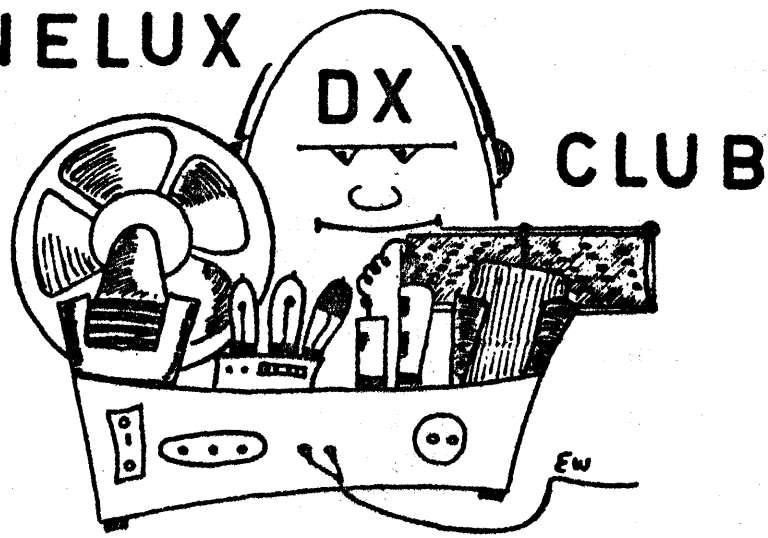


BENELUX



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Secretary: Oude Amersfoortseweg 153, Hilversum, Holland
Editor: Zeevaertweg 19, Hilversum, Holland

BDXC - HOLIDAY-EDITION

The above doesn't imply that we offer you a story of our sunny holiday-trips, but we must make a confession that due to our holidays it was impossible for us to offer you an issue as usely and also it is an excuse for our being so late.

From our friend Alistair Woodland we have still an article that had to be published six months earlier. It is more or less an appeal to go into the possibilities that are offered by numerous South American BC stations. Due to lack of sunspots, winter 1964/65 was the most favourable period to listen to these stations, but also the coming winter - for the sake of good order, it's summer in Europe now - many of these interesting stations are to be logged, so that you may increase your score.

One of these stations is H.R.R.H.5. from which subjoined more particulars.

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LA VOZ DE LA OCCIDENTE H.R.R.H.5.

Al Woodland

Honduras, land of the Mayas and ancient ruins, also Honduras land of the many radio stations. It can boast at least twenty six stations broadcasting on the short waves (many others not listed) and has many others confined to the Medium wave band. Unfortunately most of the signals from the Honduran radio stations are not too frequent visitors, at least not so here in Europe. Mention must be made of the fact that 1964 has been one of the best DX years for that part of the world in quite a long time with several new stations being logged. One of the more rare stations namely H.R.R.H.5. The Voice of the West became quite a frequent visitor for several months providing good reception around 2330-0000 GMT here in Europe. The programme at 2330 GMT being "Partido Libertador Democratico de Cuba". The station nearly allways signed of very abruptly at 0000 GMT.

The station is located in the department of Copan. Santa Rosa de Copan, if you have access to a good atlas, you will find Santa Rosa de Copan approximately 75 miles in a westerly direction from San Pedro Sula. Santa Rosa is located 4.700 feet above sea level in one of the very fertile land regions of Honduras. This and the very agreeable climate gives rise to its excellent tobacco crops. Tobacco is the main industry and it competes and even surpasses in quality the tobacco manufactured in neighbouring Cuba. The main tourist attraction of Santa Rosa is undoubtly the magnificent ruins left by the long dead Mayas. Authentic jewels can still be seen and found. Remnants of these tribes and the Atzecs may still be found in todays Mexico.

The Voice of the West currently operates on both the Medium and Short Waves. The frequencies being H.R.H.R. 1370 kc/s and H.R.R.H.5. 5960 kc/s. The transmitters were manufactured in the United States by Collins Electronics. Both transmitters have a power of 1 kW to the antenna. The antenna systems employed are of the delta match type and according to the many reports now redeived, they work pretty well. The station has received many reports from the Scandinavian countries and a few from England. This is one station that does

appreciate reports not like so many others. Both transmitters operate for eleven hours daily from 0700-1800 HST, 0800-1900 EST or 1300-0000 GMT. The station is owned by Dr. Arturo Rendon and is run with the help of seven station announcers and three operators cum engineers. Dr. Rendon himself occasionally does the station announcing, mainly for the fun of it. You may wonder why the Doctor. This is easy to explain as he is a doctor in (Odontology) the science of Dentistry. Dr. Rendon is talented in many other fields, not at least being able to play many musical instruments ie the guitar, accordion, the marimba etc. The marimba is a wooden instrument of Central America. It has keys of wood and is played with rubber hammers. Dr. Rendons favorite instrument is the electric guitar. He has featured in several radio and TV programmes, both in his own country and in the Republic of El Salvador. Dr. Rendon is only 34 years old, married and has four sons and one daughter.

His wife understands and speaks excellent English through studying in American universities. The studios etc consist of 4 rooms, a small one for the announcers, a larger room for the presentation of orchestral arrangements, a small writing room, the other room forms part of the control room itself.

When writing to this station, it would save Dr. Rendons and your time if you wrote it in Spanish. It would also be appreciated if you include IRC's or mint stamps. I can assure you myself from correspondence with Dr. Rendon, your report will be appreciated. I should like to thank Dr. Rendon for his extreme kind cooperation in obtaining the information for this article. It now only remains to say that most of us look forward to hearing the voice of the west again this year, providing Italy kindly oblige by shifting their frequency. Mention was made to Dr. Rendon about the amount of interference caused by Italy on 5960 kc/s and if it was possible to have test transmissions on a different frequency. Unfortunately this is impossible due to the Ministry of Communications allotting them the special frequency of 590 kc/s and no other.

Many thanks Al for this interesting article. We hope you will apologize for the late date of publishing.

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EDITORIAL MISCELLANY

Many thanks to the members who sent us a picturepostcard from their holiday address, being Tjeerd Helder, Bert v.d. Waals and Peter Ashcroft, and Michael Bloch of the Swiss BC-SWL-C.

The CBC international service, reported only 18 months ago to be facing virtual abandonment, appears to have staged a strong comeback, and now is hopeful of embarking on a major modernization program. These developments are in sharp contrast to reports early in 1964 when the government was said to be considering a drastic curtailment, if not outright abolition of the service. To add further strength to the Montreal - based service, the CBC has recommended to the Fowler commission on broadcasting that the international service be given new equipment with which to beam its daily shortwave broadcasting to the rest of the world. The CBC recommendation, made public last month, asked the service be given three modern 100 kW transmitters to replace the 20-year-old 50 kW ones. These would cost about \$3,000,000. Since this recommendation was prepared a year ago, however, the service has revised its technical data and now is hopeful of getting an even more powerful operating base. Officials now are talking in terms of four 250 kW transmitters with a relative increase in cost. Sources within the service say they are "very hopeful" the Fowler commission report, expected in the fall, will endorse this expansion. The international service, established in 1945, is operated by the CBC in collaboration with the external affairs department. The Sackville transmitters beam daily programs in 11 languages to Europe, Africa, Latin America and Australasia.

"Just give a ring to your favorite". The New York radiostation WRUL - 16,000 letters from listeners in other countries a year on an average - will increase its popularity. Listeners in for instance Germany, Great Britain, Holland or the Caribbean can have a talk with their favorite radiostar from Saturday 24 July on during four weeks for the time being. They have to call a special number from WRUL between noon and two o'clock. It's still unknown what will be the expenses for the European listener. "On Saturdays, lower charges apply" suggested an official cautious.

Once more we draw your attention to Radio New York Worldwide's special contest on Friday, August 27th at 2330 GMT on 15440 kc/s, and on Saturday, August 28th, at 1900 GMT beamed to Europe on 15440 and 17745 kc/s, to Africa on 17745 kc/s and to Latin America on 15440 and 15420 kc/s. Prizes which are to win are shortwave sets, shortwave kits and subscriptions to world reknown magazines. Write in to Radio New York Worldwide and request a copy of the contest entry form. These forms are also available with most Hallicrafters dealers throughout the world.