

RADIO STATION WIND

ARMED FORCES RADIO SERVICE
APO 30, NEW YORK, N. Y.

8 February 1955

ANDREW P. GARY, LT., USAF
OFFICER-IN-CHARGE

DAVID L. HULL, AMN., USAF
STATION MANAGER

Ernest R. Cooper, Editor
National Radio Club
438 East 21st Street
Brooklyn, 26,
New York

Dear Mr. Cooper,

I must admit that the members of your club have taken us by storm...we never expected one reception report from the ZI, much less the large number we have received of late.

Since you are the editor of the club's magazine I will confide a bit in you, concerning the problems you have presented to us. First, The French are very strict on the operation of AFRS stations in Morocco; they have stipulated that all of us are to share the one frequency: 1594, and not to exceed 100 watts power. There are many American servicemen living with their families in Casablanca, twenty miles from the base, and we feel strongly that part of our mission over here is to give American radio entertainment to these families. With this as our guide we found that 100 watts would not do the job, because the other three stations were jamming us. So I took it upon myself to authorize a boost in power, and a change in frequency to 1583. We now put out 400 watts on a government T-4 transmitter, and our frequency is as indicated above. These two violations do not bring harm to the French, or their government-operated station, but because they are in violation of the agreement could cause this station to be shut off the air by the local government. For this reason, we have hoped that word of our reception in the States would not get back to them, and have clamped a tight security restriction on the letters incoming from your club members. My first verification was worded in a manner which, I thought, would be easy to see through, concerning power. Apparently, though, it took you to realize that we were operating above this. I don't believe the 300 watts difference will be very great as far as getting credit for picking up this facility, for even with that little boost it is amazing that we should be heard...especially with an S-9 as some of the people report. I hope that the members will not be too unhappy when they find that their catch was a bit stronger than they first believed.

W I N D operates 24 hours every day except Sunday, when we leave the air at 0030, and return at 0600, GMT.

Our staff numbers six full-time men, all of us working seven days a week to bring Stateside-type radio to the Americans located in this area.

W I N D is three years old...starting as a closed circuit operation from a tent, and progressing to key station of the newly-formed North African Network. When the station was located in the tent the wind around here played havoc with an open mike so the nickname "WIND", broken down to our present call letters. Officially, we are Armed Forces Radio Service, Nouasseur Air Depot.

We have a 250 foot broadcast antenna, located in a valley between two sizeable hills...we thought it the worst possible location. It is not directional. The station became an affiliate of AFRS 18 months ago...we increased power in October, 1954.

I think this answers most of your questions.

Incidentally, the program log verifies your reception report of 29 Jan. 1955.

You may print in your magazine such parts of this letter as you deem fit, so long as our allies over here don't get the "word".

I must apologize for my typing, since it is not one of my major vices, and I am reduced to the old "hunt and peck" system.

Many thanks to you and your club members for their interest in our station, and I hope that you will continue to listen, and inform of your reception.

All best wishes to you from the six of us.

Sincerely,

Andrew P. Gary
Andrew P. Gary
Lt., USAF

