Radio Listening in Japan

- Past, Present, and Future -

EDXC 2017, Tampere, Finland. August 20, 2017

Sakaé Obara , JSWC member, NJ, USA.
Toshimichi Ohtaké – Secretary / JSWC

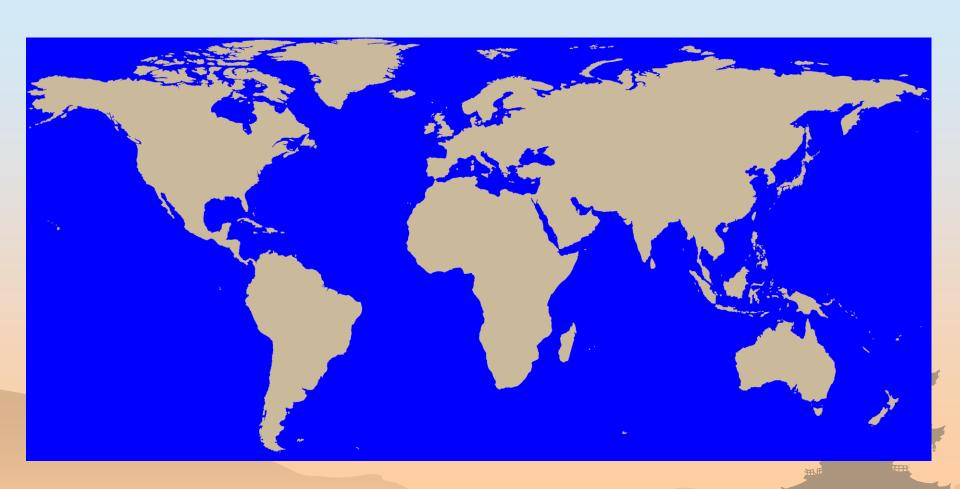
Japan Shortwave Club

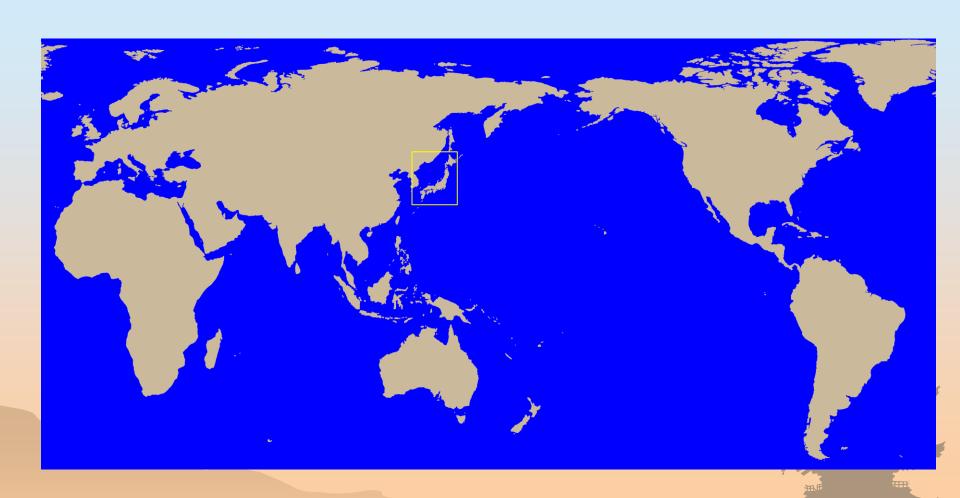
Toshi, myself

- Born in 1937
- First Encounter with Shortwave: High school
- JSWC member in 1953, number 107.
- Tohoku University in 1956 and joined JSWC staff.
- Employed by Toshiba in 1960.
 - -Railroad, Defense and Space electronics.
- JSWC Secretary since 2008.

What SWLing gave to me.

- Interest to Foreign Languages
- Different Cultures
- Exotic Music
- Technical Knowledge and Skill
- International relationship
- Feeling of Geomagnetic Nature Earth and Sun







Radio Terminology in Japan

English-Based

- Rajio Radio
- Antena Antenna
- Tampa Shortwave
- Hoso Broadcasting

NHK = Nippon Hoso Kyokai

English"Based?"

- Pasokon <u>Personal Computer</u>
- Sumaho Smart Phone

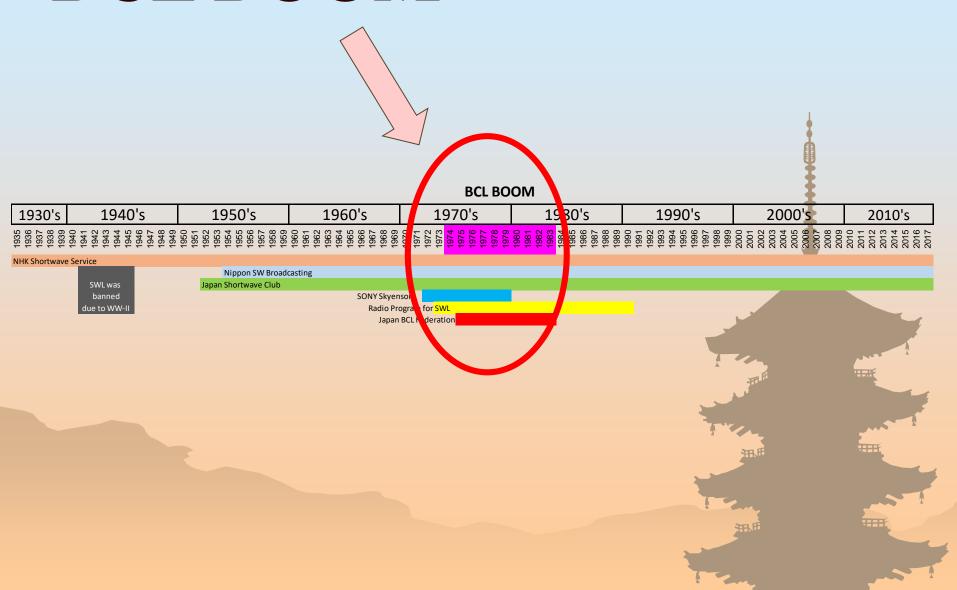
SWL Terminology in Japan

• BCL = Broadcasting Listener \approx SWL

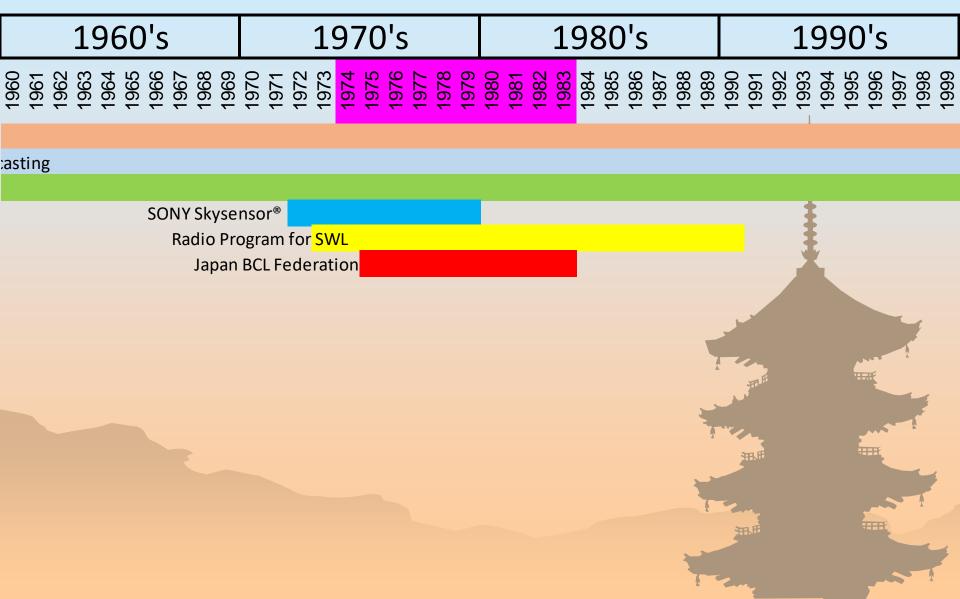
• Veri Card = Verification Card = QSL Card



BCL BOOM



BCL BOOM



BCL (SWLing) Boom in Japan Mid 1970-Early 1980

- Before the boom, Teenagers Enjoyed Midnight MW Programs.
- High Quality Radios (Sony, Panasonic, and others)
- Majority: Junior High School Student
- BCL Programs on NSB (currently Radio Nikkei)
- Numbers of Club Activities, Publications
- Regular Magazines showed how to write a reception report.
- Every classroom, a few students brought QSL-Cards to show to classmates.
- Local Event: 1000 attendees (90% Junior highs)

BCL Boom in Japan (Mid 1970s – Early 1980s)

- Japan is monocultural country.
- Lack of information from foreign worlds.
- Attracted by exotic cultures from other countries.
- Technical attractions (Radio, Antenna, DXing)
- Collective attractions from QSL Cards

BCL Radios (1970's)













Akihabara Electronic Malls

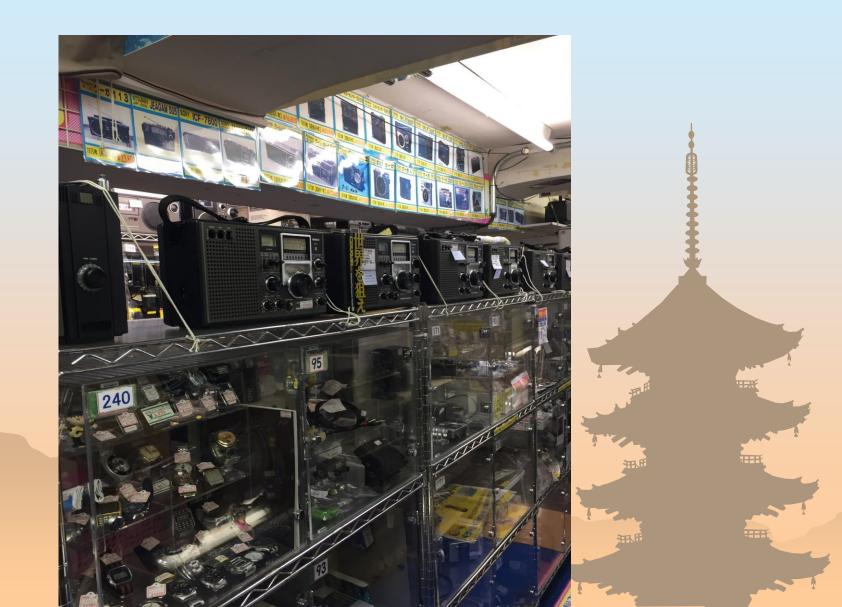








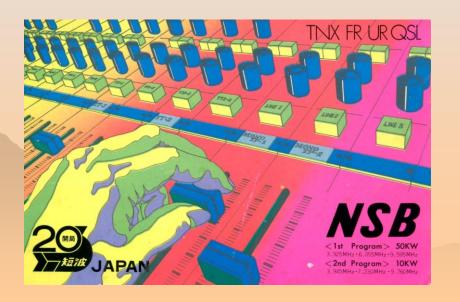
Akihabara Electronic Malls

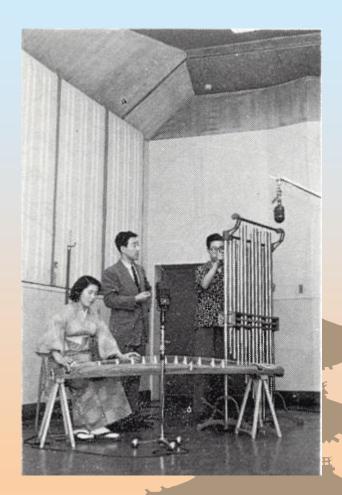




- → Radio Tampa
 - → Radio Nikkei

3925kHz 6055kHz 9595kHz and Others



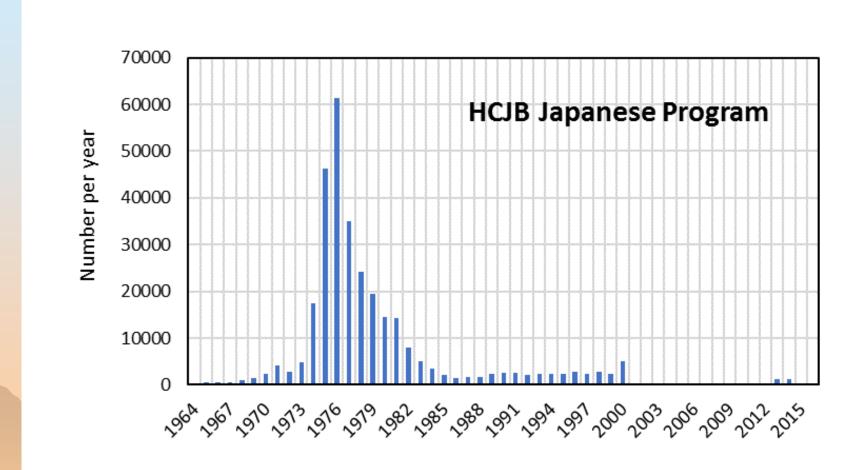


Recording of Interval Signal (1954)

NSB (Nippon Shortwave Broadcasting)

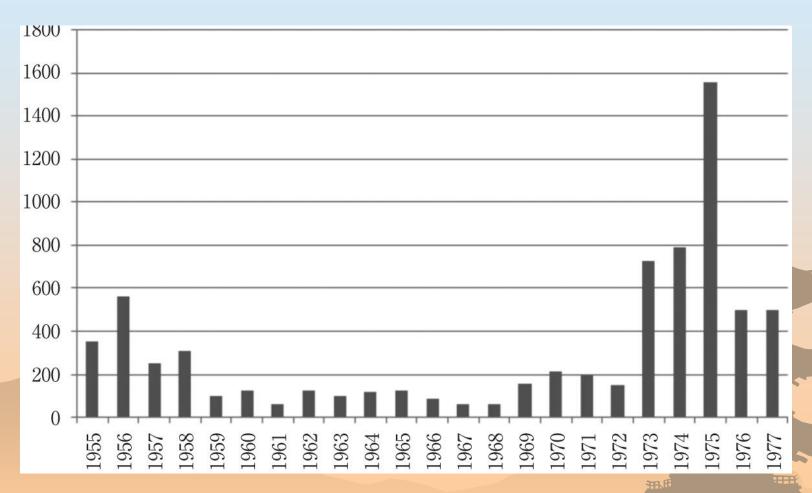
- → Radio Tampa
 - → (Currently) Radio Nikkei
- The only commercial SW station in Japan (since 1954)
- Nationwide 3925kHz, 6050kHz, and 9595 kHz
- Mainly for Horse Race, Stock exchange, and education.
- Ham Radio Programs (1965)
- SWL Programs for Young people (1974-) Induced the Boom.

Number of Letters & Reception Reports from Japan



Radio Australia: More than 20000 per months in 1975

Number of JSWC Membership



(Igawa, J. App. Soc. <u>58</u>, 2016)



Publications





Popular SW Stations - Top 10 (1979)

- Radio Australia
- **BBC**
- Radio Peking
- VOA
- Radio Korea
- Deutsche Welle
- Voice of Free China
- KTWR
- Radio Nederland
- Radio Moscow



- Present -



SWL/BCL Clubs

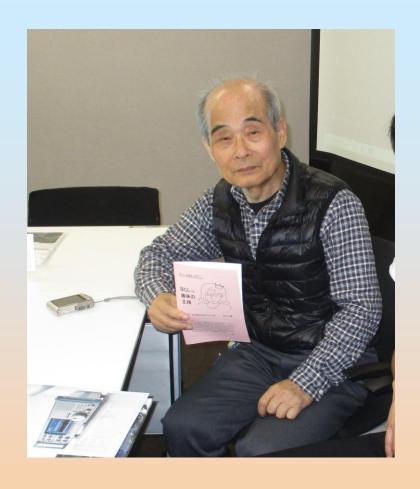
Nationwide

Japan Shortwave Club (1952 – Present)

Local

- Nagoya DXers Circle NDXC (1976 -)
- Totsuka Dxers Circle TDXC (2012-)

Individual Activities



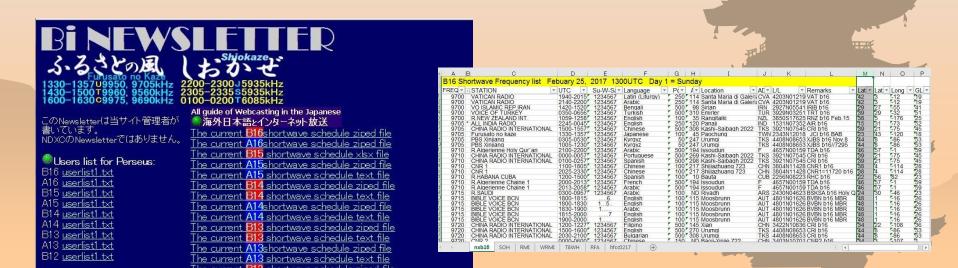
Mr. Shigenori Aoki Nagoya, Japan



SW Frequency List (Aoki List)

http://www1.s2.starcat.ne.jp/ndxc/http://ndxc.16mb.com/bi/adv.php

- Created and managed by Shigenori Aoki in Nagoya, Japan (Since 1985, started as USSR Station List).
- Based on HFCC and HIS OWN DAILY LISTENING.
- Updated almost EVERYDAY, editing and uploading by Mr. Aoki himself.



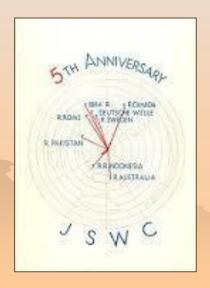
Japan Shortwave Club

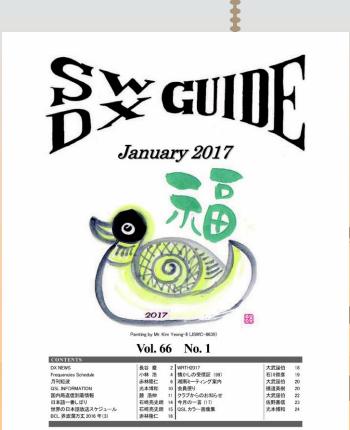
- Oldest and Longest-Running SWL Club in Japan
- 1952 Present (65-year Anniversary)
- Current Members: 350



Japan Shortwave Club

- Monthly "SW-DX Guide" Journal
- DX Reports in AWR WaveScan
- Annual Meeting and Booth Exhibition at Tokyo Ham Fair
- Issues Special QSL Cards





Popular SW Stations- Top 10 (2016 Survey by JSWC)

- 1. KBS World Radio
- 2. China Radio International
- 3. Voice of Vietnam
- 4. Radio Taiwan International
- 5. HCJB (Reach Beyond)
- 6. KTWR Friendship Radio
- 7. Voice of Korea
- 8. BBC
- 9. Radio Australia
- 10. Voice of America

Listeners Meeting

• HCJB (Reach Beyond-Australia)



関東地区 **HCJB**リスナーの集い 2016年10月23日 東京都新宿区 淀橋教会

2016 Survey by JSWC (At Tokyo HamFair 2016)

Do you use PC to listen to the radio?

Yes 54.3 % (+31 %)

Which do you like better to listen via, Radio or Internet?

Radio 88.4 % (+1.4 %)

Internet 6.0 % (- 2.0 %)

2016 Survey by JSWC (At Tokyo HamFair 2016)

Age Distribution

10 - 20 yrs 6.1 % (+3.6 %)

30 - 40 yrs 19.7 % (-1.3 %)

50 - 60 yrs 38.8 % (+3.3 %)

60 - yrs 24.5 % (- 5.5 %)

Toward the Future.....

- Boomers are gradually coming back.
- Plenty of IT resources
- There ARE young people!
- MW DXing is especially fun!