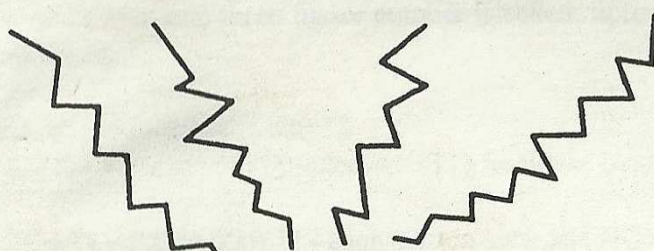


# E. N. I. G. M. A.

## European Numbers Information Group And Monitoring Association



0	ZERO	ZERO	NULA	NULL
1	JEZIUTA	UNO	EDNA	EINS
2	DVONTA	DOI	DVOYTZE	SVO
3	TRUNTA	TREI	TRI	DREI
4	CZDIRI	PATRU	CHETYRI	VIER
5	PEYONTA	CINCI	PEDARTZE	FUNF
6	SESH	SASE	SEST	SECHS
7	SEDM	SAPTE	SEDITZER	SEDEN
8	OSEM	OPT	ASEH	ACHT
9	PRUNKA	NOVA	DEVET	NEUN

3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 MHZ



## Welcome to the second issue of ENIGMA

### STATION NEWS

#### LINCOLNSHIRE POACHER

Finding the LINC, three things connect this station, the first is in fact a clandestine broadcaster which transmits from Iran to Iraq - Voice of the Mojahed, the second is another number station - it is the one with the North American accent which counts 12345 67890 for 10 minutes prior to the message. The third connection is the heavy jamming which attacks the L P transmissions.

The reason why some jamming takes place on only certain broadcasts has always puzzled me, do the jammers know the decode key-can they tell a real message from a test or decoy message -well the answer is perhaps not so complex..... L.P. is in fact jammed from Iraq - this is my theory the morning and afternoon transmissions are jammed, but around mid-afternoon until 20.00 GMT the clandestine station Voice of Mojahed broadcasts on 5370 and 7000 kHz it is peculiar that if you try to tune to this station on say 5370 you will find that it changes frequencies every two minutes or so e.g. 5725 the 5735, 5713, 5723, 5735 - the 7000 kHz channel also does the same to avoid powerful jamming. When this station closes times vary then the jammers then attack L.P. on 4468 5747 & 6880 kHz. I would guess that the station is considered a threat to National Security but since the Gulf War Iraq does not have all the radio equipment intact to jam all un-desired incoming transmissions.

So how is another number station involved? , In late 1989 the European based American count station began to be jammed, but only its English message and not the German ones- L.P. was first heard by Simon Mason in June 1989, the counting station sends high group counts of 4 or 5 figure blocks - Secret Signals states that 225 is the maximum number of 5 blocks sent indeed if you look in issue 1 of ENIGMA the messages logged were 159,200,215 & 202 - station L.P. sends exactly 200 5 figure blocks on all but test transmission.

#### CONCLUSIONS

I believe the messages for the Middle East were originally sent by the West European based count station which is reported to be operated by the CIA or National Security Agency, these are now supplement by L.P. which sends its transmissions from Cyprus a close but safe location to send strong signals into the Middle East.

#### COUNT STATION

If you are interest in the Count Station which can be heard in the evenings in English & German try 5205 kHz this particular frequency operates at all sorts of odd times- I have heard it at 06.30 17.30 & 00.30 GMT the only information that it sends is 2 blocks of 4 figures repeated over and again e.g. 4722/9399 - I believe this is a control frequency - the message is only 8 digits long and would when decoded perhaps give details of when to receive the full message.



## GERMAN/ENGLISH 2 LETTER STATIONS

I first started listening to Short Wave in 1974- even now I can remember hearing those German speaking women reading out strings of numbers- it is believed they first started back in the late 1960s - years ago real people read out the numbers- now in 1993 voice machines send the unbreakable codes day in day out - after 20 years the location and purpose of these particular stations is unknown.

This issue I have logged lots of them, most send in the evenings for listeners in Europe but others do send around the clock on higher frequencies above 11 Mhz. First let's look at the format, All messages start at the top of the hour or half hour - the announcer calls 2 letters e.g. PAPA ZULU followed by electronic tones, this goes on for 5 minutes - the announcer then says- message is for - then a three figure number is given for example 411 and a group count - for example 31, sometimes more than one three figure number is called, upto three may be called each with its own group count,

e.g. PAPA ZULU 411/31 625/29 & 196/32

These are the addresses for the message (411) followed (31) 5x figure blocks - the message -

Only 411 will ever be called by PAPA ZULU - each station such as NOVEMBER UNIFORM or ECHO GOLF has its own addresses which are not used by any other 2 letter station.

You will see that quite a number of repeats are also sent in order to get the message through, for example ECHO LIMA calls 928 with 91x 5 figure blocks at 19.30 on April 12th at 4595 kHz and then again with the exact same message 2 days later at 18.30 on 5284 kHz.

## **OBSERVATIONS**

You will see at the end of the logs I have totalled up the number of 5 figure blocks sent to each address under the appropriate call sign- the total of each station message is about 90, in the book Secret Signals Simon Mason reports the average message in 1991 was 101.

Listen out for the English version of the station, the format is exactly the same - the call signs heard are DELTA MIKE & MIKE DELTA (for some unknown reason one calls 214 and the other calls 241) - the announcer calls " Message for 241 - 18 Groups 241 - 18 Groups Attention- despite my best attempts the voice is impossible to detect in terms of origin with the letters 0 & 2 over pronounced, the word attention is different and sound like normal English.

On the 8063 kHz transmission something interesting occurred which I was able to tape, after the 18 block message of 5 figures was sent in English the carrier was left running for several minutes, in the background it was possible to hear the familiar German numbers, although I am not technical - I would guess that this was break-through from another transmitter operating from the same site, when 8063 kHz went off air so did the German background signal.



Continued ... I do not have any great break-through with these stations - although they are very active despite the fact that the Cold War is over, they also sound just the same- no more distant ( the transmitters are in the same locations) than they did years ago.

Are they really in the West of Europe , whatever they have a great deal of equipment, often 3 or 4 frequencies are on air at the same time (each machine is set running a few seconds after the first) - all calling different two letter call signs. On the 21st April I listened between 17.00 & 21.00 during which time 15 messages were sent by 8 stations on 8 different frequencies- no small task for some organisation ?.

## MYSTERY STATIONS

A new station can be heard on 5529 kHz Monday to Saturday at 20.00 GMT. It is a busy frequency - with a clandestine broadcaster plus Italians in SSB - but give it a try. On the hour a YL announces in English what sounds like GROUP BRAVO UNIFORM or sometimes YANKEE BRAVO UNIFORM at 4 minutes past a 30 second HF tone is sent- the call is then repeated until 9 minutes past when the station goes off air - no messages have yet been heard.

Electronic tones have been heard by Keith in Cheltenham on 12184 at 08.19 GMT but no messages followed - I have also heard this on 5.8 MHz mid evening, I believe it is a numbers station but if you hear it stay with it - the tone is loud and clear - 5 note rising scale.

## THANKS

Tony-BDXC, Andy-SHORTWAVE MAGAZINE, Keith in CHELTENHAM, Ken in DONCASTER, and K, acknowledgements to Simon Mason.  
Also special mention to Alan in CHERTSEY for all the Secret Signals Information.

ENIGMA is sent free - but a stamp is always appreciated, sorry if I could not include all your logs but with other commitments the info for log book was put together a little early.

## NEXT ISSUE

The format and layout of ENIGMA is now beginning to take shape and will appear under the following headings from issue number 3

### STATION NEWS

FEATURES (Will be looking at the Phonetic Alphabet Stations next issue)

### YOUR LETTERS

### LOG BOOK

I hope you are finding ENIGMA of interest I hope that we can receive you letters and comments - particularly on the possible locations of different stations and the purpose behind them - if you would like to write about stations in the past or present - your observations and logs would be very welcome. ENIGMA is GROWING.....



## YOUR LETTERS

Thank you for all your letters, first off Hans Peter writes from Bonn, The code being used by the former DDR Numbers station (Four note rising scale & Bell or Gong stations which closed after re-unification ) which transmitted from Wilmersdorf Nr Berlin sending instructions to spies - was similar to the code used by the German Army during WWII. The code used five numbers and the possibilities of the code were so great that even with computers it would take years to break.

Mean-while Jim in Grimsby was in HM Forces - mainly in Aden & the Middle East during the late 1950's, when Arabic number stations operated (nicknamed Islam Ada).

David in Weymouth & Michael in Redhill sent in lists of the Female Phonetic Alphabet stations which can be heard on a wide range of frequencies during the evenings- I will be using all the information and in Issue 3 will be featuring these stations along with all the call signs and information on possible transmitter locations.

Alun in Afonwen asks if some of the stations are not just sending met data, well this is possible but I tend to agree with your comment that the audience is probably equipped with a pencil - over the years lots of suggestions from met data to spies have been suggested ( what a silly idea).

Thanks to Keith in Cheltenham who along with quite a few readers have asked how to obtain the book Secret Signals, well it is not to my knowledge available in England but I have enclosed full details on TIARE publications - kindly loaned to me .

I am sorry if I have not given your letter a mention this time round, information sent will be used in future issues, so please do write.

DEADLINES FOR CONTRIBUTIONS - ISSUE 3

LOG BOOK - LETTERS- NEWS & FEATURES - Monday 16th AUGUST

ISSUE WILL BE SENT OUT TO ARRIVE - Monday 4th OCTOBER

KIND REGARDS & 73's Chris M.



Two Letter German/English.

\* indicates repeat.

						Call/Count of Blocks.	
19.3	4543	21.30	YL	GG	Delta Tango	686/75	
24.3	4595	19.30	YL	GG	Echo Lima	928/82	*
24.3	5015	20.00	YL	GG	Papa Zulu	196/76	
24.3	4544	20.30	YL	GG	Echo Lima	928/82	*
31.3	4544	20.35	YL	GG	Echo Lima	928/91	
3.4	4595	20.04	YL	GG	Victor Oscar	283/54	
						507/52	
12.4	4595	19.30	YL	GG	Echo Lima	928/91	*
14.4	5285	18.35	YL	GG	Echo Lima	928/91	*
15.4	4595	19.30	YL	GG	Echo Lima	928/96	*
19.4	4544	20.00	YL	GG	Papa Zulu	411/31	
						625/29	
						196/32	
19.4	4544	20.30	YL	GG	Echo Lima	928/96	*
20.4	7855	17.32	YL	GG	Oscar Alpha	122/16	
20.4	5284	18.35	YL	GG	Echo Lima	928/96	*
20.4	4821	19.33	YL	GG	Victor Oscar	283/82	
20.4	5770	20.00	YL	GG	November Uniform	599/50	
						368/19	
						203/20	
20.4	6853	20.32	YL	GG	Golf Kilo	846/29	
						740/17	
						921/50	
21.4	4544	18.00	YL	GG	Romeo Delta	914/14	
						208/50	
21.4	5015	19.00	YL	GG	Papa Zulu	411/31	
						625/29	
						196/32	
21.4	4594	19.30	YL	GG	Echo Lima	928/96	
26.4	10177	19.03	YL	<u>EE</u>	Delta Mike	214/18	*
26.4	11108	19.30	YL	<u>EE</u>	Mike Delta	214/50	
						565/41	
27.4	8063	19.00	YL	<u>EE</u>	Delta Mike	214/18	*
29.4	10460	19.00	YL	<u>EE</u>	Delta Mike	214/18	
11.5	5732	19.32	YL	GG	Echo Lima	928/100	
11.5	6853	20.00	YL	GG	November Uniform	526/39	
						368/62	
20.5	7532	20.00	YL	GG	November Uniform	284/32	
						203/59	
20.5	9325	21,30	YL	GG	Echo Golf	136/58	
						680/52	

See how each message block adds up:

Station:	DT	EL	PZ	NU	GK	MD	EG	VO	RD
Address 1	75	82	31	50	29	50	58	54	14
Address 2			29	19	17	41	52	52	50
Address 3			32	20	50				
Total	75	82	92	89	96	91	102	106	64

The average number of 5 figure blocks sent is about 90.



### Count Station

27.3	5415	19.00	YL	EE	383/terminate
30.3	5206	17.34	YL	EE	5017/2145
31.3	5206	17.30	YL	EE	0552/0206
2.4	5206	17.30	YL	EE	7560/5054
15.4	3315	19.03	YL	EE	383/terminate
3.5	5206	17.30	YL	EE	4722/9399
7.5	5206	00.30	YL	EE	9187/2100
20.5	4010	19.02	YL	EE	383/terminate

All 383 transmissions terminate at 00.10 minutes past each hour, with no messages.

The station on 5206 kHz repeats 2 x 4 figure blocks for about 15 minutes, and then terminates. I think this is some kind of control signal, indicating when other message transmissions will be sent.

---

### Five Dashes

#### Call

#### Decode

#### 5 x Figure Blocks

21.3	10255	11.00	YL	GG	301	91668	040
23.3	4395	21.00	YL	GG	562	50956	033
2.4	5530//4730	21.00	YL	<u>EE</u>	317	03067	035
4.4	8970//10255	11.00	YL	GG	301	91668	040
14.4	7831//5315	19.00	YL	GG	209	35919	033
15.4	10255	20.00	YL	<u>EE</u>	192	30348	051

This station will appear but not send a message - the machine still clicks over, but no signal is sent. The transmitter stays on for about 30 minutes, then goes off the air.

---

### Lincolnshire Poacher

See station news.

### Miscellaneous logs

Station Strich - this is still quite active, try 3280//5301 for best results.

### Station NNN

4021 and 5177 in German



## Swedish Rhapsody

Best results are on Saturdays, 18.00, 19.00, 20.00, on 4780, 5340 and 6508 - very strong signals.

And, for fans of the Female Alphabetic Station

3417	ART	5091	JSR	9131	EZI
4665	VLB	5629	SYN	11565	EZI
4880	ULX	7605	VLB	8640	MIW

„Secret Signals. The Euronumbers Mystery“ von Simon Mason hat 70 Seiten A4 in Englisch und kostet 19,90 DM. Bezug in Deutschland beim Kurzwellen-Presse-dienst, Weender Str. 30, 3400 Göttingen.

„Numbers Stations“ oder zu deutsch „Zahlensender“, also jene Stationen mit ihren scheinbar endlosen Zahlenkolonnen, gelesen von (in diesem Fall) monotonen Frauenstimmen z.B. in Deutsch, Englisch oder slawischen Sprachen, faszinieren Kurzwellenhörer schon seit ihren ersten Auftauchen im Zweiten Weltkrieg. Vor allem im englischsprachigen Raum und dort am intensivsten in den USA beschäftigen sich zahlreiche Kurzwellenhörer mit der Analyse derartiger Aussendungen. Die Erfolge sind relativ, denn die Zahlen-Codes sind selbst von Profis, geschweige denn von Amateuren, zu

„knacken“. Doch „der Weg ist das Ziel“ und so ist es für eine ganze Reihe von DXern einfach spannend die Sendungen zu verfolgen, selbst wenn man nie erfahren wird, was für eine Botschaft man gerade hört. Es existieren zahlreicher Vermutungen darüber, worum es sich bei den Zahlen-Botschaften handelt, wobei die Theorie, daß Agententätigkeit dahintersteckt, heute am verbreitetsten ist.

Simon Mason nähert sich der Materie aus europäischer Sicht aus seinem Shack in Großbritannien. Mit großer Sorgfalt wurde in jahrelanger Kleinarbeit zusammengetragen und analysiert, was sich an Zahlensendern in Europa auf Kurzwelle so tummelt. Verschiedene Sendeformate werden vorgestellt und den Abschluß bildet eine umfangreiche Frequenz- und Zeitliste von in Europa hörbaren Zahlensendern. Mason kommt in seinem Buch dem Rätsel zwar nicht auf die Spur, fügt jedoch den bereits zahlreich im Raum stehenden Vermutungen bezüglich der Zahlensender einige weitere hinzu und begründet diese mehr oder weniger plausibel. Vielleicht sollte man die Ursprünge solcher Aussendungen doch nicht immer nur im Ausland suchen? Damit hätte man eine mögliche Erklärung dafür, daß die Aktivitäten deutschsprachiger Zahlensender auch nach dem Ende der DRR praktisch nicht abgenommen hat. Die Faszination bleibt erhalten und der Weg bleibt das Ziel...

Next, you may remember a few months back that CHRIS MIDGLEY asked for anyone interested in the "Numbers" stations to get in touch with him. Well, I have recently received a copy of the first edition of E.N.I.G.M.A., of the European Numbers Information Group and Monitoring Association. Put together by Chris, this first issue looks at stations operating on the bands, along with a selection of loggings. E.N.I.G.M.A. should get a good following and no doubt it has a long future ahead of it! Good to see someone trying to get something different off the ground. Why not drop Chris a line and get a copy yourself (include an 18/24p stamp). Chris' address: 195 Roberttown Lane, Roberttown, Liversedge, West Yorkshire, WF15 7LE.

Chris Midgley writes from Liversedge saying he is interested in starting a quarterly bulletin consisting of logs, information, and of course speculation on the activities of numbers stations. This would be free to all participants, and he says items of interest would be sent to me for inclusion in this column. That can't be bad, so if you want to contact Chris write to him c/o my address at the top of this page, and I will forward your letter on to him. A sample of Chris's report includes an English female voice heard on 6.270MHz 6.842; 9.131; 7.887; 8.464; and 9.251 between 1900 and 2200UTC.

Tim Allison says he is not a dedicated spy station hunter, but managed to find several whilst travelling around the band. His report includes 3.370MHz at 2103 UTC; 6.290 at 2032; and 7.375 at 2039. Tim also says he has had some success with one or two of the Dutch m.w. pirates and received some QSL cards.

### Your Number is Up

As promised, a look at what is happening with numbers stations. It would seem that despite the warming of relationships between east and west the numbers stations are still active but there have been quite a number of changes. Simon Mason is quite an authority on the European scene and his book *Secret Signals* is published by Tiare Publications in the USA, where it would appear these stations have quite a following. Simon reports that the well known Papa November and DFC37 and DFD21 stations have now gone. He also thinks the Romanian Skylark and Czechoslovakian Drums and Trumpet stations may have closed as they have not been heard for some time. He has also established that the Lincolnshire Poacher on 7.887, 8.464 and 9.251MHz transmits from Cyprus and is for agents in Iraq and transmissions are often jammed by a warbler. One new station to listen-out for appears around 4.660 and 5.650MHz on Thursday and Friday with numbers being read out in a strong

Russian accent. David Featherstone adds that an American voice can be heard reading numbers on 7.588MHz.



SECRET SIGNALS:

THE EURONUMBERS MYSTERY.

By Simon Mason.



The number of publications and the amount of information on Number Stations is very limited - but it is quality not quantity with the book "Secret Signals" = The Euronumbers Mystery, by Simon Mason.

With almost 70 pages on my favourite subject, the book goes right back to the early seventies, with information on the former East German stations, and in-depth studies of stations we can hear today, such as Lincolnshire Poacher, Two Letter German, and the Female Phoenetic Alphabet stations.

A list of over 300 frequencies, plus schedules and transmission times is also included; perhaps most interesting are details of clues found in transmission mistakes and traffic excerpts.

From "Secret Signals":

Number stations very rarely give up their secrets so easily. That is what makes, what to many is a pointless and boring pursuit, so fascinating. Yes, there are dull periods, but they contrast greatly with the excitement of uncovering a new clue, a new insight, as a result of one's monitoring efforts. In its own way, tracking and puzzling out the Number stations mystery can be as interesting and rewarding as any other part of the radio hobby.

# Secret Signals

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A Guide to the Numbers Stations

By "Havana Moon"

"Cinco, cinco, cuatro, tres.....uno, cuatro, tres, siete.." And so they go, these spooky voices in the night - voices that can be picked up on most any shortwave radio. Are they really intended for spies? And, if so, where are these broadcasts coming from? "Havana Moon", a former member of the intelligence community himself, has studied these strange signals for years. He provides authoritative data and conclusions along with times, formats and frequencies. This book has been read by the CIA, FCC and National Security Agency - even the Soviet Embassy!

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By Simon Mason

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