. His lawyers applied and succeeded in having his case sent to trial by jury. Incidentally, the lawyers representing him were those who successfully won the legal battle to have the diaries of the late Richard Crossman M.P. published in the Sunday Times. This was against the wishes of British Prime Minister Harold Wilson and other members of his cabinet. Ronan O'Rahilly is very keen to win this case because if he does it will mean that British citizens can legally work for the station. Recently returned to the ship is Samantha Du Bois, who worked for the station last year. Transmitter power on Caroline is now back to normal.



MEDIUM is the quarterly publication of THE IRISH RADIO MOVEMENT

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SECRETARY... Mark T. Story, Castlewarden, Straffan, Co. Kildare.

PRESIDENT... Ken Sheehan, 406, Mounse Road, Drimnagh, DUBLIN, 12.

A new President of the IRM will be elected at our AGM which will be held in the near future - see front page for date and venue.

All mail for the IRM should be sent to the Mounse Road address, with the exception of articles for publication which should be sent directly to the editor

EDITORIAL

As many of you already know, Ken Sheehan, will be resigning from his post as President of the IRM with effect from the forthcoming AGM. I'm sure I am speaking for all the members when I express regret at Ken's decision to resign. We all hope he will continue to take a "fatherly" interest in the Movement.

The name of the Club will probably be changed at our AGM - the word MOVEMENT being dropped and replaced by SOCIETY. I shall not vote in favour of the name change, as the word MOVEMENT suggests something more definite than SOCIETY. In my opinion, the suggestion that the name of the Club might be confused or connected in some way with terrorist movements is false... I'll leave it at that!

Now, back to something which has been flogged to death already - and that is the appeal for contributions! At the last deadline, I had material for only about three pages (in addition to my own articles). This, I thought, was unsatisfactory, but the position got better after my rather strong views were made known in a letter which was read out at one of the committee meetings. To all those who contributed to MEDIUM, my sincere thanks. I will not name all those to whom I am grateful because I'd probably leave out someone who should be included! May I now appeal again to all our members to make an effort and contribute to MEDIUM 9 - if you feel you cannot write an article perhaps you would write and let us know something about your self and your particular interest in radio. Your letter will be acknowledged here in MEDIUM...

Finally, apologies to all Radio Caroline addicts as, earlier on in the magazine, I made an inaccurate statement regarding the "end" of the station (unintentional, of course). IT SEEMS THAT THE LAST OF CAROLINE HAS NOT BEEN HEARD YET - she is back again on "259"....

'Bye until the next time, and God Bless,



HELP

KEEP US

ON THE RIGHT WAVELENGTH

We need your contribution for MEDIUM 9 before FEBRUARY 20

