

# RADIO NEWS

FEBRUARY

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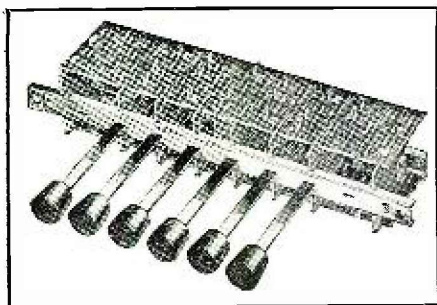


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**ITALY**—The new Imperial Short-Wave Center, at Prato Smeraldo, near Rome, was officially inaugurated on October 31. The installation includes two new 100,000 watt transmitters, and two new 50,000 watt transmitters. So far transmissions have been made on the following frequencies and under the following calls only: 2R06 (17.82), 6 to 7:30 and from 10 to 11:15 a.m.; 2R05 (15.3), 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 and from 2 to 4 p.m.; 2R04 (11.81), 4:40 a.m. to 12:05 p.m. and 2R03 (9.635), 12:05 to 9 p.m. Several other frequencies will be put into use in the near future, it is believed.

**NEW CALEDONIA**—According to Alan Breen of Dunedin, New Zealand, FK8AA (6.122) of Noumea, operates Wednesdays and Saturdays from 2:30 to 3:30 a.m. The power of the station is soon to be increased from 30 to 70 watts.

**NICARAGUA**—YNRS. *Radio Nicaraguense*, Managua, appears to be operating on dual frequencies of 6.74, and 8.57.

**PHILIPPINES**—KZIB (9.5), Manila, is now operating daily from 7 to 9 a.m. Announcements in Philippine and English. Chimes similar to the NBC are used as an interval signal.

**PORTUGAL**—CSW2 (11.04), Lisbon, is now broadcasting daily from 9:30 a.m. to noon and from 2 to 5:30 p.m.

**SOUTH AFRICA**—ZRD (9.72), Durban, is being heard on the West coast with excellent signals daily from 9 to 11:30 a.m.

**SPAIN**—*Radio Nacional* is still broadcasting on dual frequencies, one near 10.37, the other in the vicinity of 11.01. The station on 7.49 carrying the Nationalist programs is EAJ43 of Tenerife. . . . Roger Legge of Binghamton, New York, writes that station AZ (6.74), relays the Nationalist program of Salamanca daily from 7 to 8 p.m., as also does EA1BO (7.5) of Bilbao.

**STRAITS SETTLEMENT**—ZHP (9.69), is operating week days from 4:40 to 9:40 a.m., Wednesdays from 12:40 to 1:40 a.m., Saturdays from 12:25 to 1:40 a.m., and on Sundays from 5:25 to 9:40 a.m. and from 10:40 a.m. to 1:10 p.m. The station's QSL card depicts a sunset through palm trees.

**TURKEY**—The new 20,000 watt station at Ankara was officially inaugurated on Oct. 30. TAP (9.465), is on the air daily from 11:30 a.m. to 4, or 5 p.m. TAQ (15.195), operates daily from 9:30 to 11 a.m. and from 5:30 to 7 a.m. irregularly. Frequent announcements are made in German, French, Turkish, and English.

**U. S. S. R.**—RV15 of Khabarovsk, which formerly operated on 4.27, is now broadcasting on 6.045, where it may be heard with excellent signals relaying broadcast stations RV69 and RV54, daily from 2 to 11 a.m.

**UNITED STATES**—The operating schedule for W1XAL, Boston, Mass., is as follows: on 15.25, weekdays except Saturdays 2 to 3:30, or 4 p.m.; on 15.13, Sundays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; on 11.79, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, from 4:55 to 6:30 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:40 to 6:30 p.m.; Saturdays from 1:45 to 6 p.m. and on Sundays from 3 to 6:30 p.m.; on 11.73, weekdays except Saturdays from 9:15 to 11:30 p.m. and on 6.04, weekdays except Saturdays from 7 to 8:30, or 9 p.m. . . . According to the Universal Radio DX Club, the schedule for W9XF (6.1), Chicago, Illinois, is Mondays through Fridays from 4 to 6:50 p.m., and 1 to 2 a.m.; Saturdays from 4 to 5:30 p.m. and 1 to 2 a.m., and Sundays from 1 to 5:30 p.m.

**VENEZUELA**—The signature selection for YV1RI (6.21), Coro, is the *Tres Colores Marcha*; the interval signal is 5 marimba notes.

#### Amateur Reception Notes

**ALBANIA**—ZA1CC (14.1) is being heard near midnight. English listeners think *this is an unlicensed Italian* using the ZA call to escape detection, since no one has received his QSL or knows his QRA.

**BOLIVIA**—Henry E. J. Smith, CPIAA of Casilla 669, La Paz, writes that the dispatching of QSL cards has become such an expensive proposition that he is forced to put the following limitations upon those sending in reports to be verified in the future. Report must contain sufficient information to check satisfactorily with station log, must enclose an international reply coupon, a self-addressed envelope and a card to be filled in by CPIAA in lieu of the ordinary QSL card. Such letters will be answered immediately.

**DUTCH NEW GUINEA**—Earl Roberts of Indianapolis, Indiana, writes that PO6ZA (6.425 and 11.355), is the commercial call for PK6XX of the Archbold Expedition at Hollandia. These frequencies are usually used near 3:30 a.m.

**FRANCE**—Charles Guilbert, F3LG, 35 Rue Jean-Mermoz, Deauville (Calvados), France, reports he is

on the air daily from 2 to 3 a.m. on a frequency of 14.006, and from 3 to 5 p.m., or later, on fone or c.w., on frequencies of 14.006 or 14.31.

**IR1Q—Y12BA** (14.33), is being heard again near 12:15 a.m. The new operator is Eddie Behnan, who has taken over from Mellon—who didn't have time to QSL. Behnan is trying to catch up on forwarding QSL cards.

**NIUE**—Walter Kamman, Caracas, Venezuela, has received the first QSL card, I know of, from ZK2AA in Niue (Oceania). The card pictures a view of Niue harbor.

**PITCAIRN**—VR6AY's QSL card pictures a map of the island, and the pieces of equipment donated by various manufacturers. (hi).

**SOUTH AFRICA**—The SAARL (*South African Radio Relay League*) is sponsoring a "ZS Amateur Contest," on both phone and c.w. The rules will be about the same as the *ARRL International Contest*. It will take place on Saturday, January 14, from 11 a.m. to Sunday, January 15, at 5 p.m.

**UNITED STATES**—New amateur prefixes recently assigned by the FCC to the Insular possessions of the United States are as follows: K4, Puerto Rico; KB4, Virgin Islands; K5, Canal Zone; K6, Hawaii; KB6, Guam; KC6, Wake Island group; KD6, Midway Islands; KE6, Johnston Islands; KF6, Baker Island, Howland Island, American Phoenix Islands; KG6, Jarvis Island and the Palmyra group; KH6, American Samoa, and K7, Alaska, including the Pribilof Islands.

#### Last Minute Notes

John DeMyer of Lansing, Michigan, writes the following India short-wave stations are being heard with amazing signals between 7 and 8 a.m. EST: VUC2 (4.88), VUB2 (4.905), VUM2 (4.95) and VUD2 (4.995). Each carries a different program. VUC2 and VUM2 were the loudest of the four. This reception was recorded without an antenna, using only a few feet of lead-in wire for an aerial. Are there any others who have heard these?

#### SHORT WAVES IN THE WEST (All Times Are PACIFIC STANDARD) by JOHN D. CLARK

##### China

**STATION XGOX** has shifted location to Chungking, China, and is now on the air with a powerful new transmitter. Using a frequency of 15.19 meg., broadcasts are now being carried out from 6 to 9 p.m. daily, and good reception is reported in all parts of the Pacific Coast. Although announcements are almost entirely in Chinese, as are also the programs, the station may be easily identified by the call "X-G-O-X . . . X-G-O-X" which is repeated at irregular intervals.

The first hour is the best for west coast reception, as signals often become weak and erratic after 7 or 7:30. Programs are relayed from long-wave station XGOY in Chungking. It is understood that the present transmission is experimental only, but may be put on a permanent basis if reception reports are satisfactory.

Station XGXA, also located in Chungking, is now being received as early as 4 a.m. on 6.975 meg., despite numerous printed timetables which list a later schedule. The powerful 35,000 watt transmitter comes through with excellent volume until sign-off at 7:20 a.m. The announcer of XGXA is female, while that of XGOX is male.

XGAP of Peking is still working on 9.56 meg. near 6 a.m., but is completely blocked by Germany's powerful DJA.

Station XTJ of Canton is again being heard irregularly on 11.7 meg. near 4:15 a.m. after being silent for several weeks. This transmitter is also used for phone work near 7 a.m.

##### U.S.S.R.

The Siberian broadcast situation is again thrown into confusion. It was announced in this column last month that RV15 had shifted from 4.27 to 6.04 meg., and for a time an additional frequency of 6.80 meg. was used simultaneously.

After a short trial, 6.80 meg. (which produced an almost unbelievably strong signal on America's west coast) was discontinued. Two weeks later, RV15 also vanished from the 6.04 meg. wave and promptly reappeared on 4.27 meg.

Then still a stranger thing took place. A few days later, a mysterious new Russian (perhaps RV59) appeared on 6.03 meg. near 7 a.m. with a program different from that of RV15. And to further complicate matters another new Russian appeared at the same time on 9.52 meg. relaying the same program as that on 6.03 meg. Both new stations announce only in Russian, and the 49 meter wave is heterodyned slightly by Canada's VE9CA.

As we go to press, we note a reliable report stating that an unidentified Russian used a frequency of 6.49 meg. for a few days, before shifting to 9.52.