

# Listen Carefully...

(you might hear something you're not supposed to)

Somewhere in the world, on some frequency, a transmission is taking place whose purpose is unknown. In BTS2, there are many samples of what is out there and what may return. Listen carefully.



"BRAVO TANGO SIERRA TWO" 0 minutes 1 second

I never heard of a numbers station using this call-up. "BTS2" stands for "Behind The Static 2", I mixed the words from an actual E10 recording. (see "Phonetic Alphabet Station")



"THREE NOTE ODDITY" (G4) 1 minute 58 seconds

Appearing any time it wants, this German language station signs on by repeating the same three tones for five minutes. The message consists of a shouting female voice reading 5-figure groups.



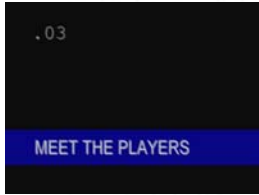
"ENGLISH LADY" (E17) 2 minutes 21 seconds

Not unusual to hear in North America. Unphased by the end of the Cold War, this (supposed) KGB-run numbers station signs on repeating three numbers (believed to be the recipient), then giving out five-figure groups. When this station appears on a given frequency at a given time, it will repeat the transmission the next day.



"OBLIQUE" (E11) 2 minutes 46 seconds

It sounds like she's saying "arby", but it's "oblique". Known as one of the most pointless stations since it rarely sends actual messages.



"THE GONG STATION" (G3) 3 minutes 19 seconds

Known as one of the creepiest-sounding numbers stations, don't listen to this one before you turn off the lights. This station ended with the Cold War, but recordings of it are still out there.



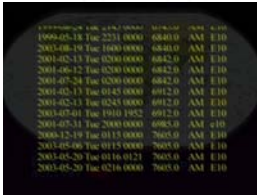
"ATTENCION LADY" (V2) 4 minutes 33 seconds

The most common catch for North American SWLs. These come from Latin America and give messages as five-figure groups. Known for frequent mistakes and audio problems, also for a large number of formats.



"THE COUNTING STATION" (E5) 5 minutes 11 seconds

From the good 'ol U.S. of A, this stations coverage is not limited to North America. What is definitely a mechanical voice repeats three digits and counts to 9 during sign-on. The message text is made up of three-number / two-number pairs.



### "PHONETIC ALPHABET STATION" (E10) 5 minutes 49 seconds

Definitely a numbers station, just without the numbers. Believed to be operated by Israel, these stations crowd the dial in the Middle East and can be heard anywhere in the world at anytime.



### "LINCOLNSHIRE POACHER" (E3) 6 minutes 40 seconds

While not an easy catch for North American listeners, it can be done. On the east coast, the "Lincolnshire Poacher" may be heard. On the west coast, its sister station, "Cherry Ripe" may be heard. These stations follow identical formats.



### "TWO LETTER GERMAN" (G15/ G16) 7 minutes 35 seconds

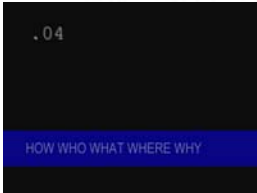
Most of these stations went extinct soon after the Cold War ended. These stations are notable because of the tones used as an interval signal. "Papa November" was a very common call sign. "DFD21" and "DFC37" were believed to share transmitting facilities.



### ASSORTMENT 8 minutes 26 seconds

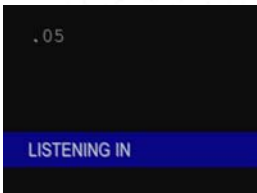
Can you pick these out of the crowd?

- "NNN" (E12) into message
- "Backwards Music" (XM)
- Warble Jammer
- "The Strich" (G11)



### "SKYLARK" (V1) 8 minutes 37 seconds

This station opened with a popular Romanian folk song, which I used for background music. The messages were also given with Romanian numbers.



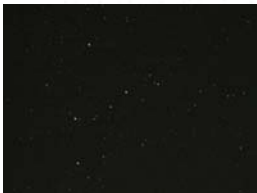
### "SIX TONE STATION" (X6) 9 minutes 11 seconds

Broadcasts are 10 minutes long, usually just 6 tones played over and over. No schedule has ever been determined, but finding one transmission may reveal another an hour later.



### "HIGH PITCH POLYTONE" (XPH) 9 minutes 34 seconds

Transmissions are short, only a few minutes. A series of tones are sent out in lieu of spoken numbers or morse code, each tone represents a different number.



### ASSORTMENT 9 minutes 53 seconds

For your listening pleasure:

- "NNN" (E12) intro
- "English Lady" (E17)
- "Irish Man" (E19)
- "The bored man" (V20)
- Warble Jammer
- "Swedish Rhapsody" (E23)
- "Czech Words" (S3)
- E10 "End of message, end of