

WORD SEARCH

JANUARY 1990

Z V K Q K D C B K Y
 G T D R U G L V C B
 E D P M Z Q X H Z A
 Y E P O U I J U A J
 V R W N S T N M Q D
 C T B P V L I Q K J
 K C N N Q Y M A J B
 L W N V M H P V B Y
 V J H Z L X R S F H
 O L X A Y Z V K J M

- 1. EEW
- 2. BBS
- 3. BCD
- 4. AXL
- 5. AVS
- 6. JAU
- 7. MZX
- 8. TRE
- 9. LMV
- 10. NHX
- 11. KRZ
- 12. JAB
- 13. KRH
- 14. HFS
- 15. HU
- 16. ZG
- 17. SNW
- 18. JQ
- 19. ILV
- 20. KRP

So how'd you do, eh?

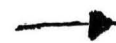
LISTENING INN

de VE3AVS/SWC

The HF amateur frequency allocations make up only a very small part of the overall HF spectrum between 1.6 and 30MHz. What lies out there on all those other frequencies? Most of us have listened from time to time, either on a general coverage receiver or on the receiver portion of a transceiver.

This column will share some of my listening experiences over the past little while. Maybe you'll find it interesting, maybe not. Either way, a little feedback to your editor would help us all.

I guess I've come full circle.....avid SWL in my youth (8-tube Stromberg Carlson!), then the ham ticket, then professional radio operator, followed by six years on a DOT monitoring station (oh those lovely RACAL receivers), and now back again to being a snoop.



Everybody likes to talk about the weather....so why not be well informed? Around the globe are civilian and military organizations who transmit (on USB) up-to-the minute weather information. These transmissions are scheduled round the clock for use by airlines and pilots.

Basically, broadcast is the "actual" weather at a given time, and/or the "forecasted" weather during the next 12 hours. You will hear details such as cloud cover, wind direction and strength, precipitation (if any), and of course the temperature.

North American and Caribbean area weather is sent from Gander, Newfoundland and New York on these shared frequencies: 3485, 6604, 10051 and 13270 KHz (these are in the aeronautical bands). Because the frequencies are shared, transmission schedules are very tight. Gander covers Canadian weather including Sondrestrom, Greenland, while New York sends the East Coast and Caribbean weather.

Rather than use up a lot of space, here is just a sampling of Gander's schedule. "H" means on the hour followed by minutes past the hour. The schedule then is an hourly one. At H+20, the forecast is given for Montreal, Toronto and Ottawa along with actual weather at these locations and Gander, Goose Bay and Halifax. At H + 25, listen for the Winnipeg, Edmonton and Calgary forecasts along with actual weather at Sydney, Iqaluit, Winnipeg, Edmonton, Calgary and Sondrestrom.

Interested in the sunny south? Well, tune in New York at H + 15 for the forecast for Bermuda and Miami, along with the actual weather at those places plus Nassau, Freeport, Tampa and West Palm Beach.

If it's the European weather you are interested in, give a listen to Shannon, Ireland on 3413 (night only), 8957, 5640 or 13264 (day only) KHz. A sample schedule shows at H + 15 the forecast is given for Madrid, Lisbon and Paris, along with the actual weather for these places plus Lyons, France and Santa Maria, Azores. Remember, these schedules are hourly, so if you tune in at H +00 and listen for one hour you will learn the entire schedule.

Finally, the Canadian military have their own weather schedules, with USB broadcasts from Edmonton, Trenton and St. John's easily heard at most times of the day. The format is similar to the civilian broadcasts except they naturally cover the Canadian scene more extensively. The schedules are as follows:

EDMONTON at H + 20 on 15035 (1200-2300Z), 6753 (2300-1200Z)

TRENTON at H + 30 on 15035 (1000-0100Z) and 6753 (2300-1200Z)

ST. JOHN'S at H + 40 on 15035 (1200-2300Z) and hourly on 6753.

For a listening treat, try picking up the Canadian Military at Lahr, West Germany on 13231 (0800-2000Z) and 5690 (2000-0800Z). They are not well heard since the transmissions are directed to European listeners.

That's it for this month.... 73 de

Lakehead Amateur Radio Club History Project

VE3AVS/SWC