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EV02 **US military Voice Loop**

It is not a numbers station but certainly an oddity. You can hear them every now and then on shortwave: voice loops.

Who/what is this?

These transmissions are used for training of SIGINT operators, mostly by the US Navy, and these broadcasts are most often used during the various Training/Qualification/Certification phases for large battle groups (like a carrier or large-deck amphibious vessel).

The Navy trains for all aspects of modern warfare; such as Anti-Air, Anti-Surface, Anti-Submarine, Mine counter-measures, Air/Flight Ops, and yes, SIGINT. The teams deployed within a battle group have to undergo many of the same qualification steps as the rest of the battle group including acquisition, processing/analysis, geo-location (Direction Finding) and reporting.

They have been heard using the so-called "Harvard sentences", books like "Huckleberry Finn", "Born to Run", the Bible, sometimes complete chapters of books and even some book that was very inflammatory (calling for the destruction of the US by muslim warriors). But also a loop recording of Homer Simpson saying "What the hell are you reading books for?" was transmitted. Besides that the JF Kennedy inaugural speech and Franklin Delano Roosevelt speeches are sometimes read.

The operators often use speakers with accents or will switch from male to female or even switch speakers mid-sentence in an effort to confuse. Also, if there is voice activity, there is likely some simple digital mode also active once or twice each hour somewhere nearby.

In the past, many of these transmissions have come from the vicinity of Mayport / Jacksonville, San Diego and Seattle / Bremerton. They are run by the Afloat Training Groups (ATGs) that are responsible for training and evaluating the battle groups. Some Special Forces Units also run oddball transmissions like this for signals training.

Sample transcript:

"She had your dark suit in greasy wash water all year. Don't ask me to carry an oily rag like that. They used an aggressive policeman to flag thoughtless motorists"

Frequencies / Modes:

Often used frequencies: 6920, 6950, 6990 UTC.

Also heard on 7345, 7536, 8051.5, 12088.5, 13570, and 21450.7 kHz

Modes: USB (occasionally LSB), 45/50/75bd RTTY, 110b ASCII or SITOR-B