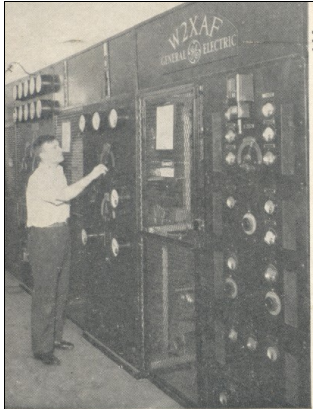


## Relays and Roundtables: HJ1ABB, W2XAF et al.

by

Jerry Berg,  
[jsberg@rcn.com](mailto:jsberg@rcn.com)



**Mr. H.C. Chesnut**

We acknowledge with thanks your communication reporting reception of our short wave program on

**May 30, 1935 10 PM EST**

from station W2XAF—W2XAD. relay of HJ1ABB

W2XAF, operating on a frequency of 9,530 kilocycles or 31.48 meters is on the air every night from 5:30 until 11:00 p.m., Eastern Standard time.

W2XAD, operating on a frequency of 15,330 kilocycles or 19.56 meters, is on the air every afternoon from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m., Eastern Standard time.


The station near W2XAF is Zeesen, Germany.

**GENERAL ELECTRIC**

SCHENECTADY, N. Y., U. S. A.

*CS. Smith*

The note – “Relay of HJ1ABB” – on this 1935 QSL from G.E. shortwaver W2XAF in Schenectady, New York got me to checking old bulletins from the International Short Wave Club. I found that during the years 1934-1936, W2XAF was often reported “testing” with Colombian HJ1ABB, VK2ME (Australia) and LSX (Argentina). Other shortwave broadcasters with whom W2XAF was known to make contact included several other Colombians, VK3ME (Melbourne), 2RO (Rome), PRF5 (Rio de Janeiro), and HP5B (Panama City). Some of the stations were known to play cards over the air during these hookups.



**COLOMBIA**

**“LA VOZ DE BARRANQUILLA”**

**HJ-1-ABB**

Thanks for your report. Reception verified.  
Muchas gracias por su informe de recepción.  
Frequency: 6447 Kc. — Power: 300 Watts

On the air - Horario 11.45 a. m. 1 p. m. 5.30-10 p. m. E. S. T.	Onda larga-Long wave <b>HJ-1-ABA</b> 1330 Kc. - 150 Watts	<b>ELIAS J. PELLET</b> Box 715 <b>BARRANQUILLA</b>
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The entries from the ISWC bulletins on the following three pages tell the story. It looks like some of these events were more like QSOs among broadcasters, with the stations operating serially, on their own

frequencies; while in others, a central station like W2XAF may have received programming off air from one or more cooperating stations, and retransmitted it with its own, yielding a synchronized program originating from multiple places. At times a significant number of stations participated in these multi-station broadcasts, and many listeners heard them.

The other note on the W2XAF QSL – “The station near W2XAF is Zeesen, Germany” – is a reminder of how listeners in those days had to locate stations. With any kind of dial accuracy more a dream than a reality, listeners would locate stations by their relationship to other strong stations whose frequency was known. Knowing a target station’s exact frequency was less important than knowing its proximity to the signal of another known broadcaster.

**Relays and Roundtables: HJ1ABB, W2XAF et al., entries  
from the Monthly Bulletin of the International Short Wave Club, 1933-1935**

July 1933

**HJ1ABB Changes**

Station HJ1ABB at Barranquilla, Colombia, once known as HKD, is on 51.75 meters now, broadcasting nightly from 8:00 until 10:00 P. M. and on Thursdays broadcast a special program for Club members. The address is apartado 715, Barranquilla. The owner is Elias J. Pellett. For ten reports they will send a set of photographs of Barranquilla. This information comes from Dr. J. S. Phugh, Dallas, Texas; Fernand Maybarduk, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Henry Shaw, Cape May, N. J.; Ramon Marti, Santurce, Puerto Rico; and Edward Houlgate, London, Ontario.

October 1933

**HJ1ABB Makes Important Change**

Station HJ1ABB, Barranquilla, Colombia, is now broadcasting on 46.5 meters. A letter from the owner, Elias J. Pellet, tells us that they have also changed their schedule and will soon increase their power to 300 watts. Starting October first they will broadcast from the Restaurant Americano twice daily from 11:30 A. M. to 1:00 P. M. and 6:00 to 7:30 P. M. From 7:30 to 8:00 P. M. a program of news and features will be broadcast and from 8:00 until 10:00 P. M. they will broadcast from the studios. On Sundays from 7:45 to 8:45 P. M. a broadcast of the Police Band will come from the Parque de Bolivar. Reports are wanted. We thank E. W. Procter, Colombia, South Carolina; J. S. Gonzales, Long Island City, N. Y.; F. B. Hetherington, Indianapolis, Indiana; James R. Pickering, Hightstown, N. J.; H. S. Bradley, Hamilton, N. Y.; F. L. Stitzinger, Erie, Pa.; Wm. H. Leeds, Cape May, N. J.; J. R. McAllister, Struthers, Ohio; and Howard Eck, Lansing Michigan.

Station HJ1ABB, Box 715 Barranquilla, Colombia, owned by Elias J. Pellet B, will broadcast special programs between 2:00 and 3:00 A. M. each Thursday throughout the month of October on the new wavelength of 46.5 meters or 6.45 megacycles. These early morning tests will take place October 5, 12, 19 and 26. If enough reports from members are received on these tests, others will be forthcoming.

November 1933

**HJ1ABB to Increase Power**

Station HJ1ABB at Barranquilla, Colombia, has written to several members informing them that on December 8 they will increase their power from 7 watts to 300 watts. This station announces that they are on 46.5 meters, but they are heard on about 45.6 meters instead. They broadcast from 11:30 A. M. to 1:00 P. M. and 6:00 to 10:00 P. M., E.S.T.

June 1934

HJ1ABB at Barranquilla, just about the most powerful of the Colombians just now is heard to say they are now on the air on 46.51 meters from 7:00 to 9:45 A.M. and 7:30 to 10:00 P.M. daily. Reports John Carr, Bronx, New York.

### Special Tests

October 1934

Just about every Saturday night, starting around 11:00 P.M., listeners will find a hook-up of stations in Central and South America around 40 and 45 meters. For instance on September 15, station YV5RMO, YV4RC, YV2RC, HJ1ABB, HC2RL, HJ4ABB, TIEP, HC1FG and (we understand) X1AA and HI1A, all got together. This began about 8:00 P.M. and each station took about fifteen minutes time. This was reported by a number of members. Samuel Solito of Leetsdale, Pa., writes us another such hook-up is planned for December 7, when it will be relayed in the United States over a chain of stations. It will start at 4:30 P.M., and the stations taking part will be HJ3ABD on 40.55 meters, 7.40 mc.; Prado on 45.31 meters, 6.62 mc.; HJ4ABB on 42.00 meters, 7.14 mc.; YV5RMO on 49.39 meters, 6.07 mc. A station owned by Moises La France at Managua, Nicaragua, is next on 41.5 meters. Sixth is HJ1ABB on 46.51 meters, 6.45 mc. Seventh is TIEP on 44.71 meters or 6.71 mc. Eighth is YV3RC or YV2RC near 49 meters. We also thank James Pickering for his help in this.

January 1935

HJ1ABB, Barranquilla, Colombia, 46.51 meters, 6:45 mc. New schedule is 4:30 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. now. This station tested with W2XAF, New York, December 17th from 6:30 to 7:00 P.M. They also broadcast a special 24-hour program December 7th and 8th. From 12:00 midnight to 12:30 A.M. the program was dedicated to the I.S.W.C. This station is now relaying long wave station HJ1ABA, so you hear two stations announced over the air. We thank the following for help on this: C. B. Locke, Chicago; John Shanks, Russellville, Tenn.; Sam Solito, Leetsdale, Pa.; F. L. Stitzinger, Erie, Pa.; Lester H. Smith, Quincy, Mass.; K. W. Caldwell, Gallup, New Mexico; H. J. Davison, Bayamon, P. R.; Forrest Messell, Chillicothe, Ohio; Walter Jasiorkowski, Milwaukee, Wis.; John Kirby, New York City.

February 1935

HJ1ABB on 46.51 meters, 6.45 mc., sent a special program on December 31 and January 1, lasting from 6:00 P.M. until about 5:30 A.M. They have also been testing with station W2XAF, Schenectady, N. Y., almost every Monday around 6:00 to 6:30 P.M. and have also been heard on Thursdays. This is in addition to their regular schedule. Reports have come from members Stitzinger, Messel, Gallagher, Kirby, Ulrich, Kreibel, Emerson, Miller, Hafner, Burleson, McIntosh (of Alva, Scotland) Zehner, Centanino, Wooten and Delozier. Enrique Franceschini of Guayanilla, P. R., tells us this station will soon be on 23.00 meters in daytime.

Round Table. Mrs. Clara Kibblehouse, of Philadelphia, Pa., tells us that Dr. Hard, of Mexico, on a recent visit, said that amateurs in Central and South America and West Indies have formed a Round Table Forum which gets together each Wednesday at 10:30 P.M., using both English and Spanish. Enrique Franceschini, of Guayanilla, P. R., tells us the following make up the Round Table: HJ1ABB, 6.45 mc.; HJ3ABD, 7.40 mc.; HJ4ABB, 7.14 mc.; HJ1ABE, 6.12 mc.; YV4RC, 6.37 mc.; YV5RMO, 5.85 mc.; YVQ, 6.67 mc.; TIEP, 6.71 mc.; HI8X, 7.07 mc.; HI6F, 7.08 mc. HI8H, 7.37 mc.; Prado, 6.62 mc.; HC2RL, 6.67 mc.; YNLF, 7.23 mc.; (see note on this station please), CM8LC, 7.30 mc. and PRF5, 9.50 mc.

W2XAF, on 31.48 meters, 9.53 mc., also broadcasts the opera each Saturday now. This starts around 1:30 P.M. and lasts until about 4:30 P.M. This station also has a new unique identification signal, a crashing sound made by 10 million volts of electricity which makes an artificial lightning. Their new QSL card shows this lightning. This station tested with HJ1ABB, Colombia, just about every Monday last month from 6:00 to 6:30 P.M. and with LSX, Argentina, from 6:30 to 7:00 P.M. They also tested with VK2ME around 6:00 A.M. several times and once exchanged a program with them around 4:00 A.M. We thank the following for their help on this: Wm. Neal, H. J. Davison, Max Horlick, W. Jasiorkowski, Robert Zechner, W. D. Martin, A. Williams, Lewis Greenman, Charles Nabours, James Wooten and C. D. Wagoner of W2XAF.

July 1935

HJ1ABB, Barranquilla, on 46.51 meters, 6.45 mc. Card gives schedule as 11:45 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. and 5:30 to 10:00 P.M.—W. Jasiorkowski. Heard as early as 4:00 P.M. and as late as Midnight by many. Works with W2XAF now at 10:00 P.M. on Mondays—H. J. Davidson, Bayamon, P. R., and Ken McKinley, Vancouver, B. C.

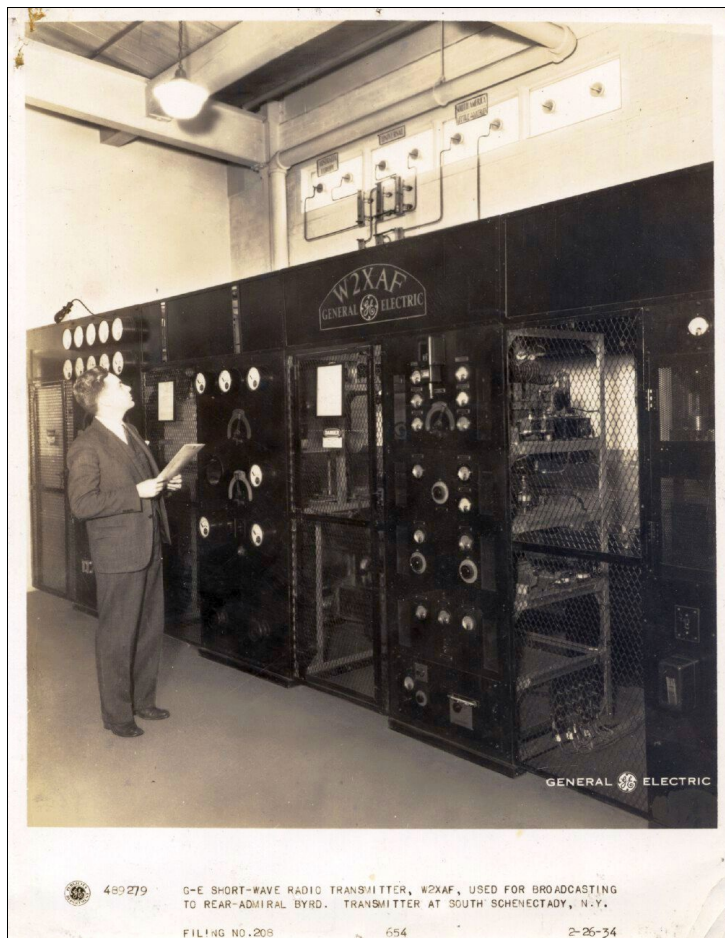
September 1935

W2XAD and W2XAF. The station directors send us this schedule W2XAD daily 2:00 to 3:00 P.M. and Sundays 10:30 to 4:00 P.M. W2XAF daily from 5:30 to 11:00 P.M. and Sundays from 4:30 P.M. until Midnight. W. D. Martin and Robert Muncie also send this schedule. W2XAF was also heard by many testing with HJ1ABB around 10:00 P.M. several nights and with VK2ME around 6:00 to 7:00 A.M. This comes from many of our members.

December 1935

HJ1ABB, Barranquilla, Colombia, on 46.51 meters or 6.45 mc. broadcasts 4:30 to 10:30 P.M. daily but was reported at 6:30 to 7:00 A.M. once by L. D. Brewer, Phoenix, Arizona, and at 11:15 P.M. by J. Wojtkiewicz, Philadelphia. They test with W2XAF quite often around 6:00 P.M.

W2XAF transmitter, 1934



September 19, 2021

459279

C-E SHORT-WAVE RADIO TRANSMITTER, W2XAF, USED FOR BROADCASTING TO REAR-ADMIRAL BYRD. TRANSMITTER AT SOUTH SCHENECTADY, N.Y.

FILING NO. 209

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