

## AIH72 stations reported by Mika Mäkeläinen

### Saturday, September 16, 2017

With all the hassle of getting settled, I didn't really miss anything on the dial. Just some Indian and Middle East stations were audible in the evening. Overnight the first weak Brazilian stations emerged after 2100 UTC. I also hunted for African stations with a wire pointed at 160 degrees, but have so far found nothing new.

1905	R Ethiopia, Negele Borana	1485	xx
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### Sunday, September 17, 2017

The morning was a pleasant surprise, although I didn't immediately log any stations that would have been personally new catches. In any case, stations from Brazil, Argentina and Uruguay peaked at 0200-0300 UTC, and signals were nice and clean especially in the lower end of the AM dial. Numerous stations were identified, but so far I have found no personal new ones. I spent daytime catching up on sleep and checking antennas in the forest.

In the evening, the first Asian signals appeared before 1600 UTC, especially from around Bangladesh, but selection remained poor. There was a short opening as far north as Tianjin (1008 kHz) around 1800 UTC, but the few stations from the Far East soon gave way to Iranians, which dominated half of the AM frequencies. In the evening, the first trans-Atlantic signals appeared from Brazil before 2100 UTC.

0200	ZYI673 Difusora R Cajazeiras, Cajazeiras PB	1070	xx
0208	ZYK251 R Ibirubá, Ibirubá RS	1240	xx
0217	ZYJ822 R Hulha Negra, Criciúma SC	1450	xx
0221	LU9 R Mar del Plata, Mar del Plata	670	xx
0229	ZYK346 R Cassino, Rio Grande RS	830	xx
0229	ZYH661 R Pitaguary, Maracanaí CE	1340	xx
0253	ZYL310 R Educadora, Montes Claros MG	670	xx
0300	ZYK356 R Batovi, São Gabriel RS	700	xx
0300	R Novo Milenio, Ribeirão Preto SP	1540	xx
0302	ZYH776 R Tropical, Porangatu GO	850	xx
0307	LT29 R Venado Tuerto, Venado Tuerto	1460	xx
2209	ZYK225 R Liberdade, Canguçu RS	1500	xx
2300	ZYH500 R Cultura, Feira de Santana BA	700	x

### Monday, September 18, 2017

Brazilians began to emerge for real by 2200 UTC on Sunday evening. Mediocre conditions prevailed until about 0130 UTC, when signal levels dropped sharply – just when I expected them to improve further. Signals resurfaced at 0300 UTC, dipping soon and making a modest comeback around 0415 UTC. Some Argentine stations lingered until around 0530 UTC, especially in the lower end of the dial, but signal levels were poor. So far the only new catch for me was Radio Nacional, Comodoro Rivadavia/Chos Malal, Argentina, on 670 kHz. As a curiosity, Norwegian low-power (0.25 kW) station Radio Northern Star from Bergen (1611 kHz) was audible through the night, best at 0100 UTC. Just like Sunday, mostly we have used just two of the 13 antennas: 255 and 160 degrees. 255 brings stations from Brazil and Argentina before daybreak, and the 160-degree wire is good for stations from Eastern Africa, which also tend to peak before daybreak, around 0230-0300 UTC. My African catches on Monday morning included LM Radio (702 kHz) and Magic 828 (surprisingly, on 828 kHz) from South Africa, as well as Botswana on 648 and 693 kHz.

After 0600 UTC the dial was empty until almost 1700 UTC. Cambodia (918 kHz) was strong at closedown after 1700 UTC. Australia's westernmost ABC powerhouse (6PB in Busselton WA on 1152 kHz) made a brief appearance, but otherwise signals didn't extend much beyond India. In the evening Middle East stations

filled the dial. I was most happy about catching Sawt al-Amal (Voice of Hope) from Israel on 1287 kHz with a booming signal.

0000	R Northern Star, Bergen	1611	xx
0200	R Botswana, Mopipi	648	xx
0200	R Botswana, Shakawe	693	xx
0214	LM R, Welgedacht	702	xx
0229	Magic 828, Klipheuwel	828	xx
0256	R Pulpit, Meyerton	657	xx
0301	R Botswana, Takotokwane	972	xx
0400	R Nacional, Comodoro Rivadavia/Chos Malal	670	xx
1700	Voice of Hope, Israel	1287	xx
2258	LU32 R Coronel Olavarría, Olavarría	1160	x

## Tuesday, September 19, 2017

Again there was wild variation in the levels of trans-Atlantic signals. Some Brazilians were heard around 2330 UTC, diving soon after, and reappearing just before 0200 UTC. Propagation peaked at 0330 UTC, and stations vanished sharply just after 0400 UTC. Latin American catches included LRA54 Radio Nacional, Ingeniero Jacobacci on 1370 kHz (first spotted by Lauri) and Radio Nacional de Brasília from an unknown location on 1310 kHz. Radio Portales from Chile was remarkably strong on 1180.07 kHz. For a period propagation reached even higher latitudes as Harbour Light of the Windwards was heard on 1400 kHz.

Daytime was naturally empty on the AM dial. In the evening recordings were initiated just before 1600 UTC for the Indian subcontinent. A bit later also the path straight south was open. Some semi-common AIR stations were reported, but nothing worth mentioning. Overall, signal levels however were higher than on the preceding days, which could be interpreted as a sign and result of modestly improving in solar weather.

0200	LRA54 R Nacional, Ingeniero Jacobacci	1370	xx
0300	R Nacional de Brasilia, UNID QTH	1310	
0300	ZYH243 R Imaculada Conceicao, Maceió AL	1320	x
0330	ZYH890 R Capital, Belo Horizonte MG	570	xx
0333	ZYJ228 R Central do Paraná, Ponta Grossa PR	1460	xx
1700	AIR Thrissur	630	x
1740	AIR Patna	621	xx
1740	AIR Allahabad	1026	xx
1900	SBC Jedda R, UNID QTH	1044	

## Wednesday, September 20, 2017

Overnight was generally very poor to all directions, but once again stations from Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay and – today more than before – also from Paraguay were heard with sufficient signal levels around 0300-0500 UTC. My best catches that I have so far identified include Radio Belgrano from Buenos Aires and Radio Uno from Asunción, both on 650 kHz. Also stations from southern parts of Africa were audible, best around 0200-0300 UTC, but their overnight programs tend to be mostly non-stop music, which makes identifying difficult. In late afternoon, stations from the Eastern hemisphere became audible earlier than on any other previous day. Already at 1458 UTC I started recording with an antenna pointing at 100 degrees, good for South Asia. Around 1700 UTC the first Aussies were on the dial, but initial listening didn't reveal anything besides some of the usual suspects from South Australia (729, 891 and 1539 kHz), heard best with the 80-degree antenna.

0300	R Botswana, Muchenje	558	xx
0313	Emisora Santiago y Copla, Cd. Evita	1120	xx
0331	ZYK309 Rádio Taquara, Taquara RS	1490	x

0400	Super R Deus e Amor, Curitiba PR	1210	
0422	R Belgrano, Buenos Aires	650	xx
0451	R Uno, Asunción	650	xx
1740	AIR Sangli	1251	xx
2202	R Mocambique, Quelimane	1179	xx

### Thursday, September 21, 2017

The first Brazilian stations became audible around 2100 UTC on Wednesday, and improved gradually after midnight. Signals peaked briefly at 0320 UTC, but dipped soon and vanished by 0400 UTC, so this bout of long-distance reception turned out to be quite short. My identified stations included Radio Argentina (570.013 kHz) and AM 750, both from Buenos Aires, as well as Radio La Unión (800 kHz) and Radio Monumental (1080 kHz) from Paraguay, but only Radio La Unión was a new catch for me. Some sub-Saharan African stations were also heard in the wee hours on the 160-degree wire, such as Malawi on 756 kHz and Lesotho on 891 kHz, but once again Lesotho played only non-stop music before being pounded by Turkey which began its broadcast day just before 0300 UTC.

The evening was less exciting than on the previous day. I began recording at 1555 UTC with a wire at 100 degrees, towards South Asia. I have an interesting unidentified Chinese station from 1053 kHz, but otherwise there wasn't much of interest. Thankfully, a couple of more Australian stations showed up later in the evening, but we found nothing new.

0001	ZYK316 R Charrua, Uruguiana RS	1140	x
0029	CW125 R Bella Unión, Bella Unión	1250	x
0300	Cape Talk, Klipheuwel	567	xx
0307	LT12 R Nacional/R General Madariaga, Paso de los Libres 840		xx
0310	ZYJ921 R Cultura de Sergipe, Aracaju SE (Aparecida-px) 670		xx
0316	R La Unión, Asunción	800	xx
1700	Jiangsu PBS (Literary Service), Nanjing JS	1053	xx

### Friday, September 22, 2017

Although solar indices have approached normal levels, propagation conditions repeated the cycle of the previous days. Nighttime was poor to all directions and in the morning stations from Argentina and neighboring countries appeared for a couple of hours, today starting around 0230 UTC and peaking around 0400 UTC. My best catches were Radio Nacional from Formosa (820 kHz), Radio Impacto from Ciudad Madero (1440 kHz) and Radio Selva from Partido de la Matanza (1709.856 kHz). Sunset offered the usual selection of stations mostly from the Indian subcontinent, with the Middle East soon taking over. Just by accident I noticed that the IRIB Hamadan transmitter on 981 kHz has also local programming (identified at 1800 UTC), and not just national as listed in the WRTH.

0240	LRI232 R Ciudad de Nogoyá, Nogoyá	1660	xx
0400	LRA8 R Nacional, Formosa	820	xx
0400	R Impacto, Ciudad Madero	1440	xx
0402	R Selva, Partido de La Matanza, BA	1710	xx
1800	IRIB R Hamadan	981	

### Saturday, September 23, 2017

Considering that solar indices are quite decent, I thought that DXing couldn't get any worse, but prospects for new catches on Saturday were even bleaker than on Friday. A few Indians were identified around their sign-on time, the best catch being AIR Gulbarga on 1107 kHz. Daybreak coincided with the usual daybreak opening to Argentina, but at least initially nothing new was discovered. There was actually an even earlier – but weak – opening around midnight UTC, after which trans-Atlantic signals retreated and made a modest

comeback peaking around 0400 UTC and vanishing soon thereafter. The evening window to the Eastern Hemisphere opened around 1500 UTC, but hardly anything was heard east of India. And of course, this being a Saturday, virtually void of local breaks, in the evening Spanish stations were stronger than on any previous day. Frustration is setting in.

### Sunday, September 24, 2017

If it sounds like I'm repeating myself, that's because propagation seems to be repeating itself. A few sub-Saharan African stations were noticed before daybreak, as well as a bunch of Latin American stations rising from the background hiss slightly later. Daybreak however turned out to be better than before. Reception from Argentina peaked luckily at 0400 UTC, and especially the lower end of the AM dial was in full swing, which resulted in at least eight new catches for me. Many of them were affiliates of Radio Nacional, relaying the main station on 870 kHz. There are bound to be many goodies waiting in the wide band Perseus recordings. Western Europe was also very strong, so at the same time I nailed some of the few remaining Portuguese stations. In the evening, a bit of Western Australia was heard, but nothing new. Otherwise the band was dominated by Middle Eastern stations. Evening recordings were mostly unattended, because it was a time for a change of the guard.

0307	ZYK280 R da Universidade, Porto Alegre RS	1080	xx
0330	R Mitre via AM del Nea, Charata (?)	1400	xx
0330	CW25 R Durazno, Durazno	1430	xx
0333	R Antena, Lobos	1560	xx
0335	LRI218 R Universidad Nacional del Sur, Bahia Blanca	1240	xx
0337	AM Renacer, Moreno	1310	xx
0348	LU5 R Neuquén (Cadena 3 -px)	600	xx
0348	LU24 R Tres Arroyos, Tres Arroyos	820	xx
0350	LU22 R Tandil, Tandil	1140	xx
0353	LV4 R San Rafael, San Rafael	620	xx
0357	LV6 R Nihuil, Nihuil	680	xx
0357	CB96 R Carrera, Santiago	960	xx
0358	ZYL241 R Onda Viva, Araguari MG	1490	xx
0400	LRA28/LRA18 R Nacional, La Rioja/Río Turbio	620	xx
0400	LRA11/LRA52 R Nacional, Comodoro Rivadavia/Chos Malal	670	xx
0400	LRA17/LRA19 R Nacional, Zapala/Pto. Iguazú	710	xx
0400	LRA7 R Nacional, Córdoba	750	xx
0400	LRA12/LRA10 R Nacional, Santo Tomé/Ushuaia	780	xx
0400	LRA22 R Nacional, San Salvador de Jujuy	790	xx
0400	LRA56 R Nacional, Perito Moreno	860	xx
0400	ZYJ273 R Atalaia, Curitiba PR	1170	xx
0400	LRA20 R Nacional, Las Lomitas	1270	xx
0400	R Tres Fronteras, Isidro Casanova	1500	xx
0400	Estación 1550, Villa Florito	1550	xx
0402	LRH203 R 990 AM, Formosa (R Mitre -px)	990	xx
0405	LU18 R El Valle, General Roca	640	xx
0405	CW25 R Durazno, Durazno	1430	xx
0407	R Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz	960	xx
0408	ZP45 La Voz de la Libertad, Hernandarias	1190	xx
0409	R Imagen, Castelar	1340	xx (on jo 1710:Itä)
0411	ZYJ465 R Relogio, São Goncalo RJ	580	xx
0415	ZYI533 R Liberal, Belém PA	900	xx
0300	R Cesky Impuls	981	xx
0359	Antena 1/RDP, Miranda do Douro/Montemor-o Velho	630	xx

## Monday, September 25, 2017

Monday offered more of the same. The morning peak around 0400 UTC favored Argentina, but was not as strong as on Sunday. Nevertheless, I was able to identify a couple of personal new ones, La Voz del Chaco Paraguayo, from Filadelfia, on 610 kHz, as well as Estación 1550 from Buenos Aires on 1550 kHz. During the day, in addition to catching up on sleep, we enjoyed the outdoors. I went fishing and caught a 650-gram perch from one of the small ponds near our antennas. The perch became our dinner, while I released a larger pike, caught from Turvelompolat outside the cabin, back in. Jorma went picking lingonberries and was equally happy about his catch. In the evening, the first Far Eastern stations appeared after 1300 UTC, which was much earlier than on any day before, but as reception improved around 1500 UTC, the selection covered all of Asia, making any new catches very unlikely. After 1800 UTC we witnessed improved reception of the couple of ABC powerhouses in South Australia, which prompted a frantic search for smaller stations from the state. 5DN Adelaide on 1323 kHz was the only new station that I caught live, but that was enough to make my day ☺

0310	R Cooperativa, Buenos Aires	770	x
0334	ZYK275 R Farroupilha, Porto Alegre RS	680	x
0402	CX38 Radiodif Nacional Em. del Sur, Montevideo	1290	x
0403	ZP30 La Voz del Chaco Paraguayo, Filadelfia	610	xx
0418	ZYJ244 R Super Colombo, Curitiba PR	1020	x
1911	5AU Port Augusta SA	1242	xx
1912	5DN Adelaide SA	1323	xx
1957	DYAP Puerto Princesa City	765	xx
2000	Shaanxi PBS (Opera Service), Xi'an SN	747	x
2000	Panjab R, London	1584	xx
2055	DWNX Naga	1611	xx

## Tuesday, September 26, 2017

Weak stations from Latin America were heard through the night, but signal strength didn't quite reach the level of the previous days. Soon after 0400 UTC stations from Argentina, Brazil and Chile (such as Radio María from Santiago on 1060 kHz) vanished, but for the first time, some common North American stations (including 1390 WEGP and 1520 WWKB) came forth around 0500 UTC and again briefly at 0620 UTC. After about 0635 UTC there was just static. During the day I checked a couple of antennas while Jorma was picking berries. Neither of us ran into bears. In late afternoon, the first Asian signals began to appear already around 1300 UTC, but signals reached usable levels only around 1400 UTC. What ensued was the best propagation to Asia so far on this DXpedition. Finding new ones was tough, but fortunately good propagation persisted, and eventually just before sunrise in East Asia, after 2100 UTC, we nailed DYKR (1161 kHz) and DXRU (1188 kHz), a true DX station! On the Aussie front 3RN ABC Radio National from Melbourne made it through on 621 kHz. This is one of the many frequencies which have become new treasure troves after being vacated by semi-local Russian AM stations. Also Qinghai PBS was heard on 621 kHz making its first appearance in Europe.

0350	CB106 R María, Santiago	1060	xx
1700	3RN ABC R National, Melbourne, Vic.	621	xx
2046	DYKR Kalibo	1161	xx
2059	Taiwan BC, Chungsing	963	x
2114	DXRU Cagayan de Oro	1188	xx
2200	Qinghai PBS	621	

## Wednesday, September 27, 2017

On Tuesday evening trans-Atlantic signals became audible quite early, while we were still focused on the Philippines. By 2200 UTC many Argentinian and Brazilian stations were already relatively strong. Signals were best around 0200-0400 UTC, but unfortunately nosedived well before 0500 UTC. A smattering of North

American stations, mostly from the Midwest, was heard before midnight UTC and again around daybreak, but the signals were so weak that we didn't even bother to try to find anything new. Radio 2000 from Venezuela on 1500 kHz was perhaps the last station to remain strong on the dial well after 0500 UTC. In the afternoon, the usual beacons from Asia were 1098 and 1557 kHz, rising above noise floor before 1330 UTC. A bit later all stations vanished, and just some weak signals from India and the Middle East were audible. East Asian stations appeared on the dial briefly before 1600 UTC, but later the selection of stations was back to the India-Iran axis. Occasionally some Chinese and even Japanese stations were found in the mix, but overall propagation was poorer and limited to more southern latitudes. My best catches were DYHB from Bacolod (747 kHz) and Nei Menggu PBS from Yakeshi (1044 kHz).

0354	ZYH321 Super Rede Boa Vontade, Iranduba AM	610	xx
0405	CB60 R Vida Nueva, Santiago (tent)	600	x
0411	ZYI540 R Novo Tempo, Belém PA	1080	xx
0416	Emisora Santiago y Copla, Ciudad Evita	1120	x
1600	DYHB Bacolod	747	xx
1601	Nei Menggu PBS, Yakeshi NM	1044	
1700	CNR10 Urumqi XJ	1143	

### Thursday, September 28, 2017

Despite the fierce solar weather, surprisingly, some North American stations were heard overnight on two brief occasions, peaking around 0100 and 0300 UTC. I identified a few East Coast stations like WXKS on 1200 kHz, but didn't find anything of interest. Before daybreak, sub-Saharan Africa was weak. Our Africa wire yielded a Greek pirate on 783 kHz. In the evening, just some Indian, Iranian and Arabic stations made it through. The entire day was quite disappointing, and at least in real time I didn't log any new stations.

0058	ZP24 La Deportiva, San Lorenzo	1120	xx
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### Friday, September 29, 2017

Overnight, stations from Argentina and surrounding countries appeared on the dial after 0040 UTC, and signals remained decent until after 0200 UTC, when propagation from this direction folded. So far I have only logged some usual suspects. After 0300 UTC signals from the East Coast of North America were heard, but signals remained weak, and the stations vanished by 0400 UTC. Also around 0300 UTC, on the African front Botswana was strongest on 693 kHz and heard on a couple of other frequencies as well. Another Greek pirate seemed to be operating on 1107 kHz. I didn't have high expectations for the evening, but surprisingly, stations from the Far East, all the way up to Central Japan emerged from the static around 1410 UTC. Gradually, stations from China and India joined in the mix, but while some signals were quite strong, there was barely anything audible on many other frequencies. In early evening, I left my two Perseus receivers to take care of recording the AM band as we had rare visitors: fellow DXers Kimmo Vuorela and Tuomo Vesala came from Ivalo (over 100 km away) to say hello. I might have something interesting from Thailand on my 80-degree wire, but that remains to be seen. Later in the evening, a couple of stations from Western Australia appeared briefly, but again nothing new. So far this looks like a second day without any new catches.

### Saturday, September 30, 2017

Another less than spectacular night, with some Brazilian and Argentinian stations heard around 0100–0400 UTC, but I didn't notice anything beyond the usual suspects. After 0400 UTC the AM band was quiet, so I slept a bit, collected my gear, cleaned the cabin, and headed driving south to Rovaniemi, where I took the overnight train to Helsinki.