

UNO, DOS, CUATRO

A GUIDE TO THE NUMBERS STATIONS

by

"Havana Moon"

TIARE PUBLICATIONS

©1987 Tiare Publications

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording or by information storage and retrieval systems, without permission in writing from the publisher, except by a reviewer who may quote brief passages in a review.

Published by Tiare Publications, P.O. Box 493, Lake Geneva, WI 53147, United States of America

ISBN: 0-936653-06-X

Printed in the United States of America

TK
6553
H38
1987

To Dianna and Michelle
And the Rest of the Gang

Certain portions of this book have been sanitized so as to conceal the identities and locations of certain sources.

The opinions in this book belong exclusively to the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the publisher.

My views and observations are not necessarily those of any institution or organization to which I belong.

WARNING!

This publication is presented for entertainment and informational purposes only!

Any other use may be in violation of certain Federal laws.

Publisher's Note:

Havana Moon is a well known name in radio monitoring circles -- on both hobby and professional levels. The author is a former member of the intelligence community and has devoted many years to studying and researching numbers transmissions. Readers who have information or observations on this subject may forward same to the author in care of Tiare Publications, P.O. Box 493, Lake Geneva, WI 53147.

FOREWARD

For over twenty-five years the shortwave numbers stations have been among America's strangest mysteries. Many people skilled in both communications and intelligence have searched for answers to the puzzle. They have been able to throw some light on the problem, but for the most part it has remained unsolved.

However, the now legendary Havana Moon refused to quit. For years he has utilized all his skills as he carefully examined the problem of the numbers stations. Readers were first made aware of his dedication and persistence as he shared some of his findings in the pages of the now defunct Newark News Radio Club. Later, in a column appearing in Monitoring Times, he would reveal to us even more of the bizarre world of the numbers stations.

Now, at last, in this book, Havana Moon has provided the public with a thorough examination of the entire numbers situation. While all the answers may not be here, the careful reader will gain considerable insight into the nature and purpose of these stations. Certainly that minority of Americans who listen regularly to shortwave broadcasts will find this enlightening. However, those who have never heard a shortwave broadcast may be even more intrigued as they discover some of the secret ways in which their and other governments operate. For anyone who really wants to know how government business is actually conducted, this book is a must.

We are all indebted to Havana Moon for his courage and dedication. Now at last we can know what some persons were determined we would never know. A healthy democracy is dependent on an enlightened citizenry.

John Santosuosso, Ph.D.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Without the true friendship of Dr. John Santosuosso this book might possibly have never been written. It was Dr. Santosuosso who first believed and promoted the Havana Moon concept in the now defunct Newark News Radio Club Bulletin. For this I will be forever grateful, John.

I am also grateful and indebted to Robert Grove of Monitoring Times who gladly -- and without question -- devoted hundreds of column inches to "Los Numeros" over the past years. A big thanks for everything, Bob.

I am also much indebted to another true friend and confidante, Detective Lieutenant John Fuard [deleted] PD. The Lieutenant was -- and always will be -- there to "run interference" whenever the need arose. He's even available at a moment's notice for coffee at Denny's, which is where, it is said, the two of us often get our best (?) ideas. Uzi does it, Lieutenant.

A very special thank you is due Zel Eaton, Assistant Dean of Students, Northeast Missouri State University, Kirksville, Missouri. Zel's continual input, information sources on matters other than numbers, and friendship, is much appreciated. Thanks, Zel. The friendship is what really matters. Zel just recently had his first article published in a specialty-type publication. Congratulations and welcome to the gang, Zel.

Special thanks are also in order for Ms. Lani Petit of the Association of Clandestine Enthusiasts (ACE). Lani, month after month, presents the most comprehensive numbers listing of any publication. Well done, Lani!

I am deeply grateful to those of you who have read and supported my various writings, projects and columns over the years. I would also like to thank those sources that wish to remain anonymous, a few former intelligence officers, a Phillip Marlowe-type private eye and those whose true names I never knew.

And before I forget, many thanks to the "nearly famous" Eric Conners. Eric is a longtime friend and trusted associate.

Thanks are long overdue to those who took the time to listen and write. Thanks guys and gals. You're the greatest!

It is also conventional -- and very wise -- to thank one's wife for aid and ----

94102 95482 9000394558 93940

a/k/a

Havana Moon

94553

Table of Contents

1	Playing the Numbers Shell Game	1
2	Five Digit Transmission Formats	4
3	Four Digit Transmission Formats	11
4	Phonetic Alphabet Stations	13
5	RUT QRU	15
6	Who's Who in the German Numbers World	18
7	Selected Incidents	21
8	Numbers Feedback	24
9	Selected Freedom of Information Act Replies	29
10	NSA -- Official Intimidation?	34
11	Selected FCC FOIA Replies	37
12	Revelations: The Mysterious FCC Document	41
13	Meandering Moon	43
14	Numbers Database -- By Frequency	47
15	Numbers Database -- By Time	55
16	Selected Crypts	61
17	Afterword	66
18	Selected Reading List	68

"Atención!"
"dos, cero, cinco, cero, cinco"

The beginning was a very long time ago . . .

What happened was simple enough
-- at least, at the start.

What happened was that an unsuspecting SWL (shortwave listener) or an amateur radio operator had dared stray from the allocated international broadcast or amateur frequencies and -- of all things -- tuned in a numbers transmission!

PLAYING THE NUMBERS SHELL GAME

Hot dogs, Tijuana, Mission Beach, Mar Vista, Connie R, Baby Ruth bars, Lucky Lager, KOB, Hunter Hancock, Elvis, Jerry Lee, Chuck, Monroe, T-Birds, "Sweet Little Sixteen," all of which helped in some obscure way to shape my youth, were -- for the most -- fleeting addictions.

The influence of the numbers, however, has been enduring. Their very sound triggers visions of adventure, rebellion, intrigue and romance. Numbers are Bogart and Bergman. They are Cagney and Lombard. They are William Powell and Myrna Loy solving a murder mystery. They are Phillip Marlowe and James Bond. They are the Cuba of Batista. They are the Cuba of Castro.

They are San Ysidro "after-hours." They are a semideserted shack on a desolate stretch of California's Highway 101. They are the Miami of Crockett and Tubbs. They are encoded messages to German U-boats.

They are a sun-drenched park in Miami's Little Havana, where Cuban men engage in impromptu domino matches under the shade of coconut palms. They are Key Largo and Casablanca. They are the theatre-of-the-mind of the high frequency spectrum! They are a mystery!

You've heard them . . . sure you have. Lurking just a few kiloHertz up-or-down frequency. Prowling the post-prime time hours where confirmed insomniacs earn their stripes and over as well as under-the-counter sleep remedies are field tested. They are the damnable numbers!

"DOS, CERO, CINCO, CERO, CINCO." The female with the slightly mechanical sounding voice continues hour after hour and night after night and well into the morning and afternoon on a myriad of frequencies. The latest count indicates that well

over 250 different frequencies have been utilized for five-digit Spanish transmissions since the early 60s!

I would say that for one not to hear this "semi-bionic" femme is just about next to impossible. You'll hear her even if you never venture from the amateur or international broadcast frequencies! This femme with a penchant for numbers is just about everywhere. And she has been for at least a quarter century. Some say even longer than that! You'll have to admit that a quarter century is a long time in the life of a mystery as the four and five-digit numbers transmissions in Spanish, German and English so graphically -- or perhaps aurally -- demonstrate.

There are times that I find it amusing and more than somewhat amazing that SWLs are still intercepting and reporting numbers transmissions almost as eagerly today as they did in the days before Tecate, Icom, Yaesu and Kenwood. It was during the reign of National, Hallicrafters, Hammurlund and Collins that this femme was born. Why, even her birth is shrouded in mystery!

This femme announces no callsign, even though it is rumored that callsigns for some stations do exist. It just seems that the powers that be can't seem to make this little lady understand that one's callsign should be used. But the existence or nonexistence -- that's NSA talk -- of a callsign is only a rumor and nothing more! There's even a rumor circulating that the CIA maintains a "watch list" of all serious numbers monitors! Now we all know the CIA would never do such a thing!

The who, where and most importantly, the why aspects of these numbers transmissions are, for the most part, unknown. Most refer to these broadcasts that occur on the hour and repeat on the half-hour on a frequency up-or-down from the primary frequency as "spy" transmissions.

This spy theory has been somewhat enhanced over the years by our very own FCC by their strange and inconsistent answers to inquiries from the SWL and amateur community. It was the FCC that stated some years back that the 3060 and 3090 kHz five-digit Spanish numbers transmissions were originating from a site near Havana, Cuba! Shortly afterwards the FCC denied ever having made this statement. Shortly afterwards they again stated that these transmissions were coming from Havana! Curious how they continue to change their stories.

Some years later, one FCC official stated that the FCC did not deal in intelligence matters and therefore had no interest in numbers transmissions! They've also stated lots of other things over the years, many of them laughable.

Many answers other than "spy" have been suggested over the years: They are world bank transactions, coffee bean prices, bolita scores, messages to freedom fighters. . . The suggestions and the rumors are, as the transmissions, endless!

Most transmissions are made in full-carrier mode with some SSB (single sideband) transmissions being reported. On the other side of the coin, the four-digit Spanish and English stations transmit reduced carrier USB (upper sideband). It was learned just a few years ago that some, not all, of the four-digit Spanish and English transmissions were from sites

near Remington and Warrenton, Virginia! Now that's a lot of miles from Havana!

There is, however, a very definite Havana numbers connection! Some numbers transmissions do come from various Cuban sites. They also come from various domestic sites. More about the domestic sites in another chapter. A government source that must remain anonymous tells me that the 1500 UTC transmission on 3690 kHz on Sundays comes from an embassy in downtown Havana! The embassy was not identified. The repeat frequency is on 4030 kHz at 1530 UTC. This is for Sundays only! The other numbers stations that use 3690 and 4030 kHz at other times and days may or may not be Havana-based. There's some indication of different sites.

And voice transmissions aren't the only mode of transmission! CW "cut-number" transmissions are frequently reported. These five character, letter/number substitution, groups are often reported on five-digit Spanish frequencies!

There's really nothing new, sinister perhaps, in regards to spy-type and/or numbers transmissions. As early as 1939, Nazi Abwehr agents utilized such transmissions to pass vital intelligence information from secret sites in the New York City area to Nazi Germany!

And what about my earlier reference to "semi-bionic?" Well, it would appear that most numbers transmissions are produced by a system similar to that used by the telephone company to inform callers of changed or discontinued phone numbers. It appears that these numbers are then transferred to tape for transmission at later times.

One thing is certain: A female announcer reading number groups in Spanish, German, English and other languages is a familiar enough sound to an SWL who has advanced beyond HCJB and Radio Canada International. It's a subject that never fails to arouse lengthy discussion and controversy whenever SWLs congregate.

And in the best traditions of a pulp-thriller: "dos, cero, cinco, cero, cinco"

"Final"
20505

"dos, cero, cinco, cero, cinco"

FIVE-DIGIT TRANSMISSION FORMATS

At least four slightly different variations in five-digit Spanish transmissions have been noted in the past. The variations are as follows:

Type 1 "Atención 975 20" (repeated for several minutes)
xxxxxx xxxxxx . . . (ciphertext or crypt)
"Final" (repeated twice)

The above is the most commonly encountered transmission type. This was also the same type that once terminated with "adios." The "adios" terminator has not been heard for several years.

The meaning of the first three digits remains unknown. Most monitors, however, refer to these three digits as an identifier of some type. The second set of digits indicates the "group count" of the message.

Type 2 "Atención 976 00" (repeated for several minutes)
"00 105 (repeated for about one minute)
xxxxxx xxxxxx . . . (ciphertext or crypt)
"Final" (repeated twice)

Again we have the identifier (?) and in this format another set of unidentified numbers. The last three numbers before the crypt are the "group count" digits.

Type 3 "Atención 133 00 30" (repeated for several minutes)
"30" (repeated for less than one minute)
xxxxxx xxxxxx . . . (ciphertext or crypt)
"Final" (repeated twice)

First three digits are the identifier (?) with the following two digits an unknown. The last two digits before the crypt are the "group count" digits. The above transmission format is seldom heard.

Type 4 "Atención" (repeated three times)
"342 20" (repeated once)
xxxxxx xxxxxx . . .
"Final" (repeated three times)

The above transmission type has only been noted on live or non-computer generated five-digit Spanish transmissions.

The majority of five-digit stations transmit in the AM mode. There are, however, some few reports of SSB transmissions.

Another, as yet unexplained, transmission format was once very common. Just "Atención" and a three-digit identifier (?), with no "group count" digits, would be transmitted for several minutes. Why bother if there were no traffic, which was obviously the situation? Why not transmit "dummy" or "phantom" traffic which is, for the most part, the norm for 3090 and 5211 kHz! In fact, messages are often repeated hours, days, weeks, and sometimes months apart!

It should also be noted that the majority of five-digit Spanish stations repeat their transmissions at 30 past the hour rather than at 15 minutes past. The repeat frequency may be many kHz up-or-down frequency from the primary. I know of no five-digit Spanish stations that begin or repeat a transmission at 45 past the hour.

This anomaly (excessive repeats) is not noted on the live or non-computer generated transmissions. The female voices often change on these transmissions. Some sound real "cutesy-pie!"

CW LETTER/NUMBER SUBSTITUTION GROUPS

"MNW AN"

AN AN AN BT BT

XXXXX XXXXX . . . (ciphertext or crypt)

AR SK

MNW is the identifier (?) and AN is the group count.

A format variation has also been noted on a small portion of the CW "letter/number" transmissions. The variation is as follows:

"MUW TT MT" (repeated several times)

MT MT MT BT BT BT

XXXXX XXXXX . . . (ciphertext or crypt)

AR SK

MUW is the identifier (?) and TT and unknown. MT represents the group count.

BEST BET NUMBERS FREQUENCIES

Five digit Spanish

3090 kHz

3445

3690

4025

4030 Slavic and five-digit Spanish transmissions often monitored on this frequency. "P" (CW) beacon also noted at various times. Also a MARS frequency!

4044

- 4050
- 4055
- 4125 Why on an international "ship calling" frequency? This situation has one government agency slightly concerned! I'm going to withhold the agency's name for the time being.
- 4445
- 4670 Maintain a close watch on this frequency. All types of numbers transmissions are monitored on this frequency.
- 4780 Another frequency to watch closely. Used by FEMA.
- 4825 Very active.
- 5080 Very active.
- 5090 Very active.
- 5135
- 5250
- 5270
- 5780
- 5810 Maintain a close watch.
- 5812 Maintain a close watch.
- 6802 Maintain a close watch. All types of transmissions monitored on this frequency.
- 6825
- 6835
- 6840 Maintain a close watch.
- 6925 Watch closely. Five-digit Spanish on this frequency some few times. KKN50 marker always down when transmissions occur.
- 7527

"Cut number" CW transmissions may be heard at various times on many of the above frequencies.

BEST BET LIVE OR NON-COMPUTER-GENERATED FREQUENCIES

- 4047 kHz
- 4080
- 4210
- 4660
- 4680
- 5070
- 5135
- 5250
- 5270

Some of the above stations repeat their traffic at 15 rather than 30 past the hour!

Be aware that the above frequencies are also used at various times by the "standard" five-digit stations. Are they related? That's debatable. I do know that a 5135 kHz transmission of the above type was once traced to the vicinity of Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, by non-FCC sources. You don't have to be FCC-connected to have reasonably reliable radio direction finding.

Numbers monitors are cautioned that many other five-digit Spanish transmissions are monitored on 5135 kHz. Not all originate from Ft. Lauderdale!

CUT NUMBER ALPHABET

- A = 1
- N = 2
- D = 3
- U = 4
- W = 5
- R = 6
- I = 7
- G = 8
- M = 9
- T = 0

CW CRYPTO VOCABULARY AND MORSE SOUND

- A = .- didah
- N = -.
dahdit
- D = -..
dahdidit
- U = ..- dididah
- W = .-- didahdah
- R = .-. didahdit
- I = .. didit
- G = --. dahdahdit
- M = -- dahdah
- T = - dah

The ten characters (three vowels and seven consonants) are noted with regularity on five-digit Spanish frequencies. The five-character groups are always made up from the above characters.

It might be noted that these characters, when reduced or transformed to their Morse equivalent, are the most easily identifiable of all the Morse characters. And here's something interesting: Reverse the Morse equivalent of each group of the crypto-alphabet above and the same ten characters appear (obviously in a different order). Why not tape one of these CW transmissions and then play the tape backwards! You don't have to worry about "back-masking!"

COMMON INTERCEPT ERRORS

<u>Letter</u>	<u>Frequent Errors</u>
A	I, M, T
N	I, M, T
D	G, T
U	A
W	A, M, R, U
R	A, N, W
I	A, N
G	M, N, O
M	A, N, I
T	A, N

COMMONLY USED SPANISH NUMBERS AND WORDS

<u>English</u>	<u>Spanish</u>
Zero	Cero
One	Uno
Two	Dos
Three	Tres
Four	Cuatro
Five	Cinco
Six	Seis
Seven	Siete
Eight	Ocho
Nine	Nueve
Attention	Atención
End	Final
Set	Grupo
Repeat	Repeto

USEFUL ADDITIONS

How about a long play recorder? They are very useful in spite of their many drawbacks, notably the price -- pricey, very pricey -- and on the models I've checked, the automatic shutoff never functions! A very serious drawback. There's also the problem of the super-thin mylar. You have to use C-190 tape to attain the advertised hours of recording time. And the audio? Terrible! There's no valid reason why a reasonably priced unit with decent audio can't be offered to the SWL community.

Even with the mentioned problems, I definitely would not be without my "extended play." It sure beats all night in front of the rig to ascertain just what happens on any particular numbers frequency over an extended period of time. It's a relatively simple matter to chart the counter readings of the recorder to time segments.

Computers? Very definitely! A computer database is a must if you are a serious numbers monitor.

LISTEN CAREFULLY

If you listen very carefully to the five-digit and CW transmissions you find that the pause after every 10th group is slightly longer than between the other groups of the crypt. Record at 2.4 cm and play back at 1.2 cm and the pause after every 10th group is very prominent.

You'll also notice the same on all four-digit Spanish and English transmissions.

Remember the 96 "clicks" per minute that were once heard before, during and after four-digit Spanish and English transmissions? The same number of clicks or whatever, were once common on many five-digit Spanish transmissions. This continues to be noted on some of the five-digit transmissions.

And what about that "random keying" often heard before and after transmissions? This keying is very definitely from a different transmitter! On many occasions I have heard this CW stations with -... ..--... .. (DE ? HI) before and after transmissions! Now this is all very cute, using a question mark for a callsign and "Hi" which denotes laughter!

One more thing: The number of groups is twelve per minute on five-digit Spanish. The very same for four-digit English and

Spanish. The one exception that I have noted is the live or non-computer generated five-digit Spanish transmissions.

BLEEPS AND BLUNDERS

Overly modulated and badly distorted signals are the rule when it comes to five-digit Spanish transmissions. Always, except in some very rare instances, one or the other.

Transmissions often abruptly cease and resume after short, and at times, lengthy delays. "On-air" tape rewinds are common as are false starts. There are several times when one or two of the groups will consist of six characters rather than five. This may be a machine error or intentional.

The audio level is often so low on some transmissions that it would be next to impossible for those at the receive site to copy anything but a small portion of the transmission.

If I were in the spy business, I'd be damned if I would depend on these transmissions for my instructions! Another line of work would be found if my case officer could provide no better means of communications!

Harmonics (2nd and 3rd) are often reported from Florida and Virginia. I was under the impression that sound engineering practices would dictate no harmonics. California also reports harmonics on some 9 MHz frequencies.

And spurs -- well, numerous up-and-down frequency for many kHz are often reported from Florida and Virginia! Very sloppy, guys!

Often times, you'll hear one or two very faint numbers transmissions underneath the primary transmissions! There are times when Radio Havana Cuba mixes with numbers transmissions! Voice of America mixing has also been noted!

There is also the possibility that this apparent technical ineptness is nothing more than theatrics! Such things have been known to happen.

And the four-digit crowd? They are, without question, the "ne plus ultra" of the numbers world! They are, most of the time, professional!

NATIVE LANGUAGE NOT NECESSARILY SPANISH?

One of the former SPEEDX editors once reported a very interesting happening during a rather lengthy numbers transmission. Here's what happened:

After termination of her message, an English speaking YL (woman) along with a German speaking YL could be heard recording their traffic! The signal level was only slightly lower than that of the Spanish speaking YL!

Compromises such as the above are very common on five-digit Spanish transmissions. Listen very carefully. Who know what you might hear!

LOCATIONS -- FIVE DIGIT SPANISH

My Florida sources tell me that a 4825 kHz transmission at 1330 UTC and at 0500 UTC has been determined to be coming from a site near Palm Beach International Airport in Florida!

There's also the possibility that 0200, 0230, 0300, 0330 and 0400 UTC (Wednesday only) transmissions on 3090, 3445, 4445 and 4052 kHz are coming from sites in Broward or Palm Beach

County, Florida! My Florida information sources are very skills and have always been accurate.

Daytime transmissions on Saturdays and Sundays on 3090 and 5080 kHz were once well received in the area of Ocala, Florida.

Signal levels of over S9 were monitored in the spring of 1985 in this area of Florida using a Sony 2001 with no external antenna. Transmissions at 1500, 1530, 1600, 1630, 1700, 1730, 1900, 1930, 2000 and 2030 UTC were all at about the same signal level! It is believed that these signals originate from a site near the Kennedy Space Center or Patrick Air Force Base!

Additionally, strong daytime signals in excess of S9 have been monitored on 3090 and 4030 kHz in the vicinity of Pensacola, Florida, and Mobile, Alabama!

One of the strangest five-digit Spanish transmissions was monitored in 1985 while in Boston. It was at 0230 UTC on 3090 kHz. This over S9 signal was received on a Panasonic portable while in my top floor hotel room in the downtown area. I could view Boston Commons from the window. I have no logical explanation for this transmission!

A former government source, non-FCC, recently told me that during much of 1979, five-digit transmissions were coming from a site very near Williamsburg, Virginia. Signals were reported to be over S9 on 3060 kHz during most daylight hours! This source would go into no further detail! Two other very qualified investigators have known of these Florida sites for two or three years! Why do they remain silent?

Other equally informed sources tell me that some five-digit Spanish transmission sites are near Isle of Palms, South Carolina, near Charleston!

And here's a statement from a former government communications expert:

". . . don't overlook the fact that many of the 1030 kHz transmitting towers on Cuba would 'load' very well at 3090 kHz . . ."

Numbers monitors are reminded that very often newly discovered frequencies enjoy a brief life and seem to vanish from the spectrum for weeks or months at a time!

00932

"SPANISH LADY'S CIPHERS
TRACKED BY HAMS TO CIA"
Front page headlines!
Los Angeles Herald (Examiner)

FOUR-DIGIT TRANSMISSION FORMS

The date was Sunday, April 22, 1984 and under the byline of Kerry Webster. Very likely the first time a numbers station made front page news of a major daily! Here's a part of what Kerry had to say:

" . . . At least one 'Spanish lady' is believed to reside, not in Havana or Managua, but in a concrete block building at Warrenton, Va. -- just over 32 miles as the crow flies, from the headquarters of the CIA.

"The heavily guarded installation, bristling with towers and antennae is identified on signs as the 'Army Training Warrenton Training Center, Station D.' The Pentagon says its mission is classified . . ."

TRANSMISSION FORMAT

"361" (Identifier?)
1234567890
----- (10 electronic tones)
"Grupo 10" (repeated two times)
8755 2120 3656 2961 1145
7655 3111 0109 9143 1131
"Repeto Grupo 10"
Message repeated
"Fin" (ends transmission)

Four and five-digit English transmission formats are similar to the above.

Many four-digit Spanish and English transmissions come from a Warrenton/Remington, Virginia, transmitter site. Some commonly monitored "3/2" digit English transmissions as well as "cut number" transmissions emanate from this site.

The cut numbers that originate from the above site are:

A, U, V, 4, E, 6, B, D, N and T

Transmissions are in slow CW!

Much information on the above site was reported some time ago on the pages of Monitoring Times of Brasstown, North Carolina.

Long before the Monitoring Times revelation, one of the former SPEEDX bulletin editors stated that some English and Spanish transmissions were coming from a site very near Portland, Oregon! When I read of this Portland site, I made inquiries for further information. None of my sources, at that time, appeared to have any knowledge of a numbers site at that particular location.

It has only been in recent months that I was able to confirm that, at one time, four-digit Spanish and English transmissions were indeed coming from a Portland, Oregon, site. My source would not say if such transmissions continue.

Exactly where in the Portland area? My source refused comment. For what purpose? Again, no comment! The information source, however, is reliable.

It has also been rumored over the years that there is an English and Spanish numbers transmitter site located at Tampa, Florida! This may or may not be true. I have no direct confirmation on this matter.

In Miami, Florida, there is a site located just west of the new Dade County Metro Zoo that's marked with U.S. Army/NCS signs. Similar signs exist in and around the Warrenton/Remington, Virginia, sites.

The Miami site is operated by the U.S. Army Communications Service Detachment. High frequency log-periodic antennae are very noticeable from some distance. Additionally, a large number of VHF/UHF directional and unidirectional antennae are on various buildings and towers.

Wackenhut Security personnel, armed with .38 caliber revolvers and 9 mm Uzi submachine guns are on continual foot patrol at this site! They do not answer questions! The purpose of this site is unknown!

WARRENTON FREQUENCIES

4307 kHz	10,665 kHz
4670	11,532
5090	11,605
5238	14,250
5812	14,421
6802	14,750
6840	15,651
7725	16,450
8418	12,156
9074	13,808
9222	18,737
9958	

Numbers monitors are reminded that there are many other frequencies in use by four-digit Spanish and English stations that are not in use at Warrenton/Remington! There are domestic as well as non-continental United States sites!

"There will come an age of small and independent nations whose first line of defense will be knowledge."

Charles Proteus Steinmetz

PHONETIC ALPHABET STATIONS

The circumstances really haven't changed drastically in well over a decade. It's intrigue in the guise of another English speaking YL with a somewhat mechanical-sounding voice repeating the same "four element" alphanumeric groups for several minutes. The intercepted groups, or possibly calls, are usually "Kilo Papa Alpha Two," "Charlie India Oscar Two," or "Victor Lima Bravo Two."

A common frequency in the past has been 7445 kHz. Typical times are often 0215 or 0245 UTC. Transmissions have been difficult to copy and are best received, in most cases, in the USB mode.

Hundreds of these intercepts have been reported over the years to most of the monitoring clubs that cater to utility transmission buffs. Phonetic alphabet traffic is often reported with few, if any, comments.

One of the many areas of neglect has been the active "traffic frequency" of 7540 kHz. This frequency in the past has been active five minutes after cessation of 7445 kHz activity!

The "traffic format" is as follows:

- (01) "JID" (Phonetically for several minutes)
- (02) "Message" (Repeated twice)
- (03) "Group four" (Repeated twice)
- (04) "Test" (Repeated twice)
- (05) "HTIWF BEICI ZNVNG QBIMU" (Phonetically)
- (06) "End of message" (Repeated twice)
- (07) "Repeat" (Repeated twice)
- (08) "Message" (Repeated twice)
- (09) "Group four" (Repeated twice)
- (10) "Text" (Repeated twice)
- (11) "HTIWF BEICI ZNVNG QBIMU" (Phonetically)
- (12) "End of transmission" (Repeated twice)

If more than one message is transmitted, element #12 changes to: "End of messages."

The 3-element identifier (?) in element #1 continually changes.

SELECTED PHONETIC ALPHABET STATION TRANSMISSION FORMAT AND
CRYPT: AN AUTHENTIC INTERCEPT

23 December 1984

0520 UTC

7445 kHz

"KPA2" (Phonetically until 0524 UTC

(Traffic frequency for above is 7540 kHz)

0525 UTC

7540 kHz

"JSR" (Phonetically)

"Group four" . . (Repeated twice)

"Text" (Repeated twice)

"IFHTN BIECI NGNVZ BMIUQ"

(Crypt is repeated again phonetically)

"End of message" . . (Repeated twice)

"End of transmission" . . (Repeated twice)

Pay particular attention to the "nonstandard" pronunciation of the phonetic alphabet. "November" is always pronounced as "no vem beer." This would be indicative of a "voice recognition system" at the receiving site! Highly regarded experts contend that these are MOSSAD (Israeli Intelligence) transmissions!

SELECTED PHONETIC ALPHABET STATION FREQUENCIES

ru = Reduced upper carrier SSB

u = USB

ART (ru) 3415, 5437 kHz

BAC (ru) 4560, 5910* kHz

CIO (u) 6790, 9325, 9965, 10125, 13921, 17966 kHz

EZI (u) 6840*, 11565, 17410 kHz

FLU (ru) 4056*, 6500 kHz

GBZ (ru) 4882, 6270 kHz

KPA (ru) 7445 kHz

MIW (ru) 8641 kHz

PCD (ru) 3150 kHz

RCH (ru) 5091* kHz

ULX (ru) 4882 kHz

VLB (ru) 4670*, 7605 kHz

YHF (ru) 5820, 7918 kHz

Some of the above frequencies will be in "multiple" use at various times.

* - Common 4 and 5-digit Spanish and English transmission frequencies. "Beacons" also often noted on these frequencies.

"End of message"

"Strange things are happening everyday."
Sister Rosetta Tharpe

"RUT QRU"
A FEW MINUTES OF A FEW DAYS IN JULY

The actual intercept logs tell most of this story . . .
14968 kHz

4 July 1980
1900 UTC "K" Beacon (CW)
1922 UTC Random keying for 15 seconds
1930 UTC "RUT RUT RUT QRU QRU QRU" (CW)
1935 UTC Transmission terminates with "SK"
1936 UTC "K" Beacon continues

This "K" beacon is thought to originate from the vicinity of the Kurile Islands, USSR. These islands are located south of Kamchatka and northeast of Hokkaido, Japan.

14968 kHz
6 July 1980
1930 UTC "RUT RUT RUT QRU QRU QRU" (CW)
1935 UTC Terminates with "SK"

No beacon or traffic noted before or after this CW transmission.

14968 kHz
13 July 1980
1930 UTC
Same as 6 July
14968//10570 kHz
2223 UTC English speaking YL in AM transmission mode with:
"134 402 652 513" (continually until 2230 UTC)

14968 kHz
14 July 1980
1930 UTC "RUT RUT RUT QRU QRU QRU" (CW)
1935 UTC Terminates with "SK"

No traffic or beacon noted before or after this transmission. QRU, incidentally, means "I have nothing for you."

14968 kHz
15 July 1980
1815 UTC "K" Beacon (CW)

These are very possibly the same frequencies and transmission types that the late C. M. Stanbury wrote about in his "DX Korner" column in the now defunct S9 magazine. In the April 1980 edition, Stanbury, as colorful and controversial a writer as ever to grace the SWL scene, said that some of the coded (emphasis mine -- HM) broadcasts consisting of five, four or three-digit groups had been traced to a Havana transmitter site! Stanbury neglected to mention the method or methods used to trace these transmissions to Havana.

Stanbury also stated in this same column that in late November of 1979 numbers stations become more active than usual. It is on the 28th of November of 1979 that Stanbury claims a major (emphasis mine -- HM) discovery. Stanbury says that sometime before 1330 EST one numbers station was transmitting a "marker signal" on 10570 and 14960 kHz. The "marker," according to Stanbury, consisted of a "long count" in Spanish by the usual female voice with the usual "clicks" in the background.

Stanbury stated that when he tuned in a couple of minutes before 1330 EST the 10570 kHz signal was at least four S units stronger than any 25M shortwave broadcasting station (including Havana which left the band at 1330 EST). Stanbury says that on November 28th there was no question the numbers marker was coming from the Eastern US or Canada. Stanbury believed that his intercept indicated a transmission from the Soviet or other Eastern European embassies, or possibly the Cuban Embassy in Ottawa.

It is believed that the actual frequency that Stanbury described was 14968 kHz rather than 14960 kHz. The actual frequencies in use at that time were 6840/10570/14968 kHz. It has now been determined that some four and five-digit Spanish and English transmissions on 6840 kHz as well as many other frequencies originate from a Warrenton/Remington, Virginia transmitter complex.

Another curious aspect of these transmissions is the sudden cessation of activity of 10570//14960 kHz after one of my early 1980 columns detailing some of the transmission activities of these frequencies. This is also about the same time that an article in regards these and other numbers transmissions appeared in Radio-Electronics magazine. These frequencies were mentioned in that article!

Let's be very careful with "RUT!" There is a distinct possibility of this NOT being a Soviet callsign!

Here's the reason: Let's consider the possibility of RU as being "made up" from the "letter-number" crypto vocabulary groups of the Morse transmission heard on many five-digit Spanish frequencies!

Let's take another look at these "cut-number" groups:

- | | |
|-------|-------|
| A = 1 | R = 6 |
| N = 2 | I = 7 |
| D = 3 | G = 8 |
| U = 4 | M = 9 |
| W = 5 | T = 0 |

"RUT," if using the above list would equate to "640!" This, of course, must be viewed as nothing more than speculation. I would seriously doubt, however, that "RUT" was a valid Soviet callsign! The more likely assumption is that it was some type of identifier!

I still, however, have many questions about these transmissions. Among them: Was "RUT" or possibly "640" the "callsign" of the receive site? Had there ever been traffic for RUT? If there had, in the past, been traffic for RUT, was it of the Spanish or English types? What would be the nature of such traffic? Why the abrupt cessation of activity in 1980?

If "640" were the call, then it might be possible to relate these four-digit English and Spanish transmissions to those of the five-digit variety! This, obviously, is only speculation. We all know that the five-digit are the bad guys! We've been told that often enough!

Numbers monitors are reminded that 10578 and 14968 kHz were once active with all types of "mystery" transmissions including Spanish transmissions of the five-digit type! Phonetic Alphabet stations were also once noted on these frequencies.

The frequency of 6840 kHz continues to be very active with all types of transmissions!

The above intercept logs are from the private and not the government sector.

22212

"Achtung!"

WHO'S WHO IN THE GERMAN NUMBERS WORLD
(Selected frequencies)

"Two letter phonetic" sign-on. Five digits repeated twice in German or English (mostly German)

		<u>Phonetic identifiers</u>
3228	kHz (u)	AM/ER
3262	(u)	AM/ER
4543	(u)	DK/IT
4594	(u)	DK/MU
5015	(a)	PN
7404	(a)	PN
8173	(u)	FS/BJ
9325	(u)	AR
9450	(u)	FB
10,177	(u)	FB
10,740	(u)	AR/OT/UB
11,108	(a)	PN
11,545	(u)	CD/GC
13,775	(u)	GC
14,622	(u)	OT/WR
14,945	(u)	KW
15,610	(u)	KW
16,220	(u)	HK
19,295	(u)	HK

Nauen and Magdeburg are confirmed German numbers transmission sites. The latter, to the best of my knowledge, has not been made public until now. My sources tell me that English and Russian numbers transmissions also emanate from this Magdeburg site! One of the "phonetic identifiers" for the Magdeburg site, claims my source, is "hotel golf!"

It is a widely held belief many of these transmissions originate from East Germany. All of the German transmissions in this section utilize a female voice. A female voice, synthesized or otherwise, is common to all but a minority of numbers transmissions.

FIVE-DIGIT GERMAN/ENGLISH: This family of German numbers stations transmits each group twice. Additionally, "NNN" in CW begins and ends each transmission.

6997 kHz (a)
7379 kHz (a)
9052 kHz (a)
9068 kHz (a)
9973 kHz (a)
11,415 kHz (a)

GERMAN THREE/TWO DIGIT: sign-on as: "929 07 44 190" (repeated)

4395 kHz (u)
5315 kHz (u)
5910 kHz (u)
6355 kHz (u)
6708 kHz (u)

GERMAN FIVE-DIGIT: These circuits utilize a "music box" introduction with groups repeated twice.

4395 kHz (u)
5748 kHz (u)

GERMAN FIVE-DIGIT WITH "MUSIC SCALE" SIGN-ON

3370 kHz (u)
4010 kHz (u)

Note the variety of German broadcasts! The five-digit USB German transmissions on 3370 and 4010 kHz have, in past years, been linked to many of the West German spy scandals. This revelation received some minor attention on national television some years ago.

A Florida source once reported five-digit German transmissions on 3820 kHz at 2200 UTC. Transmissions with excellent signal levels were noted on a near daily basis during October of 1985! Groups were repeated twice!

GERMAN NUMBERS

<u>English</u>	<u>German</u>
Zero	Null
One	Eins
Two	Zwei
Three	Drei
Four	Vier
Five	Fünf
Six	Sechs
Seven	Sieben
Eight	Acht
Nine	Neun

Informed Florida sources tell me that there is a very real possibility of some 3/2-digit and five-digit German transmissions originating from an unidentified Cuban site! These sources tell me that German transmissions are easily heard on several 3 MHz frequencies during daylight hours! Signal levels are said to be in excess of S9!

Another source tells me that the pronunciation of some of the numbers in German transmissions are not standard East or West German military pronunciations! My source says that they are civilian pronunciations! Very interesting!

THE NAZI SS AND THE NUMBERS

Bizarre! That was my first and only thought since hearing of a sinister Nazi enclave and transmitter complex hidden deep in the foothills of the Chilean Andes just south of Santiago!

Equally bizarre was the statement from a colleague of the possibility of some German numbers transmissions originating from this site! The slight possibility of such a sinister happening was somewhat reinforced by another source that once told me that our very own FCC had once stated that some numbers transmissions (language not identified) originated from this part of South America!

This site does exist! Glen B. Infield describes this site in Secrets of the SS (Stein and Day). According to Infield, Colonia Dignidad (Noble Colony) has an airstrip and a private communications system to keep in radio contact with a site in Sieburg, Germany.

My own phone calls to sources that would be knowledgeable of such matters provided vague promises of information to come. These sources readily admitted to knowledge of this secret complex but would provide no information on the phone.

And information did arrive some weeks after my original phone call. The information, however, was that I should contact the National Security Agency for information on this noble (?) colony! And that's the very thing I intend not to do. My intentions, as soon as time allows, are to pursue this bizarre tale through other sources.

Is there any truth, any small amount of truth, in the above numbers statements?

Well, maybe so and maybe not. I do know that one source suddenly became stricken with a severe memory lapse as I pursued this subject!

You'll have to agree that this transmitter complex with its "antenna farm" does not exactly exist to further enhance the natural beauty of the Chilean foothills.

I paid scant attention to the words of the man at the FCC when he suggested I file a Freedom of Information Act Petition with -- you guessed it -- the NSA to see if they had information on radio transmissions from this site. The NSA? They're the "existence or nonexistence" of such information is a duly classified matter people!

"Ende"

20535

"ignotum per ignotius"¹

SELECTED INCIDENTS

BOCA RATON, FLORIDA

A numbers monitor from near Boca Raton reports a most unusual incident during a five-digit Spanish transmission at 1322 UTC on 25 July 1986. Here's a portion of what this numbers monitor reported:

"I had just tuned to 5780 kHz for the repeat of a numbers transmission I had been monitoring on 4825 kHz when the carrier came up at 1322 UTC with -- of all things -- the Palm Beach International Airport Beacon ("PB" .--. -...) underneath the numbers station. I quickly tuned another receiver to 350 kHz and the sequence was exact. This was definitely the "PB" beacon! This beacon continued to be audible when the actual numbers transmission began at 1330 UTC!"

This is not the first time that very strange numbers incidents have been reported from behind the "Pink Flamingo Curtain!"

"SCREAMERS" AND CRYPTS

I would hope that the following explanation of a most unusual transmission is not more obscure than the transmission being explained.

31 March 1986
0600 UTC
4030 kHz with repeat on 3090 kHz at 0630 UTC
"Atención 356 120 105"
"120 120 120"
"...43480..."
"105 105 105"
"...46258..."
"Final"

¹Explanation that is more obscure than the thing being explained.

A different voice was utilized for the five-digit groups "43480" and "46258" when this tape was first computer generated. Groups that are emphasized by such techniques are sometimes referred to as "screamers." They are used to attract attention.

In the above situation it is possible that these groups were to be acted upon in a different manner than the other portions of they crypts.

The group "43480" was the 98th group of the 120 group crypt. The group "46258" was the 68th group of the 105 group crypt. The voice on all other groups was that of the YL normally heard on these two frequencies.

Could it be that these two groups were "frequency indicators" for traffic at a later time?

A RUSSIAN NUMBERS TRANSMISSION

A New England numbers monitor reports that Russian numbers transmissions are often heard on 6839.5 kHz. No time reported.

UNUSUAL ENGLISH NUMBERS TRANSMISSION

A non-computer generated and live five-digit English transmission by a male announcer was intercepted on 30 March 1986 on 4044 kHz. Transmission mode was USB and the crypt was lengthy. This is a common five-digit Spanish frequency.

ODD CW TRANSMISSIONS

A CW station sending: "VVV DE BONNIE SUE" is often heard on 6840 kHz. This is a very active numbers frequency! Another CW station sending "OA3" and "OA4" continually is often heard on 6802 and 6840 kHz. Keep a close watch on these frequencies.

Another rather strange CW signal often heard on many five-digit Spanish frequencies is "CFM." "DE CFM" in CW is sent for several minutes before and after many five-digit Spanish transmissions!

BAUTA, CUBA

11 September 1985. The frequency was 5080 kHz when at 1330 UTC very strong and badly distorted five-digit Spanish was heard. Two slightly weaker five-digit Spanish transmissions were also heard in the background.

At the end of the stronger transmission, a Spanish speaking male was heard with many references to Managua and Bauta.

Readers are reminded that it is believed that some (not all) five-digit Spanish transmissions originate from Cuba's Bauta communications facility.

THE VOA(?) AGAIN

At 0112 UTC on 20 September 1984 and on a frequency of 9300 kHz what appeared to be a VOA "news feed" was heard mixing with what appeared to be a German numbers transmission. Abrupt off for both signals at 0121 UTC.

ANOTHER CURIOUS TRANSMISSION TYPE

A "phonetic alphabet" station transmission was heard mixing (?) with a four-digit Spanish transmission on 6840 kHz at 0200 UTC on 2 November 1985!

"EZI2" (phonetically) was joined by a four-digit Spanish transmission about five minutes after the start of the "EZI2" transmission. The four-digit Spanish transmission ended abruptly after about 30 seconds and ended in the middle of a group. It was also at this same time that the "EZI2" transmission ended! Very strange "knocking" type sounds were heard for several minutes after this curious "mix!"

INTERRUPTER SIGNALS

A colleague once told me that 15 hertz "interrupter signals" coming from a long distance phone line were once noticed at the end of a numbers transmission! This would indicate that the transmitter, at that particular time, was probably commanded, and program originated, from a remote source. Some very interesting implications here!

I have also been told, by sources that I believe to be reliable, that Florida's Patrick AFB has such capabilities for numerous transmitter sites. It is thought that some five-digit transmissions originate from a site near Patrick!

TOTALLY UNEXPLAINED

One of the strangest transmissions I've ever encountered occurred on 3445 kHz at 0140 UTC on 9 July 1986! The letter/number crypto alphabet used by CW stations was being sent in ascending order continually for approximately 20 minutes! Each character was transmitted 10 times then followed by what appeared to be a "data burst." Characters were machine generated CW.

"A" (repeated 10 times) "data burst?"

The very same thing for each of the characters! The regular five-digit transmission began after cessation of this strange activity at 0200 UTC!

And then there's the equally strange transmission just a few nights later at 0200 on 3445 kHz. In between the "group count" digits and the first digit of the crypt, a synthesized female voice in English with "This is Victor Echo." The remainder of the transmission continued in Spanish.

"quot homines, tot sententiae"²

NUMBERS FEEDBACK

Some of the more interesting views and opinions . . .

"On December 17, 1985, I intercepted a numbers transmission which was erroneously (emphasis mine - HM) put on in the 49-meter broadcasting band. At 1000 UTC on 6135 kHz a female (or perhaps computer synthesized) voice continuously announced the numbers zero, two, one, in the Polish language: "zero dwa jedna" (the latter pronounced as "jedena.")

"At about 1004 UTC, the engineer in charge apparently noticed the switching error (emphasis mine - HM) but made it worse by erroneously putting on a female voice in German "fuenf" (pronounced as "fuennef," meaning five). Then for about minute, switching clicks were audible, then the circuit was shut off.

"Now there are two stations using 6135 kHz as a major outlet. These are Radio Polonia [Poland, editor] (1130-0800 UTC) and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (1600-0230 UTC) and it would be fair to assume that the numbers transmission originated at either one of these transmitter parks. The voices heard could be computer synthesized, or beamed at computerized voice recognition systems at the receiving point, which would explain the nonstandard pronunciation of "fuennef" and "jedena" (instead of "fuenf" and "jedna.")

"Having to choose between Radio Polonia and RFE/RL as the possible source of this transmission, I would pick the latter, as RFE/RL used to have an official CIA connection. On the other hand, Jonathon Marks of Radio Netherlands once observed Radio Prague with a

²There are as many opinions as there are people.
Terrence

similar switching error involving a numbers transmission. So Radio Polonia is a possibility too."
(name withheld)

I'm confident many other "switching errors" have occurred over the years. One "switching error" might possibly have resulted in a couple of QSLs. . .

Here's another thought-provoking letter. . .

"I feel that there is a very good chance that the numbers transmissions are used by the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. to communicate with each other. They could be a backup system (emphasis mine - HM) should the Washington-Moscow "hot-line" be inoperative.

"The current transmissions are all test transmissions used to make sure the "numbers hot line" is operational. There is a landline link from Washington to the Virginia transmitter. Likewise, there is a link from Moscow to the Eastern European transmitter. The link from Moscow to Cuba is more of a puzzle. However, I am sure the U.S.S.R. runs the Cuban transmitter rather than Castro's government. . ."

(name withheld)

Readers are reminded that the "hot-line" was established in 1963. There are some in the SWL community that believe that this is about the time four-digit Spanish and English transmissions were first monitored!

The above writer also stated that in the event of a nuclear war, many high-tech electronic systems would be ruined by the blasts. A simple voice communication system is easier to repair and get back on-line than a RTTY system or satellite communications system.

Here's a response with a somewhat more sinister connotation. . .

". . . in the course of my familiarization with you and your article, I have noticed that on several occasions, both explicitly and implicitly, made futile attempts in search of information concerning number station locations and in particular those in South Florida. It's obvious that you know more than you let on and certainly with good reason. Therefore, I can only assume you merely solicit this information as a matter of additional confirmation and clarification.

"First of all, the Spanish 4-digit transmissions are for the most part, disinformation by U.S. Intelligence. I might add that these transmissions have been directly linked on numerous occasions to DoD installations, and is generally well known and considered to be a minor inconvenience to the Cubans.

"The Spanish 5-digit number transmissions are run by DGI (Cuban Intelligence). They have an established net that includes several U.S. installations as well as facilities on Cuba. However, one should not think that a small portion of these type transmissions are sponsored by anti-Castro Cuban terrorists both in this country and in Cuba.

"There has been, for example, one 5-digit Spanish numbers station run by DGI in South Florida for nearly 15 years. Most of the time this station has been located in various residences in the Hialeah, FL area. Other times in Key Largo, etc. The occupant apparently takes great strides to conceal its identity as it is moved around quite a bit (which tends to give the NSA a bad time) and by engaging in signal "laundering." These techniques are too numerous to list here but I've been lucky and with the help of contacts I've managed to locate the exact residence a few times. Even with that, I don't think the NSA has done that well. The code format is typical of KGB nets with some step/pattern variation, but nevertheless one can tell that distinctive "mad in Moscow" (by KGB 8th Directorate alma mater). I'm familiar with this code formula and have seen a copy of the code book and instructions."

(name withheld)

Well, how about that! I wonder if the above letter writer would believe that I have actually been inside a numbers station? Well . . .

It was also this same letter writer that suggested that I place an advertisement in the classified section of a major metropolitan newspaper! Sounds like something Maxwell Smart might attempt.

The above writer made contact one more time. This is a portion of his final contact"

". . . please keep in mind that numbers are used by many different principles and for many different purposes. I tried to stay within the majority use and purpose. As such, I know for a fact that the information is accurate as I have verified it thru [sic] several associates (including FBI, Foreign Counter Intelligence, among others) . . ."

Speaking of Florida . . . Seems that Florida is a veritable "spooks" paradise. Always has been. The Army Security Agency, Air Force Security and Navy Security Groups, all of which are under the operational control of NSA, are assigned to at least 3 locations in Florida.

Over 500 persons man a top-secret listening post on Card Sound Road in South Dade County near Homestead Air Force Base. Two related sites are located nearby.

In addition, the Air Force has over 30 Security personnel assigned to the Key West Naval Air Station. There are several hundred instructors and support personnel at the Navy Cryptologic School at Pensacola Naval Air Station in Northwest Florida.

The above information has been documented in many Florida newspapers over the past few years. This information was also reported during Senate Intelligence Committee hearings some years ago.

Here's another opinion . . .

". . . I was sitting here listening to the gal with the neat accent on 4670 with her chant of "Victor Lima Bravo Two." However, earlier I caught her sending "Yankee Hotel Foxtrot" at 0434 UTC on this date. (02 March 1985)

"This gal then sent a 40 group message (5 letters in each group -- each pronounced phonetically). Then she went through the "repeat-repeat" bit -- "Group 40" . . . started through again and abruptly cut off after the 19th group. After a minute or so, she started her "VLB2" bit -- with its usual "glitch" in the tape.

"Now, I really can't start taking this whole thing very seriously. I cannot imagine any "spy" operation being run so ineptly.

"Band conditions were poor -- lots of static -- and I missed a few letters here and there. And, I would imagine anyone listening would. Her stopping in the middle of a repeat is highly unprofessional . . .

"Obviously, the whole thing is on tape and some nerd just runs them. All of the frequencies this gal shows up on are carrier with USB.

"The only way to get a feel for these stations is to sit and listen for "goofs" and mixups or unusual happenings. Then you get an insight as to how "jerky" the operation is.

"Now comes our other gal in Spanish on 6802 kHz. These two gals really get around, don't they? There's 4670, 5812, 6802 and 6840 . . . sometimes simulcast.

"I knew this last channel would be active because the carrier was sitting there. The other (4670) went off. So, that's an easy way to know they will be on soon.

"There is a FSK CW beacon ("U") on 3636.6-3635.5 kHz (21 Feb 1985 at 0432 UTC).

"The CW beacons . . . the only thing they could be are propagation beacons. No big mystery there . . ."

Mr. [deleted] does not mince words! Maybe these gals took their training from the five-digit nitwits.

And here's a rumor that surfaces on many occasions:

". . . [deleted] is one of his books says that Lee Harvey Oswald received his Kennedy assassination instructions by way of five-digit Spanish transmissions . . ."

I have searched book after book and have never found any reference to the above statement. This is just one of those rumors that refuses to go away. The next one is a classic . . .

"I have good friends in the CIA and they will brake [sic] your nose and fingers if you don't stop messing around with those numbers . . ."

What can I say? One more thing: Thanks to all who took the time to write.

"About as interesting --information wise-- as
a cup of lukewarm decaffeinated coffee."

Eric Conners

SELECTED FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REPLIES

There's a strong opinion, and not altogether unwarranted, among many numbers monitors that there's some type of "conspiracy" of worldwide magnitude when it pertains to the releasing of meaningful information about these decades-old transmissions.

This opinion is really not all that surprising when you examine some of the "form-type" letters from the FCC and other government agencies in response to Freedom of Information Act petitions.

Over the past several years I have personally had the opportunity to examine many FOIA replies. FCC replies directed to different requesters are nearly identical. Only the dates and some few words of these FCC replies differ. I, for one, hardly think that near exact wording is by chance alone.

We'll examine the FCC replies as well as the role(?) the FCC plays in regards numbers transmissions in another chapter.

And what about the ITU? You tend to get just a little curious when these "keepers of the frequencies" appear to retain all numbers-related correspondence on file. A past examination of ITU numbers correspondence indicated that, in at least one instance, a requester's letter of many months earlier was referenced! Now that's what I call curious!

Of course we should all know that the ITU is under no mandate to answer any questions from sources outside the ITU.

Many people wonder about what is contained in FOIA replies. Who the heck really cares about some unimportant numbers monitor's request or much less the reply. A silly ritual? And why go to all the trouble to draft a formal request for information? Dumb. Maybe so and maybe not. But I understand it. Because I have filed requests because I desire whatever little, and it is often very little, bit of information I might obtain.

I have also been on "both sides of the fence" and can, in some few instances, appreciate the government's position as well as the position of the requester.

Governments, and especially some few of the agencies thereof, do not often subscribe to the old saying that it's more blessed to give than receive. In spite of this philosophy, I have been fortunate in having the opportunity to personally examine and, most importantly, publish the replies to many FOIA numbers requests.

Some restrictions, however, have been imposed on the publication of these replies. Names and addresses will not be used. Also, none of the parties involved would consent to the full replies being published. This is understandable. Obviously, some sanitization has been undertaken so as to protect the identity and location of these important sources of information.

Oddly enough, only one of the requesters of the following replies is a member of a listener's or monitoring club. All, however, possess state-of-the-art monitoring equipment and have a keen interest in numbers transmissions.

All requests were for information on five-digit Spanish activity on the frequencies of 3060 and 3090 kHz as well as other 3 and 4 MHz numbers activity.

ARMY SECURITY AGENCY (ASA)

"This is in response to your letter [deleted]. A search of files maintained at this headquarters failed to reveal any information concerning the radio transmissions you described in your letter. The National Security Agency (NSA) was also queried but could not supply any of the information you desire."

A very short time later a second and rather strange reply was received by the original requester to the ASA. The interpretation of this second reply is open to debate.

"In response to your letter of [deleted] reference is made to the Army Regulation (AR) 380-13. Department of the Army policy prohibits acquiring, reporting, processing or storing information on persons or organizations not affiliated with the Department of Defense, except in those circumstances when such information is essential to accomplish Department of the Army missions. The only cases where this type of action would be authorized are during operations related to the protection of U.S. Army personnel, functions and property and operations which are related to civil disturbances when there is a distinct threat to the civil disturbance exceeding the law enforcement capability of state and local authorities.

"Because of this policy, U.S. Army resources can't be used to assist you in acquiring data in the manner you have requested. If we can be of assistance in some other way please contact us [deleted] . . ."

The nature of this individual's FOIA request to the ASA was only for any releasable information in regards to 3060/3090 kHz five-digit Spanish transmissions! There was no request made to the ASA for aid in locating the source of these transmissions!

Two follow-up phone calls to the ASA produced some very vague hints that some five-digit Spanish transmissions were of domestic origin. There was also some rather vague references that the ASA did not, officially, wish to become involved in this matter!

AIR FORCE SECURITY SERVICE³

"Reference your FOIA request, [deleted]. The data that you requested is not on file at this headquarters; therefore, we are unable to comply with your request. Furthermore, this headquarters is not in a position to make a determination as to whether the data you seek is even in evidence.

"Should you desire to pursue this matter, we suggest that you contact the National Security Agency, Ft. Meade, Maryland, in order to ascertain whether or not this information exists."

DEFENSE COMMUNICATIONS AGENCY (DCA)

"[deleted]. Your request does not fall under the purview of this agency, however the following information should assist you in your research.

"The frequencies listed in your letter of [deleted] fall within the frequency bands allocated, on an international basis, for the Aeronautical Mobile Service (Off-Route).

"The frequency of 3090 kHz is not an established "off-route" channel; however, the adjacent channels, 3088 and 3095 kHz are allotted to Brazil, Bermuda, Canada, Chile, Cuba, Greenland, Hawaii, Canal Zone, Puerto Rico and the United States; Argentina, Canada Costa Rica, Dominican Republic and Peru, respectively.

"It has been determined that the broadcasts cited in your FOIA request are not (emphasis mine - HM) emanating from U.S. Department of Defense sources."

I would assume that this last paragraph means that DoD transmitters are not used for these transmissions. This, however, does not rule out transmitters owned, leased or operated by U.S. Government contractors.

And what about those concerns that have been granted and experimental license? And while we're at it -- what about those with diplomatic immunity? Diplomatic immunity could be a very interesting topic of conversation!

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

"This is in response to your FOIA request [deleted].

"The information you seek does not come under the jurisdiction of the Air Force. You should address

³The name of the above security agency has been changed since this FOIA request was filed. It is now called Air Force Electronic Security Command (ARESC). In addition to NSA, this agency has very close ties to the CIA!

your inquiries in this area to: Federal Communications Commission, 1919 M Street NW, Washington, DC 20554.

"We hope we have been of service to you."

DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY (DIA)

"The Defense Intelligence Agency does not possess the communications data you are seeking."

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION (FAA)

"This is in response to [deleted] in which you requested information concerning radio transmissions other than aeronautical which might emanate from FAA transmitter sites near [deleted]. You additionally requested information regarding the use of these sites by any Federal intelligence or security agency.

"FAA headquarters has no information which would indicate that any FAA transmitter sites in [deleted] are transmitting other than aeronautical information. We have no agreements with any U.S. government agency or service for joint use of any FAA transmitter sites at [deleted].

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL (NSC)

"[deleted] in which you request, under the provisions of the FOIA, information pertaining to "encoded radio transmissions" in the [deleted] area. The NSC staff has conducted a thorough search of the files and was unable to locate any documents concerning the information outlined in your FOIA request."

NAVAL SECURITY GROUP COMMAND HEADQUARTERS (NSG)

"[deleted] requesting information under the FOIA was received at this office [deleted].

"Please be advised that Headquarters, Naval Security Group Command does not have any of the information concerning the encoded radio transmissions cited in your letter."

OFFICE OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE (ONI)

"[deleted] was received by this office on [deleted]. The type of information you requested required the tasking of our various field activities for review of their files. Hopefully, we will have a favorable answer for you as soon as possible, but certainly no later than [deleted].

"Please feel welcome to contact us by telephone in order to facilitate handling your request."

A few days later the promised reply was received by the individual that filed the original FOIA petition.

Here's a portion of that reply:

"On [deleted] you were sent a letter informing you that we were tasking our various field activities to review their files in response to your request of [deleted] which was made under the provisions of the FOIA.

"This research has now been completed and I regret to inform you that we were unable to locate any information or documents concerning your request."

What research?

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD (USCG)

"This letter is in response to your [deleted] FOIA request concerning encoded radio transmissions. The frequencies you have listed are not assigned for use by the Coast Guard and we have no information pertaining to your request. Suggest you contact the FCC for possible (emphasis mine - HM) assistance."

And what about the CIA? They had less to say than any of the others. The CIA claimed that a search of their files revealed no information! Maybe they searched the janitorial files.

I do know, however, of one instance of the CIA telling another requester that he should contact the nearest office of the FBI in regards five-digit Spanish transmissions! That's very curious!

Official statements of the above type only serve to further enhance the mystique of the numbers.

In a later chapter we'll examine, in depth, numbers replies from the FCC and some most amazing official comments of a much different nature!

"pour encourager les autres"⁴

NSA -- OFFICIAL INTIMIDATION?

"Should you desire to pursue this matter, we suggest that you contact the National Security Agency, Ft. Meade, Maryland, in order to ascertain whether or not this information exists."
Air Force Security Service

A FOIA reply from the National Security Agency (NSA) was, or so it appears, designed to . . . Read and reach your own conclusion!

"This replies to your letter of [deleted], in which you request access to certain information relating to radio transmissions.

"The fact of the existence or nonexistence of any specific intelligence information which might fall within the scope of your request is a properly classified matter (emphasis mine - HM) under criteria set forth in paragraph 2-303, Department of Defense (DoD) Regulation 5200.1-R, which implements Executive Order 11652. Thus your request is denied, as any information with respect to your request, if such information existed, would be exempt from disclosure under Title 5 U.S.C. 552(b) (1) as a matter properly classified in its entirety pursuant to Executive Order 11652 and DoD Regulation 5200.1-R.

"In addition, this Agency is precluded by law from providing information on the specific results of its classified activities except to those persons authorized to receive such information. The President and the heads of departments or agencies expressly designated by the President may authorize the persons who can receive classified information. This agency has no information which indicates that you have been authorized to receive classified information

⁴To encourage the others (by frightening them).
Voltaire

concerning intelligence activities of the United States Government. Title 5 U.S.C. 552(b) (3) exempts matters which are specifically protected from disclosure by statute. The appropriate statutes in this case are: Title 18 U.S.C. 798; Title 50 U.S.C. 403(d) (3); and Section 6 of Public Law 86-36. DoD Directive 5400.7, Section VI.C.3. specifically recognizes this exemption. Thus, your request for this information, if such existed, would also be denied as exempt under Title 5 U.S.C. 552(b) (3) as information specifically protected from disclosure by statute.

"As this response may be construed as a denial (emphasis mine - HM) of your request, you are hereby advised that Section 2200.4 of Title 32 of the Code of Federal Regulations provides this Agency's appeals procedures. Section 2200.4 is quoted herein to advise you of those procedures:

"Section 2200.4 Appeals.

"Any person denied access to records may, within 30 days after notification of such denial, file an appeal to the Executive for Staff Services, National Security Agency/Central Security Services, Fort George G. Meade, MD 20755, shall reference the initial denial of access issued by the Agency to the requester and shall contain in sufficient detail and particularity [sic] the grounds upon which the requester believes release of the information is required. The Executive for Staff Services shall respond to the appeal within 20 working days after receipt of the appeal."

This requester of information from NSA was, to say the very least, less than intimidated! You might say that this particular requester was amused and very quickly filed an appeal that, very possibly, corroded a few daggers and burned several holes in a few cloaks!

And, just a few days later . . .

"This responds to your letter [deleted] appealing the decision of the National Security Agency (NSA) Information Officer to deny you access to the records and/or information you requested [deleted].

"I have reviewed your original request for information, the records search conducted pursuant thereto, the NSA Information Officer's reply to you, and your reasons for appeal. I have concluded that a thorough search was made of this Agency's records, and report, as I felt the Information Officer meant to, that we located no information which falls within the scope of your request.

"I would suggest you might find the Reference Data For Radio Engineers, Fifth Edition, published by

International Telephone and Telegraph helpful. This publication can be found in most major libraries, and contains information relative to the identity and location of all legitimate (emphasis mine - HM) radio transmitters throughout the world. Information contained in this publication is extracted, in part, from the Berne Listing, published in the French language by the International Telecommunications Union in Berne, Switzerland. The Berne Listing also is available in some libraries.

"From the nature of your request it appears that the Federal Communications Commission may have an interest in the information you have furnished. We have therefore referred your request to the FCC for any help they may be able or willing (emphasis mine - HM) to provide."

Pay particular attention to the contradictions in the NSA reply to the appeal! Come on, guys, who do you think you are kidding? The requester tells me that the FCC finally responded with one of their "we-have-no-information-type" of letters. So what else is new?

The two of us, however, would really like to know just what the hell the Reference Data for Radio Engineers has to do with numbers transmissions? I imagine that only God and NSA can answer that question. And you well know who's not speaking. If you think the above is not typical, read the following small portion of another reply to a numbers FOIA request.

". . . you should be aware that what you are doing may be in violation of the Federal Communications Act of 1934 . . ."

I wonder if the Federal Communications Act of 1934 is the same thing as the Communications Act of 1934?

"There are lies more
believable than truth."

Gypsy saying
Jan Yoors,
"The Gypsies"

SELECTED FCC FOIA REPLIES

Readers are reminded that the following FCC FOIA replies are in regard to five-digit Spanish transmissions on 3060 and 3090 kHz. Some "sanitization" has been utilized so as to conceal the names and locations of the original requesters.

The following reply had its start with a request to the International Frequency Registration Board for numbers related information. The IFRB forwarded this request to the FCC for further action. Here's a small portion of the IFRB reply:

"I am to advise you that the International Telecommunication Union of which the International Frequency Registration Board is an integral part, is an intergovernmental organization. It deals exclusively with the governmental departments of the countries which are parties to the International Telecommunication Convention.

"From the question raised in your letter it would appear that the information desired may be obtained from the Telecommunication Administration of the U.S.A., . . .

"A copy of your letter together with a copy of the present reply are being forwarded to that Administration."

Here is a portion of what the FCC had to say after receiving a copy of the request and IFRB letter.

"I wish to acknowledge receipt of a copy of your letter to the International Frequency Registration Board dated [deleted], by which you sought information concerning the use of the frequency 3060 kHz.

"This particular frequency is in a band that is allocated for use by the Aeronautical Mobile (OR) Service. In the United States, assignments in this

band are only made to U.S. government agencies. Since the FCC does not make assignments to U.S. government agencies, I am unable to provide information regarding stations in this band. (emphasis mine - HM)

"If you wish to obtain further information on assignments in the subject band, you should address your request to:

[deleted]
Interdepartment Radio Advisory Committee

. . .

"Copies of your letter, the IFRB response and this letter are being forwarded to the Executive Secretary, IRAC . . ."

The requester, in the above instance, tells me no reply was received from IRAC. IRAC is not the only government agency that has not responded to numbers inquiries! During the latter part of 1986, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and another agency that, for the present time, shall remain unidentified, have not replied to numbers FOIA requests! This "non-response" is in direct violation of Executive Order number 11652! This is the Executive Order that created the Freedom of Information Act.

My associate, Eric Conners, is very concerned about this strange turn of events! And this concern is shared with several other interested parties. This situation is being closely monitored!

The following series of replies originated from a single request for information of 3060 and 3090 kHz numbers activity. Notice how the FCC, or the Commission, just can't seem to get its act together!

". . . addressed to our [deleted] monitoring station, requesting information on radio signals on 3060 and 3090 kHz.

"We have determined that the signals you described are emanating from outside the United States. (emphasis mine - HM) Consequently, this administration has no jurisdiction over the operation. Regretfully, we have no definitive information to give you. . ."

Regretfully, the FCC did not see any legitimate reason to explain to this particular requester just what "means," if any were undertaken to determine just where these particular numbers transmitters were located.

The requester, after this reply, decided to go the Freedom of Information (FOIA) route one more time in an effort to obtain further FCC clarification. Here's a portion of the FOIA reply:

". . . as a result of your original inquiry, direction finding bearings were obtained on the radio signal in question. These bearings resulted in a direction

finding "fix" which placed the origin of the signals outside the United States. With reference to your suggestion of local origin, it should be pointed out that the normal daytime propagation range of the frequency in question is several hundred miles. This encompasses several foreign countries in Central America . . ."

The original request was for transmissions on 3060 and 3090 kHz at 1700 UTC! Signal levels at the requester's location at the time of the FOIA request were well over S9! Additionally, this location was well over several hundred miles from any country in Central America!

By now, the original requester was increasingly upset by the FCC replies and decided that, at the very least, one more try was in order. The next response:

" . . . this is in response to your inquiries concerning the identity and location of a radio station operating on 3060 and 3090 kHz transmitting encoded voice and Morse code traffic. On [deleted] a letter was sent to you clarifying the situation . . ."

Maybe the FCC's definition of "clarification" is different than the dictionary definition!

"As was noted previously, at the time of your initial inquiry the Commission had no information with respect to any transmission as identified by you. However, on the basis of your inquiry, and essentially as a courtesy to you, (emphasis mine - HM) the FCC monitoring network provided radio direction finding bearings which, when plotted on a gnomonic-projection chart, resulted in a "fix" for the vicinity of Havana, Cuba. We therefore, consider the identity of the station to be "Cuban" in accordance with international requirements. This conclusion, incidentally, dispelled any possible interest (emphasis mine - HM) the Commission may have had in the subject, and we therefore consider the matter closed . . ."

By this time the requester was in definite need of another type of "fix!"

Another FOIA request, many months later, to the FCC from a different requester provided yet another contradiction!

" . . . as the frequencies of 3060 and 3090 kHz are allocated internationally, the signals you are reporting could be from anywhere in South or Central America . . ."

The above response seems to be the more typical of the many FCC responses in years past.

And a high-ranking FCC official tells me that he seems to remember the FCC once saying that some numbers transmissions originated from Cuba! This official had no further comment.

I have since learned that the FCC, or the Commission, as they prefer to call themselves, does have interest in numbers transmissions! I'll deal with recent findings as well as. what I believe to be, never before published information in a later chapter! "Interest dispelled?" That's not exactly how I would describe the current situation!

You must remember that it was our very own FCC that once denied having any knowledge of Swan Island's Radio Americas and Radio Swan! Could it be the FCC once again finds itself "caught-in the middle!" This has happened before!

Is it possible, even remotely possible, that they (the FCC) have "backed themselves into a corner" when it comes to numbers transmissions? One well informed source seems to think this is a very definite possibility!

And here is a very interesting sidelight to all of the above: My associate, Eric Connors, tells me that he was once mildly chastised by the FCC for not filing a FOIA request in the proper manner. Can you believe that? I would think that the Commission would have more important things to worry about!

68801

When a thing is said,
The lips become very cold
Like the autumn wind
Basho

REVELATIONS: THE MYSTERIOUS FCC DOCUMENT

CLASSIFIED "NUMBERS" DOCUMENT IN WASHINGTON FCC FILES

This startling revelation of the existence of a classified numbers document was just recently (October 1986) confirmed by a high-ranking FCC official!

While this FCC official would say little, we have learned that this numbers document holds a confidential classification category and is, more specifically, an inter-agency document! Unfortunately, inter-agency documents are exempt from the Freedom of Information Act!

Here, however, is what we have learned: The FCC official says that the original classification authority was not the NSA but a similar agency! This classification agency may or may not be CIA. While this document might well be in CIA files, we have no evidence to suggest CIA as the original classification authority. Other classification authorities could be FEMA, Defense Communications Agency or possibly IRAC! This FCC official will say very little about this mysterious document except that it does exist!

We have since learned, from other sources, that this same inter-agency document very possibly exists at several other government agencies! Our sources, however, will not be more specific!

The FCC official has made vague references to certain frequencies in this document! It appears, at this time, that this document contains a listing of many active five-digit Spanish frequencies! Very curious for an agency that has claimed no interest in numbers matters. It would appear that interest has not been dispelled!

Why such a document in the hands of the FCC? The man at the FCC would not say! Other sources tell us that the document is something on the order of a warning -- a warning for the FCC not to snoop where they are not wanted! Better to go after pirate broadcasters instead!

Other sources claim there is some concern at FCC about numbers stations that suddenly appear on FCC, FEMA and NASA frequencies! Further confirmation of this aspect is being very

actively pursued! This statement, however, must be viewed as part speculation!

The big questions, however, is just why the FCC would very calmly admit, after all these years, that a numbers or numbers-related document exists. That's a question the FCC will have to answer. I have, in recent weeks, been informed that the FCC will have no further comment.

And what about the date of classification? The man at the FCC does not remember! Now if we could just ascertain the date, that could provide us with a somewhat better idea as to the original classification authority.

I rather suspect that the admission of the existence of this mysterious document was planned. I'm confident we have not heard the last of this amazing admission. There is, I am very confident, other action to follow.

Could it be that the Commission is on a "fishing expedition" for another agency? Obviously, very obviously, someone, besides the Commission, has some type of five-digit Spanish interest! Could it be more of an interest as to just how much the SWL community knows? We can only speculate at this time.

I was told of the existence of this document about two years ago by a non-FCC source. I was also told by this source that it would be a "cold day in hell" before the FCC would ever admit to the existence of this document! Why the sudden about face? The man at the FCC claimed that most FCC personnel did not know of the existence of this document. That may well be true. Classified documents are only distributed to those with a "need to know!"

An even bigger question! Why will FEMA not respond to a certain Freedom of Information Act petition that mentions numbers transmissions? Would anyone from FEMA care to respond?

I would suggest that FEMA and certain other government agencies very carefully read certain portions of the Executive Order that created the Freedom of Information Act. You must show cause as to why certain information will not be released! You, of course, do not have to release information. You are, however, required to respond.

"The interests of the United States and its citizens are best served by making information regarding the affairs of government readily available to the public. This concept of an informed citizenry is reflected in the Freedom of Information Act and in the current public information policies of the executive branch."

"The moon in the water
Turned a somersault
And floated away"

Ryota

MEANDERING MOON

As Interesting A Collection Of Miscellany
As You Are Likely To Find Anywhere

THE VOA and A NUMBERS QSL?

Did you know that the VOA once mistakenly issued QSLs for a numbers transmission? These, by now, infamous QSLs were issued by VOA to a couple of SWLs for reporting a numbers transmission on 15652 kHz and another numbers transmission on 11895 kHz! The time of the 11895 kHz transmission (four-digit Spanish) was 0200 UTC on 25 November 1982. Both were legitimate VOA frequencies.

On March 2, 1983, a Freedom of Information Act Petition was filed with the VOA for copies of their Greenville transmitter logs for the time periods of the numbers transmissions. While the VOA did respond, it did not provide copies of the log as requested. The VOA simply said it was all a big mistake that QSLs were issued. They said they were not responsible for the numbers transmissions on 15652 and 11895 kHz!

I'm confident that the VOA was not directly involved. Those agencies that, allegedly, have access to VOA transmitters -- well, that's another story!

There are, however, many unanswered questions to these numbers transmissions (four and five digit Spanish) that, at various times, suddenly appear on VOA frequencies. Perhaps switching errors are involved? Numbers transmissions, on some few occasions, have been monitored on 7 MHz BBC frequencies after 0500 UTC!

ARMED FORCES COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS ASSOCIATION (AFCEA)

Founded in 1946 as the Army Signal Association, the AFCEA is a nonprofit professional association that provides government industry cooperation in the areas of Command Control Communications and intelligence. AFCEA is very active in support of the Technical Intelligence Community.

Their membership rolls are open to all citizens of the United States. Annual dues are \$16.00. This includes a subscription to the monthly SIGNAL magazine.

The address:

AFCEA
5641 Burke Center Parkway
Burke, Virginia 22015-2289

NATIONAL MILITARY INTELLIGENCE ASSOCIATION (NMIA)

NMIA was established in 1974 to enhance the craft of intelligence in the military services. Membership consists of active duty Defense Department military and civilian personnel but retirees and others are welcome. Annual dues are \$25.00.

The address:

NMIA
1606 Laurel Lane RT#10
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

SECURITY AND INTELLIGENCE FOUNDATION (SIF)

This group was established in 1977 when the Carter Administration went after the FBI on the Weathermen case. SIF solicits members by mail only.

The address:

SIF
Suite 500
449 South Capitol Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20003

KKN50 FREQUENCIES

6924.5 kHz
10,635
12,022.5
15,540
18,525
23,892.5

Transmitting from Washington, D.C. The real purpose of this station is debatable.

Maintain a close watch on KKN50 frequencies! Five-digit Spanish transmissions have been monitored on 6924.5 kHz!

SELECTED USER ALLOCATIONS FOR 3088, 3089.5 AND 3090 kHz AS EXTRACTED FROM THE "BERNE LISTING"

3088 kHz
NUD . . . Adak, Alaska
NHB . . . Kodiak, Alaska
NWU . . . Bermuda
NWP . . . Argentia, Newfoundland
NAW . . . Guantanamo, Cuba
NGZ . . . Alameda, California
NAD . . . Boston, Massachusetts
NKT . . . Cherry Point, North Carolina
NGP . . . Corpus Christi, Texas
NIP . . . Jacksonville, Florida
NIG . . . Miami, Florida
NSC . . . New York, New York
NGU . . . Norfolk, Virginia
NHK . . . Patuxent River, Maryland
NBR . . . Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

NYG . . . Quantico, Virginia
NCO . . . Quonset Point, Rhode Island
NZY . . . San Diego, California
NEJ . . . Seattle, Washington
NZW . . . South Weymouth, Massachusetts

3089.5 kHz

NHB . . . Kodiak, Alaska
NWU . . . Bermuda
AOG9 . . . Rota, Spain
NGR . . . Kato Soli, Greece
NDT . . . Yokosuka, Japan
NBA . . . Canal Zone
NDI . . . Okinawa, Japan
NOX . . . Key West, Florida
NGD . . . McMurdo Sound

3090 kHz

AUQ31 . . . Ranchi, India
JXE . . . Bergen, Norway
JXA . . . Oslo, Norway

No USA listings found for 3090 kHz. The frequency of 3088 kHz is occasionally active with five-digit Spanish transmissions. The frequency of 3090 kHz is very active most hours. Five-digit Spanish and CW "letter/number" groups.

BERNE RADIO FREQUENCIES

2959, 4670, 6526, 6643 and 10069 kHz.

Numbers transmissions have been reported on some of the above frequencies. Note that 4670 kHz is allocated to Berne Radio!

"GYPSY MUSIC" STATION?

A "Gypsy music station" or the "frantic violin" station is often reported on various 4, 5 and 6 mHz frequencies. The voice is male and terminates with "terminia." The "terminator" is repeated three times.

This mystery station was last reported on 4584 kHz at 2000 UTC. Some sources believe this to be Romanian!

UNCONFIRMED

There have been unconfirmed reports of five-digit Spanish transmissions on 30.05, 30.25, 30.42, and 30.47 mHz!

SELECTED FSK "BEACONS" AND FREQUENCIES

"F"	8648 kHz
"K"	9045
"Q"	6913
"P"	4030
"Q"	7714
"Q"	10,254
"W"	7902

OTHER TYPES NUMBERS STATIONS

Chinese, Korean, Serbo-Croatian (how can you tell?), Bulgarian, French and Russian numbers stations are often reported to the various club bulletins. All transmission formats are similar to the four and five-digit Spanish transmissions.

FIVE-DIGIT SPANISH WITH A GERMAN TRANSMISSION

During April of 1981, several numbers monitors reported a very strong five-digit German transmission by a YL on 5812 kHz! This was once a VOA "feeder" frequency from Greenville, South Carolina!

CALIFORNIA "SPURS"

The frequency of 9527 kHz often monitored in many parts of California with numerous "spurs" up-and-down frequency. Often heard as early as 0200 hours UTC!

WARRENTON AND THE KGB

John Baron writing in KGB (Bantam House) says that on New Years Day of 1960, KGB officers attempted to ascertain through a U.S. citizen, the location of a new transmitter near Warrenton, Virginia!

According to Baron, the KGB erroneously thought this transmitter was to be used for clandestine purposes!

LIST OF EMBASSIES

The quarterly publication, DIPLOMATIC LIST, contains a complete listing of foreign embassies in Washington. Published by the State Department, this publication is available from the U.S. Government Printing Office for \$4.75 per single copy.

SHOULD I CONTINUE?

That depends on you! Your comments and suggestions on this section are solicited. Write in care of the publisher. Mean-dering might possible be the title of another book!

Thou shalt not promulgate
IRAC

SPANISH NUMBERS FREQUENCY LIST

We believe the following five-digit Spanish database listings are the largest and most complete outside the CIA, NSA and IRAC.

While every effort has been taken to insure accuracy, a certain amount of "pollution" does exist. While some frequencies are exact, the majority should be considered as plus or minus 3 kHz. It's probable that where two or three frequencies are within a few kHz of each other, only one actual frequency may be involved. One such example is the frequency of 7527 kHz. This is often reported as 7524, 7525, 7526, 7527 and 7528 kHz. We believe the actual frequency to be 7527 kHz.

Numbers monitors are reminded that some of these frequencies go as far back as the late 50s or early 60s and are, in many instances, no longer in use. While some numbers stations continue operations on some frequencies for years, other frequencies change on a daily or weekly basis. It is possible that those frequencies that remain active over a period of years are "control frequencies!"

It has also been noted that frequencies that have been dormant for months, and in some instances years, are suddenly resurrected for brief as well as extended periods of time.

If you are cross referencing with the International Telecommunications Union master roster, be reminded that each country has frequencies that are not listed.

In some few instances, frequencies that appear in one list do not appear in the other. This is due to the fact that separate databases were used to generate lists.

<u>kHz</u>	<u>Comments</u>
2097	A longtime numbers monitor says this frequency was in use during the late 50s!
3060	Once very active. Has been dormant for several years.
3070	
3080	
3085	
3088	Usually active once a week on Fridays! <u>Not</u> 3090!
3090	Very active most hours. The actual frequency is 3090.08

- 3095
3110
3115
3120 Anti-drug smuggling operations once monitored on this frequency on a regular basis.
3125
3130 Allocated to U.S. Navy, Jacksonville, FL as well as other U.S. locations.
3135
3242
3279
3380 Occasionally active after 0000 UTC.
3400
3410
3420
3435
3440
3445 Very active after 0100 UTC.
3666
3690 Try 1500 hours UTC on Sundays. Said to be from an embassy in downtown Havana! Locations of transmitter sites on other days and times remain unknown.
3752
3780
3887
4010
4025 Very active over 24-hour period.
4028 Very active over 24-hour period. Believed to be separate from 4025 kHz.
4030 Very active MARS frequency. Also very active with Slavic language transmissions as well as five-digit Spanish transmissions. These two different numbers stations have never been monitored at the same time on this frequency. It would appear that the transmission times are scheduled so that these stations do not interfere with one another. This is only speculation at this time.
4044 Very active. The U.S. Navy is authorized to use this frequency in the CW mode. Two Mexican stations are also authorized to use this frequency.
4050 Very active.
4055 Very active.
4057
4061.5 Rarely active. Only noted when WBR70, Perrine, FL not active.
4070
4097
4100
4125 Moderately active.
4130 A source tells me this frequency was once used by Soviet spy trawlers.
4139
4200
4279
4300
4445 Very active.

4476
4575
4645
4650
4655
4660
4665
4670

A very active and curious frequency. English, German and Spanish numbers transmissions of the four and five-digit variety often monitored on this frequency. Beacons and Phonetic Alphabet Stations also very common before and after numbers transmissions. This is true for many four-digit Spanish frequencies. Maintain a close watch!

4675
4690
4700
4710
4725
4730
4750
4765
4780

Very active.

A very important frequency to watch! A FEMA frequency that is often host to five-digit Spanish transmissions!

4785
4805
4825

Very active. Allocated to U.S. Navy Atlantic Underwater Test and Evaluation Center, West Palm Beach, FL Also: U.S. Navy, Orlando, FL and Patrick AFB, FL Maintain a close watch!

4832
4837
5070
5080
5115
5120
5135
5175

Moderately active.
Moderately active.

Very active.
Allocated to Ft. Meade, MD

Very active. FEMA is allocated to 5134.5 kHz.

5211

Very active all hours. This is a "repeat" frequency for 3090 kHz.

5215
5250
5270
5320

Moderately active.

Moderately active.

Another curious frequency. Widely used by U.S. Coast Guard.

5780
5785
5810

Maintain a close watch! All types of numbers transmissions have been monitored on this frequency!

5812
5910
5912
5921
5935
5942

Maintain a close watch!

5965
5975
5985
6210
6220
6225
6227
6236
6250
6292
6503
6572
6578

6600 Moderately active.

6722
6748
6755
6765

6768 Several five-digit Spanish monitors insist that this transmitter was once located in Northern Virginia!

6770
6775
6780
6785

Allocated to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. WUB55, Tampa Bay, FL once very active on this frequency.

6795
6800
6802

Maintain a close watch!

6804
6810
6815
6820

6825 Very active for many years. A control station?

6830
6835

Very active. Air Force 2 occasionally noted on this frequency.

6840

Very active with five-digit Spanish. Faint five-digit Spanish often heard under four-digit transmissions! Maintain a close watch!

6842
6870
6875
6880
6886
6890
6895
6900
6908
6915
6920

6924.5 KKN50. The purpose of this station is open to debate. Some few five-digit Spanish transmissions monitored on this frequency when KKN50 is silent. Usually after 0500 hours UTC.

6933
6970

7000 German as well as Spanish numbers transmissions often monitored on this frequency.

7320 Authorized for U.S. and many South American countries in support of the American SITFA radio net in the SSB mode. This is an embassy link. Three British broadcast stations are also authorized to use this frequency.

7325

7330

7335

7340

7345

7360

7365

7404 Active with both German and five-digit Spanish transmissions. Army MARS is authorized SSB operation on this frequency in the CW mode. Two Mexican stations are also authorized use of this frequency.

7410

7427

7435

7440

7476

7513

7520

7527 A very active frequency for many years. Once used by U.S. Customs in its war on drugs. A reliable source tells me that Customs was forced to abandon this frequency due to interference from numbers stations!

7530

7532 Assigned to Interpol

7575

7580

7585

7590

7630

7727

7736

7755

7770

7784

7800

7812

7840

7845

7848

7860

7865

7875

7879.5 A U.S. Department of the Interior frequency.

7888

7890

7895

7900

7907

7910

7915
7920
7925
7965
7970
7975
7980
7985
7990
8000
8005
8010
8020
8030
8040
8045
8056
8060
8070
8075
8080
8085
8090
8095
8100
8112
8115
8118
8120
8122
8125
8175
8212

8216
8413
8840
8870
8872
8874
8900
8905
8915
8920
8930
8935
8950
8955
8972
9050
9085
9110
9123
9128
9137
9218

Once very active.

Once very active.

Once moderately active.

Once very active.

A source tells me this is another frequency once used by Soviet spy trawlers!

Once very active.

9224
9265
9329
9370
9373
9375
9380
9387
9400
9430
9435
9445
9450
9455
9463
9470
9475
9480
9485
9490
9495
9560
9918

Several numbers monitors insist that, at one time, a transmitter site was in or near New York State!

9970

Once very active after 0900 hours UTC.

9990
10015
10020
10125
10135
10243
10366
10465
10612
11054
11320
11430
11512
11515
11520
11532

Both four and five-digit Spanish often reported on this frequency.

11545
11571
11580
11618
11630
11635
11690
11895
12050
12166
12225
12235
12250
12320

A VOA frequency!

12330
13346
13428
13463
13473
13685
13808
13840
14419
14428
14453
14456
14588
14683
14968

15479
15579
15612
15637
15638
15652
16420
16450
16840
17428
17965
18210
18940
19160
20895

Very active after 2200 UTC during 1982.

Another interesting frequency. A few pages of this book relate to this frequency.

A VOA frequency!

A very big thank you to those who so kindly shared their intercepts.

22317

NUMBERS DATABASE - BY TIME

0000 UTC	0115 UTC	0200 (cont)	0300 (cont)
3060 kHz	3090 kHz	9137 kHz	4335
3090	4030	10015	4445
5135	4040	10345	4720
6225	4044	10490	4725
7527	4680		4780
11854	5135	0215 UTC	4785
13437		3060 kHz	4825
14428	0130 UTC	3090	4835
14456	3083 kHz	4040	5135
14683	3090	4044	6572
	3445	6866	7527
0015 UTC	3665	9050	7812
3060 kHz	4030		9128
3090	4044	0230 UTC	9218
4030	5070	3075 kHz	9329
4040	5080	3080	9354
4100	5135	3090	9374
	5211	3445	9387
0030 UTC	5250	4030	9400
3440 kHz	5270	4780	10135
4780	5280	4825	11515
4825		4735	
5211	0200 UTC	5070	0315 UTC
8211	3060 kHz	5080	3090 kHz
	3080	5135	3178
0100 UTC	3090	5211	3445
3060 kHz	3440	5741	4025
3090	3445	7784	4030
3445	4044	10015	4040
4080	4050	11580	4044
4100	4125	11613	7812
4640	4210	18745	8332
5070	4660		
5115	5070	0300 UTC	0330 UTC
5238	5135	3060 kHz	3070 kHz
5250	5250	3090	3080
5893	5270	3445	3090
6655	5745	4025	3445
6860	8112	4030	3885
9966	8840	4054	4030
11543	8917	4215	4040
14453	9052	4278	4055

0330 (cont)	0415 UTC	0500 (cont)	0500 (cont)
4335 kHz	3415 kHz	4670 kHz	10345 kHz
4445	7410	4700	10366
4675	11545	4710	10738
4780	12245	4725	11532
4825		4730	11545
4835	0430 UTC	4750	11571
5135	3090 kHz	4765	11630
5211	3445	4805	11690
6226	4080	4825	12225
6835	4125	4830	12310
8089	4780	4835	12320
8413	4825	5070	12330
11618	4835	5080	13346
	5070	5090	15638
0400 UTC	5080	5135	
3090 kHz	5135	5182	0515 UTC
3125	5211	5211	3445 kHz
3225	6875	5765	4030
3279	6879	5910	6600
3395	7430	5965	7513
3400	9435	6227	7527
3405	10426	6270	9329
3410	10612	6660	10200
3415	11615	6778	15638
3420		6805	
3425	0500 UTC	6810	0530 UTC
3430	3060 kHz	6825	3080 kHz
3445	3080	6835	3090
3815	3085	6840	3110
4030	3090	6889	3115
4044	3095	6893	3120
4057	3100	6940	3125
4070	3105	7426	3130
4445	3110	7527	3690
4572	3115	7812	4010
4780	3120	7885	4025
4782	3125	7888	4030
4825	3130	7975	4044
5070	3135	8112	4050
5080	3145	8214	4057
5135	3240	8800	4060
5270	3445	8870	4070
6227	3882	8875	4125
6235	3887	9224	4780
6825	4025	9354	4825
6878	4030	9375	4835
7380	4057	9400	5070
7426	4060	9450	5080
7527	4070	9455	5090
8020	4125	9470	5135
8030	4645	9475	5250
8060	4650	9490	5710
8075	4655	9495	5750
9238	4660	9844	6579
11054	4665	10243	6778

0530 UTC	0600 (cont)	0630 (cont)	0700 (cont)
6800 kHz	7900 kHz	7846 kHz	8040 kHz
6825	7905	8112	8070
6835	7915	8117	8075
7210	8030	12116	8080
7440	8070		8120
7527	8080	0700 UTC	8200
8056	8115	3120 kHz	8870
8418	8120	3780	9110
11320	9418	5120	9112
11415	9475	5175	9267
	9495	5924	9400
0600 UTC	9970	6227	9475
3080 kHz	10015	6748	9495
3090	10020	6768	9886
3240	11633	6770	9939
3445	12315	6775	9970
4025	15050	6785	14660
4030		6790	15637
4445	0615 UTC	6795	
4780	3060 kHz	6800	0715 UTC
4818	3080	6805	6292 kHz
4825	3130	6815	6748
4835	3135	6820	6765
5750	4030	6825	7527
5760	4044	6830	7827
6227	6777	6840	8871
6772	6835	6874	
6775	7353	6876	0730 UTC
6795	8058	6890	3125 kHz
6800	9450	6898	5935
6802	10020	7325	6748
6805		7335	6780
6810	0630 UTC	7340	6825
6820	3060 kHz	7345	6835
6825	3090	7360	6887
6835	3125	7365	7527
6837	3130	7520	7846
6840	3135	7527	7888
6885	3445	7580	8026
6892	3635	7825	8870
6900	4028	7845	9463
6925	4030	7860	10020
7330	4044	7865	
7343	4050	7875	0800 UTC
7727	4055	7890	5800 kHz
7736	4060	7895	5835
7755	4125	7910	5935
7770	4670	7920	6770
7800	4726	7925	6780
7825	4780	7970	6790
7847	4835	7980	6800
7865	5975	7985	6825
7875	6875	7990	6835
7880	6948	8000	6790
7895	7345	8030	6917

0800 (cont)	0800 (cont)	0930 UTC	1200 UTC
6920 kHz	10138 kHz	6227 kHz	3060 kHz
6925	10876	6410	3090
7340	11412	6870	4028
7438	11430	6915	4030
7476	11512	6926	4060
7520	11634	7887	5135
7527	12320	9144	9138
7575			14947
7580	0815 UTC	1000 UTC	
7585	6572 kHz	4025 kHz	1215 UTC
7690	6780	4670	3090 kHz
7700	6917	4690	4028
7848	9540	5930	4040
7890	11431	5942	5135
7900		5985	
7910	0830 UTC	6562	1230 UTC
7920	6917 kHz	7342	3090 kHz
7965	6970	7527	4780
7970	7342	9475	4825
7980	7812	9480	4835
7985	7887	9490	5080
8000	9433	9495	5090
8005	10876	10125	5135
8010	11618		5176
8040	17965	1015 UTC	5211
8045		5925 kHz	9085
8070	0900 UTC	6825	15612
8080	6294 kHz	6835	
8095	6768	7720	1300 UTC
8100	6835	9475	3060 kHz
8112	6872	9480	3090
8120	7249		4028
8145	7527	1030 UTC	4030
8150	7840	5925 kHz	4780
8871	7854	6825	4825
8900	9470		4835
8905	9475	1100 UTC	4855
8915	9480	4825 kHz	6812
8920	9490	5135	9255
8930	9495	5540	9265
8935	10020	6296	12236
8950	10125	7845	13265
8955	11082		
9430	11518	1115 UTC	1315 UTC
9453	11635	6785 kHz	3090 kHz
9463		8122	4028
9478	0915 UTC	9243	4030
9480	6755 kHz		4040
9485	7342	1130 UTC	9265
9490	9462	8112 kHz	
9495	9878	8122	
9800		9243	
9970			
9990			
10014			

1330 UTC	1530 UTC	1730 UTC	2000 UTC
3090 kHz	3090 kHz	3090 kHz	3060 kHz
4725	4725	5080	3090
4825	4780	5135	4028
4835	4825	5211	4030
5080	4835	16856	11532
5090	5080		12230
5135	5135	1800 UTC	11236
5211	5211	3060 kHz	18745
5775	6220	3090	
5780	13427	4028	2015 UTC
5785		4030	3090 kHz
8180	1600 UTC	7225	4028
	3060 kHz	12150	4030
1400 UTC	3090		4040
3060 kHz	4028	1815 UTC	4070
3090	4030	3090 kHz	
4028	5895	4028	2030 UTC
4030	6768	4030	3090 kHz
4825	6825	4040	5080
5180	8112	4044	5135
9113	16200	4050	5211
		11374	15614
1415 UTC	1615 UTC	1830 UTC	2100 UTC
3090 kHz	3090 kHz	3090 kHz	3060 kHz
4028	4028	5080	3090
4030	4030	5135	4028
4040	4040	5211	4030
5080		16856	
1430 UTC	1630 UTC	1900 UTC	2115 UTC
3090 kHz	3090 kHz	3060 kHz	3090 kHz
4725	5080	3090	4028
4780	5135	4028	4030
5080	5211	4030	4040
5135	18141	8418	
5211		9320	2130 UTC
5780	1700 UTC	10580	3090 kHz
5785	3060 kHz	10608	5080
5790	3090	12230	5135
	4028	13480	5211
1500 UTC	4030		11388
3060 kHz	6796	1915 UTC	2200 UTC
3090	6812	3090 kHz	3060 kHz
4028	13470	4028	3090
4030	13475	4030	4028
4047	13685	4040	4030
12236	1715 UTC	6825	
14461	3090 kHz		2215 UTC
14856	4028	1930 UTC	3090 kHz
	4030	3090 kHz	4028
1515 UTC	4040	5080	4030
3090 kHz	4044	5135	
4028		5211	
4040			

2230 UTC	2300 UTC	2315 UTC	2330 UTC
3090 kHz	3060 kHz	3090 kHz	3090 kHz
5080	3098	4025	3440
5135	4028	4028	3445
5211	4030	4030	4825
11617	6675	4040	5080
			5135
			5211

C A U T I O N !

WHEN EXAMINING ALL FREQUENCIES IN USE
BY NUMBERS STATIONS
YOU WILL EASILY FIND CORRELATIONS
WITH MANY U.S. AGENCIES
AND FOREIGN SOURCES.

SINCE NUMBERS TRANSMISSIONS ARE "CLANDESTINE,"
FREQUENCIES USED ARE PROBABLY COINCIDENTAL IN REGARD
TO THOSE AUTHORIZED TO USE THESE FREQUENCIES.

20784

pC(i)RC(-i) = c

3244469213888165219663811
9421632444692138881652196
638119FORTHECRYPIES421632
4446921388816521966381194
2163244469213888165219663

SELECTED CRYPTS
LETTER/NUMBER SUBSTITUTION

16 January 1976
0215 hours UTC
3090 hKz

MNW AWT BT

DNWRT	DRIMG	DGMIR	DMGIR	TMGRU	THWIG	AADUG	AMGWG	DNMGI	IRWUD
UWRMG	TTANM	UWGMT	NMGIT	DNGIW	UDGIR	UDWAR	TMGIA	WUGMT	DUAAM
IURWG	IURUU	GNIUW	IUIUI	IUGDD	TMGRR	IRUMG	IURWM	RUIDN	IWMWU
GWIWG	MWIUW	UDIUG	MRIIR	IIUIR	MGRWM	DUGIW	GIWUR	UDRDI	GRGWI
IIGWM	RURUI	WDNDG	RURUG	MGMGI	IIWRU	IWGWG	WURUG	UNRMT	RUIGI
IWGGM	RWIWG	WUIUG	RWIWM	GUMTT	RUIWG	RWIWM	GITIT	RDGDG	
RIWGM	WDIDG	IWMWT	AWNWM	UNRNR	WNRNR	RDGDT	GWTUM	WIGRT	RIGMD
WRIGM	WUUUG	IGMUT	WRUIM	GGIUU	IGURI	UDIIR	UWRIG	UWDIR	GMIRW
IGMUI	IUGIG	IGRWU	DUWGM	IUWUR	RMTGI	DUWRI	UDGIR	GMIWG	WIGRI
AANDU	RWUDN	RIGMT	RIWUD	WRIGM	IGMTA	URDIG	WRIGG	DWUUR	NUDWW
ARIGT	UAWIG	GUWRT	DNRMG	UWRMT	NAWRI	WURIM	DUNWR	WRIUM	GRWRI
ADAUW	RGAAR	UWWRI	GNGUW	RDIMT	UARIW	NIUWR	UDWUR	DUWRI	IGIRW
TGMIR	IGRGI	UWRWU	NDNDU	WURII	IGMMA	TMMTI	WRRUD	DNAIR	UWRRI
WWRRU	ATMTA	RIMWD	NIRIU	DWURI	WUNAT	IMGRA	RUDMG	RTAWU	NDRGI
AMUWI	NDGRW	MTWUN	ARIGU	DRWUM	TAIDN	URGUD	ATMAG	RWATU	UWRTW
AR AR	AR SK	SK SK							

* * * * *

10 July 1978
0200 hours UTC
3060 kHz

ANA GU BT

ANDGD	DNMWR	IGGND	TGMDN	MTMDN	NDMUG	WRMDN	GMNDT	DNMGW	RNDMG
AMGDN	UGMDN	IMNDM	TGMDN	DNMUW	RMGND	MMGDN	NDMDU	WDNRI	GNDMT
TTMDN	MGAND	DNUWR	NDIGM	GDNAN	MNDUW	DNRIG	MGNDA	GMNDA	GMNDU
WDNRI	GMNDT	MGAND	ANDIM	UWDNM	IDNMG	TANDM	DAWMG	RIWDN	MTAND
NDUGM	WRIDN	GDDGM	AGNDD	UDWNR	IRDNM	TDNWN	RGNDU	WDNUA	NDDTD
NDDMU	WDRNI	GNDWT	NATDN	RNDDI	INDDU	WUDDN	TNDDI	RINDD	GATDN
WTRDD	UNWND	RWIND	DNGDR	DNWID	RWNDI	MDNNI	RWIDN	WUNDN	NDAUD
WUDDG	RWGND	NMDNU	RWNDG	RIGND	NDDGI	DNNMA	NMTND	UDNWI	NNDDW
WDNID	RGNDG	WMDNI	DGNDD	NMDNT					
AR	AR	AR	SK	SK	SK				

* * * * *

8 January 1980
0200 hours UTC
3060 kHz

MUW ATT BT

UGDIW	AURWI	WRUNR	NNITG	MIUUT	NMAMT	TGWRM	RTDRD	NWWAN	NGRTA
ITIWU	WWANI	RMAGN	AMADT	DITRT	WADAN	ANDGD	MMDNU	GGDUA	RUAIM
NIMUI	RRDDD	TTDII	DURGI	TAANU	UIUAG	GIDIG	RTTGU	RDGIR	MWNAA
UIMTD	GMIII	RMUMG	IDDWG	UTDUM	DTUGT	WIITD	GARMA	AGMGM	TIDGG
DGIIR	MMTTD	AUARA	IRIID	UUUGM	WAGIG	AWADN	ARIUR	NMNTW	GARWR
UWNUN	DWRWM	INNRN	MGNMT	WGGRR	ATTUG	WRTUN	GGMDG	MGWMM	RATRR
WNNNU	RNNGN	UTRDI	AMRAN	AMADA	NNNRG	NWNWI	WATTA	RDITG	IIMRN
WGMWM	AIIAN	RDRTR	UNAGR	INWDR	NGRND	MTDDA	NAIND	RGNWW	GAWRW
DDRGM	ANAWU	ATGIR	RMMNI	GGDDN	GGMRU	DRUUU	UGUTN	RUNDM	MTUID
MIDWR	GIWII	TUDRA	RDAUT	WUAAN	NMTUN	UDMAD	DWIDN	NTNTG	ITDRU
AR	AR	AR							

DT BT

RRADT	MURWG	GGIWR	AAADU	GNIWI	AUAUD	RNAGA	GWARA	GDTUA	DGAIM
NNDNT	NMUTI	NMUTI	NMUNR	GWGIW	WGDGU	GAIDM	DWIMD	TRUWA	MNTNA
NMND									
NURIU	TWMDD	WGWUA	WIDUA	RNTRG	IIDDT	TWUIU	AWUMU	MWGTR	MMUMW
AR	AR	AR	SK	SK	SK				

* * * * *

28 July 1978
0215 hours UTC
3090 kHz

ANA DW WW BT DW
 TMNID IUITW MITIR GMNUM DUMIW ARANW IDDNR MAAGN RMUDA UNDWU
 TRWWW ANDRR WRUDR MIRMD TWTNN AUDGT TTIIA GNGNT WTNTM RTMWM
 DDDIA GNGGR ANARA DRANU IDRUI IATWW WGNIT WWNTD DAUNA NUINT
 GNNWN UUDUA RRANT MDTAR
 AR AR AR SK SK SK
 WW WW WW BT
 NNWUA WDUUI MMMWR DIDWN MADDN DUUTG MDDWD ANWGT TDMIU DADRN
 IMWUG TADTT AGUGR TUTAW RRGAN TIGMA DWNMT UGDUT AGGDA ATRUU
 TNURT UNARW TTAMR IGGGW RWGAT RAGDW TDWIA DAUTW TGRDT UMMGG
 GUGUR TUIAW MUWAM INRRD ANTND RGNGM GNGNM NIRIU NWAAW NWATA
 AAWUA RRIDI GINDR TRRNI MNNTR AWAAM RAGTI NWUUT RTDND RWTUW
 MAADU IMTII MTIRA WIGMM
 AR AR AR SK SK SK

* * * * *

For those not familiar with the commonly monitored CW stations, the Morse characters for "five-character" letter/number substitution groups equate to: A=1, N=2, D=3, U=4, W=5, R=6, I=7, G=8, M=9, and T=0.

The above was very laboriously determined several years ago from noting the letters of the "group-counts" of intercepted messages, then counting the number of groups in the message.

You may evaluate the accuracy by noting the "group-count" digits and comparing it to the number of groups in the crypts.

Pay particular attention to the groups that are repeated in the first crypt. "UDGIR," "RWIWG" and "DUWRI" are each repeated twice! Repeats are very common in letter/number substitution crypts! I have not observed repeats in the five-digit Spanish crypts. This, however, does not necessarily mean repeats do not occur.

Is it possible that the letter/number CW crypts are code and not cipher groups? This could be very important!

SELECTED CRYPTS - FIVE-DIGIT SPANISH

The first three digits that follow "Atención" are possible the identifier. The following digits (two or three) are the "group-count" digits.

0600 hours UTC
6772 kHz

"Atención"

"799 22"

84884	51057	33902	17463	33009	10675	73382	31896	18505	32910
21857	43352	71057	93057	22970	57483	11856	73390	31033	51857
31340	64622								

"Final"

05 July 1980
1200 hours UTC
8122 kHz

"Atención"

"647 30"

99060	55865	15766	61247	58534	82353	50363	24464	13230	63523
54219	94101	58127	99702	74330	90038	21877	95076	71254	96247
42486	40622	19701	39783	48646	54029				
39993	43645	25801	29867						

"Final"

* * * * *

05 July 1980
1000 hours UTC
7527 kHz

"Atención"

"081 20"

53464	02202	71431	16163	59976	69367	91025	46722	12431	92281
34074	21794	39215	21189	53208	99805	47242	76570	83019	77327

"Final"

* * * * *

16 May 1984
0100 hours UTC
4445 kHz

"Atención"

"330 77"

78067	30927	80561	81438	65719	18957	86903	15065	13429	94022
76673	89871	35516	17386	86797	43388	00114	86421	53893	31330
62948	89338	26622	50954	71106	62227	41441	42652	90480	55700
05725	31718	09233	74613	99801	23747	15598	61886	24749	60788
03493	29270	48634	60830	37823	26147	63729	17839	25054	60148
60431	74699	08467	17980	31637	41505	72280	50741	05792	36305
55538	90676	99520	89793	88996	19181	40858	19566	20070	68539
82998	67626	58399	87177	22353	85755	92393			

"Final"

* * * * *

SELECTED LIVE OR NON-COMPUTER GENERATED CRYPT
FIVE-DIGIT SPANISH

03 March 1986
0300 UTC
4047 kHz

"Atención"

"001 80"

56666 72556 66784 77406 00004 48815 66064 17213 51106 56689
26981 49681 86659 44660 11464 61141 44742 59206 26704 71218
88668 58881 00671 76062 45009 94765 27686 15756 85643 22624
86669 60042 21166 26251 68402 65200 77505 65482 95944 16850
09595 76622 65077 58869 65881 10792 71698 10646 01565 41600
97315 00742 52666 84809 26870 16593 56869 06760 06266 64445
22203 00986 15877 01117 06248 13901 24616 29896 91188 66070
04779 58070 93754 42269 68696 37772 56025 70000 60272 97849

"Final"

* * * * *

W A R N I N G !

Provisions of the United States Criminal Code and related regulations make it a crime to receive, disclose, communicate, or publish various kinds of documents and information. Section 798 of Title 18 specifically prohibits knowing communication, transmission, or publication of any CLASSIFIED information pertaining to any "code, cipher or cryptographic system," or any "communication intelligence activity" of the United States or any foreign government any unauthorized person.

Also prohibited: The use of such classified information in a manner prejudicial to the interests of the United States or to the benefit of any foreign government.

Section 793 of Title 18 PROHIBITS the obtaining or delivering of information relating to the National Defense with knowledge that the information is to be used or could be used to the injury of the United States or the advantage of any foreign nation, or revealing National Defense information through gross negligence where the information was initially in the individual's lawful possession.

Additionally, 18 U.S.C. Section 952 PROHIBITS dissemination of information about diplomatic codes.

A related statute, 50 U.S.C. Section 403(d), charges the Director of Central Intelligence with the responsibility to protect intelligence sources and methods pursuant to which he has promulgated intelligence directives binding only on the U.S. Government.

THERE WILL BE NO FURTHER DISCUSSION IN REGARDS CRYPTOGRAPHIC SYSTEMS THAT MAY OR MAY NOT BE IN USE BY NUMBERS STATIONS.

A Rubic's Cube puzzle presents
far less frustration than attempts
at unscrambling the mysteries
of numbers transmissions!

AFTERWORD

While this was, very obviously, a book about numbers and related matters, I do, on occasion, and when the mood strikes, write on other topics using another name. But that's another story for another time.

Unfortunately, the vile plague of anonymity infected many of the pages of this book. I will readily admit that unattributed information creates many difficulties for readers. Judgements as to the validity of certain statements cannot be easily reached. Long established journalism concepts have, in many instances, fallen by the wayside.

One learns to live with this "speaking on the condition of anonymity" syndrome. While not the best way -- it is often the only way. This is often the situation with numbers sources. They simply decline to be identified! One must respect their wishes.

Rest assured that the statements contained in this book are not fabricated statements. Every effort has been undertaken to ascertain the credibility of those who declined to be identified. This is often a difficult task. And that's putting it mildly!

It would be safe to say that those responsible for number transmissions do not issue press releases or hand out neatly engraved business cards or color brochures. Those few of us that strive to report on numbers activity must depend on those sources that decline to be identified.

And as far as "off-the-record" comments and the Freedom of Information Act are concerned -- forget it! Numbers information always comes in tiny bits and pieces. And, often times, information comes from very unexpected sources.

You can also rest assured that those responsible for this mystery do not frequent "fern bars" where decorator colored drinks with silly sounding names are served. My guess is that they well might prefer Tecate or perhaps Bourbon. I'll even venture to say they have, or will, read this book! That's almost a sure bet. Will they respond? If they do, it will be with disinformation! I would expect nothing less! I would do the very same thing if I were in their situation!

I take full responsibility for omissions, of which there are many, and errors. Every possible attempt, however, has been made to ensure accuracy.

Readers are urged to submit their views, findings and other numbers-related information. Replies should be directed to the publisher. Feel welcome to join the ranks of those who decline to be identified. Your wishes will be respected.

The numbers . . . They are a mystery! They are "dead drops" off a lonely Virginia country road! They are a dipole with white coax leading through a broken window of a decaying building on a remote section of a major international airport! They are a marine transmitter with the selector switch set to the 4125 kHz crystal position!

They are a mysterious yacht names [deleted]! They are white unmarked troop transport aircraft loading dark skinned men with Uzis in the week hours of the morning! They are a call from a Higher Authority! They are things you do not want to know but desire to know! They are the "numbers!"

Time now for a Tecate and . . .

Adios

Havana Moon y Amigas

60088

And ye shall know the truth
and the truth shall make you free
John, VIII: 32

Inscription on the main lobby wall of the CIA

SELECTED READING LIST

A PERFECT FAILURE: THE BAY OF PIGS, by Professor Irving L. Janis
(Houghton Mifflin)

A SEASON ON INQUIRY: THE SENATE INTELLIGENCE INVESTIGATION, by
Loch Johnson (University Press of Kentucky)

A THOUSAND DAYS, by Arthur M Schlesinger, Jr. (Houghton Mifflin)

A WORLD OF SECRETS. THE USES & LIMITS OF INTELLIGENCE, by
Walter Laqueur (Basic Books)

AGENCY OF FEAR, Edward Jay Epstein (McGraw-Hill)

ALBERT SPEER, THE END OF A MYTH, by Matthias Schmidt (Collier
Books)

AND I WAS THERE: PEARL HARBOR AND MIDWAY -- BREAKING THE
SECRETS, by Rear Admiral Edwin T. Layton, USN (Ret.) (William
Morrow)

ANTI-MATTER, by C. M. Stanbury (Dust Books P.O. Box 1056,
Paradise, CA 95969)

ANYTHING BUT THE TRUTH, by William McGaffin & Erwin Knoll
(Putnam)

BAY OF PIGS, by Peter Wyden (Simon and Schuster)

BEYOND CLOAK AND DAGGER: INSIDE THE CIA, by Miles Copeland
(Pinnacle Books)

BODYGUARD OF LIES, by Anthony Cave Brown (Harper and Rowe)

BROKEN SEAL, by Ladislav Farago (Random House)

BURN AFTER READING, by Ladislav Farago (Pinnacle Books)

- CIA: THE INSIDE STORY, by Andrew Tully (Fawcett)
- CLOAK AND CIPHER, by Dan Moore & Martha Waller (Bobbs-Merrill)
- CODES, CIPHERS, AND COMPUTERS, by Bruce Bosworth (Hayden Books)
- CODES, CIPHERS AND SECRET WRITING, by Martin Gardner (Archway Books)
- COMPUTER SIMULATION OF CLASSICAL SUBSTITUTION SYSTEMS, by Rudolph Lauer (Aegean Park Press, P.O. Box 2837, Laguna Hills, CA 92653)
- CONFIDENTIAL FREQUENCY LIST (6th edition), by O. P. Ferrell (Gilfer Shortwave, P.O. Box 239, Park Ridge, NJ 07656)
- COUNTERPLOT: THE GARRISON CASE, by Edward Jay Epstein (McGraw Hill)
- CRYPTANALYSIS, by Helen Fouche Gaines (Dover Paperbacks, 31 East 2nd Street, Mineola, NY 11501)
- CRYPTANALYSIS FOR MICRO COMPUTERS, by Caxton Foster (Hayden Books)
- CRYPTOGRAPHY, by Laurence Smith (Dover Paperbacks)
- CRYPTOGRAPHY: A PRIMER, by Alan G. Konheim (John Wiley)
- DEADLY MAGIC, by Edward Van Der Rhoer (Scribners)
- DOUBLE-EDGED SECRETS, by W. J. Holmes (Naval Institute Press)
- ELEMENTS OF CRYPTANALYSIS, by William F. Friedman (Aegean Park Press)
- EMBASSY RADIO COMMUNICATIONS HANDBOOK, by Michael Schaay (Universal Electronics) A definite must read.
For a full list of publications from Universal send \$1 to:
Universal Shortwave Radio
1280 Alda Drive
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068
- FEDERAL FREQUENCY DIRECTORY, Edited by Robert Grove (Grove Enterprises, Inc.)
For full information on publications from the above, write:
P.O. Box 98
Brasstown, NC 28902
- GERMAN MILITARY INTELLIGENCE, by Paul Leverkuehn (Weidenfeld and Nicolson: London)
- GIVE US THIS DAY, by Howard Hunt (Arlington House)
- GREAT MYTHS OF WORLD WAR II, by Karl Roebeling (Paragon Press/Dyna Press)

GUIDE TO EMBASSY AND ESPIONAGE COMMUNICATIONS, by Tom Kneitel (CRB Research, P.O. Box 56, Commack, NY 11725) \$10.95 plus \$1 postage.

HITLER'S SPIES, by David Kahn, Ph.D. (Macmillan)

HOW TO AVOID ELECTRONIC EAVESDROPPING AND PRIVACY INVASION, by William Turner (Paladin Press)

HOW TO TUNE THE SECRET SHORTWAVE SPECTRUM, by Harry Helms (Tab Books)

INSIDE THE AQUARIUM, by Viktor Suvorov (Macmillan)

INSIDE THE COMPANY: CIA DIARY, by Phillip Agee (Bantam Paperback)

KGB, by John Baron (Bantam Books) A mention of the Warrenton/Remington transmitter site can be found in this book.

LANGUAGE IDENTIFICATION TABLE, by N. Ingle (Technical Translation International: London) A unique way to identify unknown languages. Contains an alphabetical list of one and two letter words keyed to almost 50 different languages.

LEGEND: THE SECRET WORLD OF LEE HARVEY OSWALD, by Edward Jay Epstein (Reader's Digest Press)

MACHINE CRYPTOGRAPHY AND MODERN CRYPTANALYSIS, by C. A. Deavours and Louis Kruh (Artech House)

MAYDAY, EISENHOWER, KRUSCHEV AND THE U-2 AFFAIR, by Michael Beschloss (Harper and Rowe)

MY SILENT WAR, by Kim Philby (Grove Press, Inc.)

NORMAL AND REVERSE ENGLISH WORD LIST, by U.S. Department of Commerce, National Technical Information Service, 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, VA 22151

PRESIDENTS' SECRET WARS, by John Prados (William Morrow)

PRINCIPLES OF MILITARY COMMUNICATIONS, by Don J. Torrieri (Artech House Books)

PRIVACY: HOW TO GET IT. HOW TO ENJOY IT., by Bill Kaysing (Eden Press, Inc.)

SECRET AIRWAVES - HOW TO MONITOR MYSTERY TRANSMISSIONS, by Don Schimmel (Tiare Publications)

SHORTWAVE RADIO LISTENING WITH THE EXPERTS, edited by Gerry L. Dexter (Howard W. Sams)

SOVIET DEFECTORS: THE KGB WANTED LIST, by Vladislav Krasnov (Stanford: Hoover Institution Press)

- STATISTICAL METHODS IN CRYPTANALYSIS, by Solomon Kullback, Ph.D.
(Aegean Park Press)
- THE ANATOMY OF TWO TRAITORS, by Wayne Barker and Rodney Coffman
(Aegean Park Press)
- THE BAY OF PIGS, by Haynes Johnson (Norton)
- THE BIG SECRET, by William Poundstone (William Morrow)
- THE CIA AND THE CULT OF INTELLIGENCE, by Victor Marchetti and
John Marks (Dell Paperbacks)
- THE CIA AND THE U.S. INTELLIGENCE SYSTEM, by Scott Breckinridge
(Westview Press)
- THE COMPLETE SHORTWAVE LISTENER'S HANDBOOK, by Hank Bennett and
Harry Helms (Tab Books)
- THE CUBAN INVASION, by Karl Meyer and Tad Szulc (Praeger)
- THE CODE BOOK, by Michael Marotta (Loompanics Unlimited)
- THE CODEBREAKERS, by David Kahn, Ph.D. (Macmillan)
- THE CRAFT OF INTELLIGENCE, by Allen Dulles (Harper and Rowe)
- THE CUBAN STORY, by Herbert Matthews (Braziller)
- THE DOUBLE-CROSS SYSTEM, by J. C. Masterman (Yale University
Press)
- THE FBI-KGB WAR, by Robert Lamphere (Random House)
- THE GAME OF THE FOXES, by Ladislav Farago (McKay)
- THE INVISIBLE GOVERNMENT, by David Wise and Thomas Ross (Random
House) Detailed background of Radio Swan. Difficult to obtain.
- THE MOSSAD, by Dennis Eisenberg, Uri Dan and Eli Landaw
(Paddinton Press Ltd.)
- THE NIGHT WATCH, by David Atlee Phillips (Atheneum)
- THE PUZZLE PALACE, by James Bamford (Penguin Paperbacks)
- THE REAL CIA, by Lyman B. Kirkpatrick (Macmillan)
- THE SECRET WAR REPORT OF THE OSS, by Anthony Cave Brown (Berkley
Medallion Press)
- "THE TARGET IS DESTROYED": WHAT REALLY HAPPENED TO FLIGHT 007
AND WHAT AMERICA KNEW ABOUT IT, by Seymour Hersch (Random House)
- THE "TOP SECRET" REGISTRY OF U.S. GOVERNMENT RADIO FREQUENCIES,
by Tom Kneitel, K2AES (CRB Research)

THE TRUTH ABOUT SELF-PROTECTION, by Massad Ayoob (Bantam Books)

THE ULTRA AMERICAN: "THE U.S. ROLE IN BREAKING THE NAZI CODES", by Thomas Parrish (Stein and Day) contains never before published photos of the TOP SECRET Soviet "Fish" crypto equipment.

THE ULTRA SECRET, by F. W. Winterbotham (Dell Paperbacks)

THE WAR THAT NEVER WAS, by Captain Bradley Ayers (Bobbs-Merrill)

THE WATERGATE HEARINGS: BREAK-IN AND COVERUP, by The staff of the New York Times (Bantam Books)

THE ZIMMERMAN TELEGRAM, by Barbara Tuchman (Viking)

THEY'VE KILLED THE PRESIDENT, by Robert Anson (Bantam Books)

WAR SECRETS IN THE ETHER, by William Flicke (Aegean Park Press)

WHO'S WHO IN TERRORISM -- 1984, by Ryan Quade Emerson (International Research Center on Terrorism, Inc.) (Very difficult to obtain as only a very few copies were printed and distributed)

WIRETAPPING AND ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE, A Government Commission Study (Loompanics Unlimited)

WE ARE NOT ALONE, by Walter Sullivan (Signet Paperbacks)

WHERE'S WHAT: SOURCES OF INFORMATION FOR FEDERAL INVESTIGATORS, Prepared by: Henry J. Murphy, Office of Security, Central Intelligence Agency (Warner Books) Long out of print, this excellent publication may be very difficult to obtain!

HOW TO OBTAIN CIA PUBLICATIONS
AND MAPS AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC

TO SUBSCRIBE TO ALL CIA PUBLICATIONS

Document Expediting Project (DOCEX)
Exchange and Gifts Division
Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
Telephone: (202) 287-5253

Annual fee is \$225. for subscription service

TO OBTAIN SELECTED MAPS AND ATLASES

Superintendent of Documents
Government Printing Office
Washington, D.C. 20402

MasterCard, VISA, check, or money order accepted.
Use GPO stock number when ordering.

TO OBTAIN INDIVIDUAL CURRENT PUBLICATIONS AS WELL AS THOSE
PUBLISHED BEFORE FEBRUARY 1979

Library of Congress
Photoduplication Service
Washington, D.C. 20540
Telephone: (202) 287-5650

Xeroxed copies, microfiche, or microfilm service
Use Title of Document when ordering.
Check or money order accepted.

And if you order before midnight . . .

01730

Source: Public Affairs, the CIA, Washington, D.C. 20505
