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FEDS LAUNCH BORDER AIR PATROLS FROM NEW YORK

PLATTSBURGH, N.Y. — Beefed up air patrols designed to intercept terrorists, drug smugglers and illegal aliens along the nation's vast northeastern border will be launched from a base commissioned Friday.

The new Air and Marine Operations facility at a former Air Force base in the northeast corner of New York is one of five that will be responsible for tightening surveillance along the U.S.-Canadian border.

The first facility opened in August in Bellingham, Wash. Others are tentatively planned for near Detroit; Grand Forks, N.D. and Great Falls, Mont.

National security is a main concern. But Department of Homeland Security helicopter pilot Dennis Del Grosso said agents on patrol are looking for anything from low-flying planes trying to skirt radar to illegal aliens or drug runners trying to sneak over the border on snowmobiles.

"Vehicles, boats and airplanes that carry drugs or illegal immigrants can just as easily carry terrorists or weapons of mass destruction," said Charles Stallworth, director of Air and Marine operations.

Stallworth said the five bases, when up and running, will give agents the ability to respond anywhere along the more than 4,000 mile border within an hour.

Border patrol agents say they have noticed more air smuggling efforts over the border recently. Just as pilots fly drugs in from Mexico, authorities fear planes carrying terrorists or explosives could come over the northern border.

"It will be more secure. Why? Because we have people who can respond," Stallworth said.

Planes from the old Plattsburgh Air Force Base will patrol the largely wooded border east to Maine, and along Lake Ontario and the western portion of Lake Erie. High-speed boats from the base will regularly

THE URBAN DX'ER

Established 1984

patrol Lake Champlain and cross into the St. Lawrence River and other waterways as needed, according to Department of Homeland Security officials.

Two prop planes and two helicopters will be based at the new facility, along with some 40 people. On a demonstration helicopter run Friday, pilots ran a quick, low loop to a stretch of border barely discernible amid an endless expanse of woods. But flying at 580 feet, riders could zero in on individual people golfing or mowing lawns, as well as on cars rolling down the Northway.

Similar air patrols have been conducted along the Mexican border for more than three decades.

The new northern bases are part of a larger effort by homeland security officials to keep a closer eye on the largely unprotected border in the wake of the Sept. 11 attacks. The government already relies on periodic patrols by radar-equipped planes from Plattsburgh and other points, but the permanent stations are designed to allow regular surveillance.

The aircraft will allow agents to track suspicious flights when the pilot doesn't report to customs or talk on the radio. Federal pilots could follow rogue aircraft or direct agents on the ground.

The new operation represents a return to regular national defense duty for the Cold War-era air base, which hosted nuclear-tipped bombers before it closed in 1995. The base has since been retooled to host a collection of businesses and housing developments, which will share space with the new border patrol operation.

TV TRANSMIT on 121.5

An Oregon man discovered earlier this month that his year-old Toshiba Corporation flat-screen TV was emitting an international distress signal picked up by a satellite, leading a search and rescue operation to his apartment in Corvallis, Oregon, 70 miles south of Portland.

The signal from Chris van Rossmann's TV was routed by satellite to the Air Force Rescue Center

at Langley Air Base in Virginia. On October 2, the 20 year-old college student was visited at his apartment in the small university town by a contingent of local police, civil air patrol and search and rescue personnel.

"They'd never seen signal come that strong from a home appliance," said van Rossmann. "They were quite surprised. I think we all were." Authorities had expected to find a boat or small plane with a malfunctioning transponder, the usual culprit in such incidents, emitting the 121.5 MHz frequency of the distress signal used internationally.

Van Rossmann said he was told to keep his TV off to avoid paying a \$10,000 fine for "willingly broadcasting a false distress signal." Toshiba contacted Rossmann and offered to provide him with a replacement set for free, he said.

MIL AIR FREQ'S

Over the past few weeks I've received several e-mail from readers asking for active military air frequencies. Several people located in Northern Bergen County believe that since they're located away from the metro NYC area, little to no activity is available. This belief could not be more incorrect. In fact, most military aircraft fly at relatively high altitudes. It's not uncommon to receive aircraft at distances of 200-300 miles. I received the following list from a "listener" who asked to remain anonymous.

UHF Channels known as "BUTTON" or "UNIFORM"

228.700 / BUTTON 12 / HUNTRESS OPS
 233.600 / BUTTON 14 / HUNTRESS OPS
 238.250 / BUTTON 17
 239.000 / BUTTON 4 / TOWER
 243.000 / BUTTON 20 / EMERGENCY
 249.800 / BUTTON 8 / GIANTKILLER OPS
 254.300 / BUTTON 6 / APP.-DEP. / SOUTH
 255.000 / BUTTON 9 / GIANTKILLER OPS
 261.000 / BUTTON 1 / COMMAND POST
 273.400 / BUTTON 15 / HUNTRESS OPS
 284.600 / BUTTON 3 / GROUND CONTROL
 285.400 / BUTTON 7 / WASHINGTON ARTCC
 288.700 / BUTTON 11 / TACTICAL
 290.400 / BUTTON 10 / APP.-DEP. / WEST
 318.400 / BUTTON 16 / HUNTRESS OPS
 364.200 / BUTTON 13 / HUNTRESS / NORAD
 CH. BLUE 7 AICC
 385.500 / BUTTON 5 / APP.-DEP. / NORTH
 396.000 / BUTTON 2 / CLEARANCE DELIVERY

Huntress" Frequencies

234.550 / UNKNOWN USE
 239.200 / HUNTRESS OPS
 239.400 / HUNTRESS OPS
 251.800 / HUNTRESS OPS
 251.900 / RESCUE TRAINING
 254.800 / HUNTRESS OPS
 258.000 / HUNTRESS OPS
 263.600 / UNKNOWN USE
 271.000 / HUNTRESS / TANKER OPS / NORAD
 CH. BLUE 15
 288.000 / HUNTRESS OPS
 289.000 / HUNTRESS OPS
 292.800 / HUNTRESS OPS
 293.600 / NORAD OPS
 303.900 / HUNTRESS OPS
 312.800 / HUNTRESS OPS
 316.150 / A.C. ATIS
 324.000 / NORAD NEADS CH. BLUE 25
 327.125 / A.C. APPROACH

VHF channels referred to as "PUSH" or "VICTOR"

124.600 / PUSH 6 / APP.-DEP. / SOUTH
 138.050 / PUSH 18 / TACTICAL
 138.100 / PUSH 19 / TACTICAL
 138.125 / PUSH 15 / TACTICAL / "DEVIL" OPS
 138.250 / PUSH 14 / TACTICAL / "SMASH" OPS
 138.425 / PUSH 16 / TACTICAL / "COSMIC" OPS /
 HUNTRESS / McGUIRE AR
 138.475 / PUSH 13 / TACTICAL
 138.875 / PUSH 17 / TACTICAL / McGUIRE KC-
 10's & KC-135's

Misc. Frequencies with known activity

138.000, 138.200, 138.300, 138.500, 138.600,
 138.725, 139.725, 142.200, 142.450

NORAD "BLUE" FREQUENCIES

BLUE 7 / 364.200
 BLUE 10 / 234.600 / NORAD NEADS /
 HUNTRESS / GIANTKILLER
 BLUE 15 / 271.000 / NORAD NEADS -
 HUNTRESS PRIMARY UNIFORM
 BLUE 19 / 288.400 / AWACS CH. CONTROL 1
 BLUE 21 / 362.300
 BLUE 24 / 320.600 / AIREAL REFUELING
 BLUE 25 / 324.000
 BLUE 31 / 364.800 / AICC
 BLUE 55 / 320.900

USAF Discrete Frequencies

225.400 / GROUND 1
 226.200 / SIERRA 1

226.400 / SIERRA 2
 252.525 / TRIPLE 25
 275.800 / GROUND 2
 289.400 / GROUND 3
 299.500 / CHEAPSUIT
 300.600 / 30-06 "30 ODD 6"
 300.650 / 30-06 PLUS 5 "30 ODD 6 + 5"
 303.000 / WINCHESTER "30-30"
 303.050 / 30-30 PLUS 5
 303.100 / WINCHESTER + 1
 311.000 / SAC PRIMARY CH. 9
 321.000 / SAC SECONDARY CH. 11
 321.300 / AMBER CH. 6
 333.550 / FULLHOUSE
 335.800 / GROUND

HF-USB Frequencies

2.670.0 USCG/CAPE MAY,NJ/WX
 3.167.4 NAVY-JTFEX
 4.372.0 GIANTKILLER
 4.724.0 HF-GCS-NIGHTS
 5.211.0 FEMA
 5.696.0 CAMSLANT CHESAPEACK
 6.697.0 HF-GCS
 6.712.0 GIANTKILLER
 6.739.0 HF-GCS-NIGHTS
 7.765.0 NAVY LINK 11
 8.967.0 GIANTKILLER
 8.983.0 CAMSLANT CHESAPEACK
 8.992.0 HF-GCS-PRIMARY DAY
 10.242.0 COTHEN/PANTHER OPS
 10.493.0 FEMA
 10.780.0 NASA
 11.175.0 HF-GCS-PRIMARY DAY
 11.181.0 HF-GCS-DISCRETE
 11.244.0 HF-GCS
 13.155.0 HF-GCS-DISCRETE
 13.200.0 HF-GCS-BACKUP DAYS
 13.927.0 MARS
 14.325.0 HURRICANE WATCH NET
 15.016.0 HF-GCS-BACKUP DAYS
 20.992.0 MARS

Police Call 2005

"Ken" a scanner enthusiast from MA recently received his copy of Police Call 2005. Ken was kind enough to share his comments and observations. Kens comments, posted to USENET, were quite lengthy. To conserve space, I've itemized and summarized them to fit within the available space. Police Call 2005 has been the staple of monitoring hobbyists for many years. Unfortunately, the

number of errors seems increase as do the errors & omissions.

Negative Issues

- LISTING BY STATE (printed & CD ROM, data base format) Locally I've found that licenses granted on/after 6/18/04 didn't make this publication. Some of the somewhat new licenses (e.g. 2 years old) are classified as local government but have no remarks indicating there use. Many frequencies that are no longer active (e.g. agencies moving to 800 MHz) continue to be listed to include remarks usage such as "dispatch", "primary" etc, which would confuse newcomers.
- The NASCAR CAR RACING FREQUENCIES SECTION (book & CD ROM in PDF format) MANY strange new frequencies! As an example starting on the first page, first racer under ARCA, shows 459.0125263. In fact almost the entire race section has these strange frequencies listed; a clear lack of proof reading.
- THE U.S. GOVERNMENT LISTINGS (CD ROM, PDF) Some bases/military installations that have been closed for 10+ years are still listed. Also they fail to differentiate air/air tactical (AM mode) in the VHF high band from FM. Here, Police Call is virtually useless as your primary reference source for US Fed Government or US Military frequency information.
- THE TRUNKED RADIO SYSTEM LISTINGS (CD ROM, data base) Inconsistent at best in it's presentation. Sometimes they list the talk groups first and than the frequencies. Other times its frequencies first. Sometimes they just list a location with frequencies and don't tie it to any particular agency. Again, even a cursory proof reading of the data would have revealed this problem.

- RAILROAD RADIO SYSTEM LISTINGS (printed, CD ROM, PDF) Police Call 2005 has some defunct lines listed (e.g. Conrail) but than has the same frequencies listed as being used by CSX.
- AIRCRAFT SECTION (CD ROM, PDF) It appears that many of the UHF military aero frequencies changes were not revised in this edition, as well as many approach/departure control VHF frequencies for various airports even though publicly accessible info, e.g. US DOD IFR & VFR Supplements & USG FLIP publications Airport/Facility Directories) would have allowed easy update.
- CONSOLIDATED FREQUENCY LIST (CD ROM, PDF) Apparently all of the frequencies (e.g. business band) new splits aren't shown but one must decode what they have printed from the initial list. As far as the US government/military listings in this section, very out of date (e.g. agencies, frequencies usage etc.) and not showing the new 12.5 kHz splits in the 138-144, 148-150.8 as well as the 406-420 mhz band.. Again all of this was public information.
- GROVE'S 1000 SHORTWAVE FREQUENCIES LISTINGS (CD ROM, data base) It would have been helpful to see EACH frequency annotated in the remarks section on whether it is AM mode or SSB (USB/LSB) to aid newcomers in knowing that there's a difference (and equipment requirements).
- FCC RADIO SERVICES (printed & CD ROM PDF) It would have been helpful to include the description/frequencies of the business/industrial pool which wasn't included on the CD ROM since this is an interesting area.
- MAPS (CD ROM, data base) Of the 49 states listed, 5 had NO maps listed (DE, FL, MA, RI, WV). Interestingly "Monitor

America" had maps for 4 of the 5 locations in the book. Also it's impossible to read the maps on the screen; you have to print it out.

- BEYOND POLICE CALL (selected categories printed & all CD ROM pdf) 15 Categories are printed, 5 categories are only on the CD ROM (plus the 15 printed). I could not find "Golf & Country Clubs" in the data base even though it was listed in the printed version on page 317 of the book as being on the CD ROM. Also "Aircraft Ground Crews" was not listed in the book but was in the data base. Also it appears that this section is not being updated on a yearly basis. One utilities' major frequency was license in 2002 yet it wasn't listed in the data base.

Conclusions

Is "Police Call" resting on its past and not really interested in improving the quality & detailed information of its product? Such improvements might increase the price beyond \$20.00, but few would debate that its usefulness would be worth the price. Additionally, it appears that simple proof reading and better quality control would eliminate many of the errors.

Suggestions

- "Police Call" should consider eliminating some of the categories from it's directory that can't be kept reasonably up-to-date. We know that Police Call depends upon voluntary input from hobbyists, though input from such sources seems to be lacking. Perhaps the quality could be vastly improved if Police Call offered some incentive to contributing hobbyists.

NY-NJ NEWS MEDIA LIST

It's been awhile since we last published a news media list, particularly a list of the various news gathering and traffic related helicopters. If anyone has the correct PL's, please pass them on and I'll update the list. For your convenience I've separated the list from the body of the newsletter so it can be used as a handy scanning reference.

AM BROADCAST BAND DX SEASON

As winter approaches, the AM broadcast bands are starting to quiet down. Unlike some aspects of the radio hobby, Broadcast band DX'ing doesn't require any expensive equipment. In fact, one of the best radios is GE's Super Radio III which can be purchased for about \$49-\$69. The following stations were heard during the evenings in late October 2004 on Staten Island, NYC.

The radio used was a Kenwood TS430S amateur transceiver and the antenna was a G5RV-Jr set up as an inverted-V with the apex hanging only 20 feet off the ground.

Tougher stations were heard using USB or LSB furthest away from adjacent stations.

LEGEND**C=Clear Channel****L=Local****P=Pirate****R=Regional****T=TIS**

R 530 Radio Vision Cristiana (Turks & Caicos Islands)(Spanish)

C 540 WLIE (ISLIP, NY)

R 560 WFIL (PHILADELPHIA, PA)

R 570 WMCA (NEW YORK, NY)

R 590 WARM (SCRANTON, PA)

R 600 WICC (BRIDGEPORT, CT)

R 610 WIP (PHILADELPHIA, PA)

R 620 WSNR (JERSEY CITY, NJ)

R 630 WMAL (WASHINGTON, DC)

C 640 WFNC (FAYETTEVILLE, NC)

C 650 WSM (NASHVILLE, TN)

C 660 WFAN (NEW YORK, NY)

C 670 WSCR (CHICAGO, IL)

C 680 WRKO (BOSTON, MA)

C 690 CINF (MONTREAL, QUE)

C 700 WLW (CINCINNATI, OH)

C 710 WOR (NEW YORK, NY)

C 720 WGN (CHICAGO, IL)

C 740 CHWO (TORONTO, ONT)

C 750 WSB (ATLANTA, GA)

C 760 WJR (DETROIT, MI)

C 770 WABC (NEW YORK, NY)

C 780 WBBM (CHICAGO, IL)

C 800 CKLW (WINDSOR, ONT)

C 810 WGY (SCHENECTADY, NY)

C 820 WNYC (NEW YORK, NY)

C 830 WCCO (MINNEAPOLIS, MN)

C 840 WHAS (LOUISVILLE, KY)

C 850 WEEI (BOSTON, MA)

C 860 CJBC (TORONTO, ONT) (french)

C 870 WWL (NEW ORLEANS, LA)

C 880 WCBS (NEW YORK, NY)

C 890 WLS (CHICAGO, IL)

C 900 CHML (HAMILTON, ONT)

R 910 WRKL (NEW CITY, NY)

R 920 WHJJ (PROVIDENCE, RI)

R 930 WPAT (PATERSON, NJ)

C 940 WMIX (MOUNT VERNON, IL)

R 950 WPEN (PHILADELPHIA, PA) (spanish)

R 960 CHNS (HAMILTON, NS)

R 970 WWDJ (HACKENSACK, NJ)

R 980 WTEM (BETHESDA, MD) (ESPN)

C 990 WNTP (PHILADELPHIA, PA)

C1000 WMVP (CHICAGO, IL) (ESPN)

C1010 WINS (NEW YORK, NY)

C1020 KDKA (PITTSBURGH, PA)

C1030 WBZ (BOSTON, MA)

C1040 WHO (DES MOINES, IA)

C1050 WEPN (NEW YORK, NY) (ESPN)

C1060 KYW (PHILADELPHIA, PA)

C1070 WKMB (STIRLING, NJ) (WORLD HARVEST RADIO)

C1080 WTIC (HARTFORD, CT)

C1090 WBAL (BALTIMORE, MD)

C1100 WTAM (CLEVELAND, OH)

C1110 WBT (CHARLOTTE, NC)

C1120 KMOX (ST. LOUIS, MO)

C1130 WBBR (NEW YORK, NY)

C1140 WRVA (RICHMOND, VA)

R1150 WMRD (MIDDLETOWN, CT)

C1160 WVNJ (OAKLAND, NJ)

C1170 WWVA (WHEELING, WV)

C1180 WHAM (ROCHESTER, NY)

C1190 WLIB (NEW YORK, NY)

C1210 WPHT (PHILADELPHIA, PA)

C1220 WKNR (CLEVELAND, OH)

L1230 WFAS (WHITE PLAINS, NY)

L1240 WGBB (FREEPORT, NY)

R1250 WMTR (MORRISTOWN, NJ)

R1280 WADO (NEW YORK, NY) (spanish)

R1300 WJFK (BALTIMORE, MD)

R1330 WWRV (PATERSON, NJ) (spanish)

R1360 WNNJ (NEWTON, NJ)

R1370 WXXI (ROCHESTER, NY)

R1380 WKDM (NEW YORK, NY) (spanish)

R1410 WPOP (HARTFORD, CT) (ESPN)

R1430 WNSW (NEWARK, NJ)

R1480 WZRC (NEW YORK, NY) (korean)

C1500 WTOP (WASHINGTON, DC)

C1510 WLAC (NASHVILLE, TN)

C1520 WWKB (BUFFALO, NY)

C1530 WJDM (ELIZABETH, NJ)

C1540 WDCD (ALBANY, NY)

C1560 WQEW (NEW YORK, NY) (RADIO DISNEY)

C1570 WISP (DOYLESTOWN, PA)

R1600 WWRL (NEW YORK, NY)

T1610 WPAS758 (NJTPK Auth - Elizabeth, nj)

R1640 WKSH (SUSSEX, WI) (RADIO DISNEY)

R1650 WHKT (PORTSMOUTH, VA) (RADIO DISNEY)

R1660 WWRU (JERSEY CITY, NJ)

R1680 WTTM (PRINCETON, NJ)

R1690 WPTX (LEXINGTON PARK, MD)

R1700 WEUV (HUNTSVILLE, AL)

P1710 (Unlicensed/out of band station with Jewish programming from Brooklyn, NY)

NYDXA ANNUAL MALL FREQUENCY LIST

Next month I'll be publishing our annual list of Malls and Shopping Centers. Though the list contains many of the same stores, this years version includes many more PL's. It's also been converted into an Excel spreadsheet format so any updates we receive can be easily added. If any of you have a list of frequencies used at shopping centers you visit frequently, please share it with us. I'll do the dupe checking and integrate it into our list.

Urban DX'er would like to thank all those who contributed to this month's issue!
Charlie - N2NOV; N1MLZ, "Kevin", Dave, KE2SL, and "Anonymous"

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New York – New Jersey Media Frequencies

WCBS CBS Channel 2

	Frequency	PL	Call	Use / Notes
WCBS CH 2	450.0875	94.8		Radio Traffic Chopper
	455.7000	94.8		Radio Traffic Chopper
	450.2875			IFB – Cueing
	450.3875			IFB – Cueing
	450.0500			Control to Field
	450.2875			Selden Repeater / ENG
	450.8000			Selden Repeater / ENG
	455.2500			
	455.3500			

WNBC NBC Channel 4

	Frequency	PL	Call	Use / Notes
WNBC CH 4	450.8875			News 4 Copter
	450.4125			News 4 Copter (Control)
	450.5375			News 4 Copter (Control)
	450.7500			IFB
	450.3875			IFB
	161.6700			Network Desk

WNYW FOX Channel 5

	Frequency	PL	Call	Use / Notes
WNYW CH 5	450.1875			
	450.8500			
	455.1875			
	450.3125			IFB

WABC ABC Channel 7

	Frequency	PL	Call	Use / Notes
WABC CH 7	450.0500			News Desk
	455.0500			News Desk
	455.5125			IFB
	455.6125			Helicopter

WWOR UPN Channel 9

	Frequency	PL	Call	Use / Notes
WWOR-CH 9	450.4875			Television News Desk
	450.2500			Radio News Desk - Simplex

WPIX WB Channel 11

	Frequency	PL	Call	Use / Notes
WPIX CH 11	450.3125			IFB
	450.9250			

Shadow Traffic

	Frequency	PL	Call	Use / Notes
Shadow Traffic	452.9750	103.5		F1 Operations
	450.8375	103.5		F2 Westchester
	453.0000	103.5		F3 New Jersey
	455.5625	103.5		F5 Production
	450.1375	103.5		F6 Connecticut
	450.1375	103.5		F6 Connecticut
	455.6625	103.5		

Metro Traffic

	Frequency	PL	Call	Use / Notes
Metro Traffic	450.8125 *	67.0		Helicopters
* denotes use of voice-inversion scrambling	455.8125 *	67.0		Helicopters
	455.9250 *	67.0		Helicopters
	450.4375	67.0		F3 Simplex
	450.3500	67.0		F4 Simplex

Other Helicopters

	Frequency	PL	Call	Use / Notes
NYPD – Aviation	123.100	AM		
Helo-to-Helo	123.025	AM		Coordination
	123.050	AM		Coordination