



E-NEWSLETTER OF THE UADX

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Hi Friends,

FROM WHERE WE LEFT OFF

I have in front of me what I believe is the last edition of UADX dated July 1993, before the Internet era and the order of the day was duplicating paper, wax stencils and snail mail. We were often hindered by space problems and postage costs. We surface as we have often done again and this time I hope it will be for some time. Looking at the Editorial I see my good friend and main stay of UADX, Gerrhard asking me the question "Victor have you completely deserted the DX hobby in favour of Ham Radio?...I know it is difficult to devote time to two hobbies and earn your bread. It is not for me to announce the closure of UADX, so I shall patiently wait until you surface again or announce the closure of UADX yourself. I only had hoped that we would make the 150th issue" wrote Gerhard Werdin from Islamabad on 17th June 1993,. And in response Victor G. says "Gerhard I don't think I will ever announce the closure of UADX. That will be the last thing I will do friends. I think UADX will be laid to rest only with yours truly. Hi! So never ask that question again. Yes we shall falter, go into hibernation but God willing we shall surface again as we have done!! It is amazing that when you sit at the type writer with the stencil in it, how that old romance flows into your veins and the same excitement I felt way back in 1967 comes rushing back" (Late Note January 2010..I got the same thrill as I finished this edition a little while ago!! The bones may creak, memory failing, eyesight not that great but the romance of radio still calls strong! GvG)

AND NOW TO YEAR 2010

When I announced the plans to revive UADX I had a flurry of very positive messages of support from some of our old timers and also some very enthusiastic new comers so let me quickly spell out our goals and aims for those who are joining us anew. Since we stopped UADX my long-standing friend and former Editor of the World Radio TV Handbook Andy Sennitt suggested and put into action DXASIA dot INFO web site which Alok Dasgupta and I started out to fill that voice more or less. Alok has been very faithfully doing that duty with minimal or disgraceful input from me. Now since my life style (hobby wise) has changed UADX will be also a part of DX-Asia and we will make UADX available and archived within DXAsia info. Alok and Abhishek our computer advisor are away till Christmas, so the next issue will see many new changes in distribution and availability. The inner core of our contributors will get UADX direct and others anywhere in the world can access the website and get the information on www.dxasia.info.

BHUTAN: Thimpu has been behaving rather erratically, so much so that it is difficult to know what to expect when you turn the dial to 6035 kHz. This time of the year, Northern Winter is the best time to hear them in Europe, North America and even here in South Asia. The problem has been their HF transmitter. It appears their 100kW is down and they are running their old 50kW, but I dare say its anything more than a few kilo watts at the most.(WRTVH 2010 says running at 10kW) Even this morning 30/1/10, at 0125 I could hear a very weak Bhutan on 6035, I would say readability just about 2 and strength also the same. The station is also heard around 1330 UTC and appears to s.off at 1400. Very hard to read, but when you know the language sounds you know its them and the carrier goes off at 1400. However, the best ever reception I got from them was at 0820 or so on the day of the Eclipse and that's at 1.40 p.m. here in the tropics. The station doesn't appear to come on at 0000, or 0030 as in the past. We will keep watching and I urge DXers to get on it and observe as much as possible. By the way Bhutan is UTC+6 hours so according to their daily sked they should start at 0000, but during winter conditions at 0000 UTC the ionosphere in these low Sun-pot years won't hold propagation at almost a vertical return angle needed for local area coverage on 6 MHz. (GVG) and here is what Partha Sarathi Goswami has to say from Rajasthan.

BBS Radio Frequency

Short wave: 49m band, 6035 KHz

FM: 88.1 MHz

90 MHz

92 MHz

93 MHz

96 MHz

98 Mhz

The new schedule from 11 Nov 2009 as follows

English: 0500-0600 UTC FM + 6035

English: 0800-0900 UTC FM + 6035 (confirmed on Solar Eclipse day 15/01/10 GVG)

English: 1500-1600 UTC FM + 6035 previously 14UT-15UT

[BBS RADIO SCHEDULE](#)

[BBS FREQUENCY SCHEDULE](#)

BBS radio will be on air 24 hours from November 11, 2009. The English Service in the evening from 8-9 pm will now start at 9 PM and will continue till 10 PM. This will be followed by an hour of English music. You can

listen to Dzongkha music from 11pm-2am followed by the re-broadcast of the previous day's Dzongkha programmes till 6 am. Regular live programmes will begin from 6 am as usual. (Partha Sarathi Goswami) Partha also says although the FM frequencies run 24h' SW at best is 0000-1500. Maybe in Winter they go to bed early at 1400!!! I doubt if every village has electricity. Bhutan is the happiest country in Asia and amongst the first 10 in the world and the King says Gross National Happiness is more important than Gross National Product. How true. *Because of its largely unspoiled natural environment and cultural heritage, Bhutan has been referred to as The Last [Shangri-la](#).* Per the Wikipedia on Bhutan.

When we started DXing the Internet was unheard of, and today with so much information we urge SWLs/DXers to read more. Hay stop going to the next item and click on Bhutan and get some specific info on the land and its people!! Ed.

And from Alokesh Gupta, New Delhi

Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2010 4:41 PM

Subject: Bhutan SW Scene

Just got confirmatin from a BBS Engr today, they are still using the old 50 kW txer as the new one is under repair.”

CHINA

4940, Voice of Strait, 1500-1525, Jan 24. “Focus on China” in English; program only on Sunday; today had 25 minute program, not the usual half hour; news items about traveling by train for the upcoming Spring Festival (Chinese New Year); poor reception with moderate AIR Guwahati QRM.(RON HOWARD CA USA) very hard to get any programme details from this one as Gwahati is a blockbuster signal in Sri Lanka(GVG)

7245, CNR-2/China Business Radio, 1430-1500, Jan 28. “English Evening” program; pop songs; commentary on fashion, Beijing having cold weather, etc.; business news; small amount of Chinese used; // 6065, 6090, 6155, 7315, 7335, 7370, 7375, 9775 and 9820 (Ron Howard, Asilomar Beach, CA, USA, Etón E1)

ETHIOPIA

6030, Radio Oromiya, *0325-0329, Jan 25. Heard there is (distinctive, repetitive xylophone-like music) through the pulsating/percolating noise (jamming, but no R. Marti); otherwise unusable. 6030, Radio Oromiya, 1522-1529, Jan 29. Probably I just missed their *1520. Amazed to hear their distinctive, repetitive xylophone like IS at this time period; 1531-1539 indigenous music and singing; QRM mostly from CNR-1, but also some from Calgary; reception much stronger than I have heard at their *0320v. Very

pleased to have caught this sign on! (Ron Howard, Asilomar Beach, CA, USA, Etón E1)
That's a real long haul for you Ron. The old ETLF 100kW TXers are still doing fine here in S.Asia. 7110, 7165 and 9560 are doing well too. (Ed-GVG)

INDIA

4850, AIR Kohima, 1330, Jan 25. Special broadcast of the President's speech to the nation on the eve of Republic Day; in Hindi, repeated in English; 1355 suddenly off the air; was back on again at 1401 check; 1411 end of speech; anthem; into Hindi with ID for Kohima; local news; 1423 "This is All India Radio Kohima. The news read by ... The headlines"; repeat of news in English; 1424 suddenly off the air again and I tuned away. Speech was // 4760, 4775, 4810, 4835, 4840, 4880, 4910, 4920, 4970, 5010, 5040 and 9425. Kohima was the strongest AIR on 60m.

4850, AIR Kohima, 1326-1334, Jan 28. Usual segment of indigenous singing/chanting during this time period; assume in vernacular; tuned away at 1334 and found off the air at 1337 check. Victor A. Goonetilleke (Sri Lanka) also heard them today about 1300. Surprised to still hear them here after their special Republic Day broadcast. Jan 29 not on the air. (RH) Ron today too at 1250 I heard a very weak signal just like on Jan 28th, which probably was Kohima but wasn't there when checked at 1315. Did you hear them today? (GVG)

5050, AIR Aizawl, 1601-1611*, Jan 25. Sign off was earlier than usual; suddenly off in mid-sentence; China had already signed off. 5050, AIR Aizawl, 1620-1630*, Jan 27. DJ in English; pop songs in English (The Troggs with "Love Is All Around", etc.); sign off announcements in English and Hindi.(Ron H.) On Sundays they have beautiful devotional music with their N. Eastern Christian flavour. Easy going music, lilting ballads, which are so basic and beautiful that you can hum along as you can guess what the next chord is going to be 9 out of 10 times!. I just go mad listening to them. Today 30/1 at 1510 though CHN with Vietnamese was dominating the freq, Aizawl was playing such music and I could use my cerebral filter and enjoy Aizawl!! By the way they identified as "All India Radio Aizawl" as opposed to Gangtok on 4835 which IDs as Akashwani Gangtok! Today at 1310 UTC(GVG). What is the basis of the All India Radio.... And Akashwani..... identification even in vernaculars? Someone give us a reference piece. That's what we want in UADX. Ed.

9425, AIR Bengaluru, 1435-1502, Jan 27. Wednesday edition of "Vividha" in English (also on Mondays); interview with Dr. Renu Malaviya, Associate Professor, Lady Irwin College, University of Delhi, about autism; reads poems about women; this is "Girl Child Week" in India; fair (Ron Howard, Asilomar Beach, CA, USA, Etón E1)

4860 AIR Delhi is back on now around 1300 with music, whereas this was only a humming open carrier most of November, December and January. At 1331 Kishor Kumar with a lovely beaty Hindi film song. Is this Vividh Bahrthi programme? In my Sinhalese "Vividh" means variety so that means Indian Variety show???? BTWay Sinhala and Hindi are of the same origins of Sanskrit and Pali and an Indon-Arian language! (GVG)

4950, R. Kashmir, 0149-0219*, Jan 25. Seems their sign off time varies some (scheduled 0215*); perhaps in Hindi, with subcontinent music; poor; best in USB to get away from Angola carrier (Ron Howard, Asilomar Beach, CA, USA, Etón E1)

INDONESIA

3976.02, RRI Pontianak, 1510, Jan 27. In Bahasa Indonesia; concert of western classical music; mentioned names of "Conductor" and "Concertmaster"; held at "Jakarta Auditorium"; pop Indonesian songs; 1600 several "Radio Republik Indonesia Pontianak" IDs; list of frequencies, mostly FM; poor to fair with ham QRM. Map of "CoverageArea" at < <http://www.rripontianak.com/> >, with list of frequencies, showing "3976.8 KHz" (Ron Howard, Asilomar Beach, CA, USA, Etón E1) 3325 Palakaraya f.in 1200-1600(GVG)

LAOS

7145, Lao National Radio with relay of 97.25 MHz FM, 1353-1435*, Jan 29. Format of a typical pop FM station: sound effects, ads, DJs, pop/EZL songs and singing station jingles; in Laotian; poor to almost fair; causing QRM for hams. Usually they relay the FM programming after the end of their English broadcast and normally go off the air about 1400, so today was a real treat for me to hear this extended broadcast! (RonHoward, Asilomar Beach, CA, USA, Etón E1) Fantastic catch. Yes they DO s.off at 1400 and I was listening to their EE news at 1330 with that regular YL! Talking about the Government of Laos poverty reduction programme. (GVG)

MALAYSIA

6049.6v, Salam FM via RTM, 1604-1616*, Jan 27. In vernacular; reciting from the Qur'an; "Salam FM" jingles; considerable variety as to when they suddenly go off the air (Ron Howard, Asilomar Beach, CA, USA, Etón E1).

MALAYSIA/SARAWAK

5030, Sarawak FM via RTM, 1437, Jan 25. In vernacular; pop songs; "R-T-M Kuala Lumpur" news; many "Sarawak FM" IDs; EZL reception till tuned out at 1516. Is a true pleasure to hear this without the presence of CNR-1 (Ron Howard, Asilomar Beach, CA, USA, Etón E1) Hear it daily though not at that good level Ron till s.off at 1600* 29/01. You seem to be getting better reception than I do which tempts me to withdraw the open

invitation to visit Sri Lanka for Asian DX from my shack!!!! Of course I am not serious(GVG)

MYANMAR:

Monitored sked goes like this:

5915 2315-0230, 0730v-1530*,

5985 2300-0130, 0930-1600*;

7200 0030-0230v 0300 weekends,

9730 0300-0730, old Yangon txer.

9730.85 0731-1130 .

TXers on 5915, 5985, 7200, 9730 from Nay Pye Taw (and you must pronounce it Naypa Taaaawi!)

Defense Forces Station in Taunggyi (10kW per WRTVH 2010 on 5770)

0030-0230, 0830-1030, 1130-1530 on 5770 kHz. As monitored here in Colombo. (GVG)

CONTRIBUTORS: Ron Howard in Ca, USA, Partha Goswami in India and Ed Victor Goonetilleke in Colombo.

My friends, this issue is hurriedly got up since the planned revival edition was to come out in late December. So treat this as an introduction and a sample. I am thrilled our old friends Gerhard Werdin, Sarath Amukotuwa & Sarath Weerakoon along with a host of others are going to come on board in various capacities. The next edition will get out before the 20th of February. I welcome all your detailed loggings. They have to be based on live monitoring with your background info. If you find an interesting story send the URL and a very brief note on it. We also welcome audio clips and photographs which will also be included. In addition to the Asian DX Log from the next edition we will have an international log so that our South Asian members will get exposed to good international dx. We also will run articles like the one you have in this edition on dxing skills, propagation in South Asia and also a reflector via Yahoo is also planned to take in spot logging between editions. If you contribute you will receive UADX direct to your e-mail address or else we will give you an e-mail alert so that you can go to our web site and read or download the latest editions or the Archived issues.

UADX will be found via DX ASIA INFO www.dxasia.info which is our official website which Alok Dasgupta and I have been running for more than 6 years now. It is updated by Alok and Abhishek and hosted by our good friend Andy Sennit. Please visit the website and also go to the UADX blog which will start getting active very soon.

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I wish to thank everyone who enthusiastically welcomed the re-entry of the Union of Asian DXers into cyberspace. Support it and lets make it the leading South Asian DX journal. Information is copyright to the extent that credit be given to the contributor and UADX along with our web address www.dxasia.info. I tell you it's great to be back after nearly 18 years!!!

CU next month.