



**WESK**

1490 kc

Sherman Hotel Building  
ESCANABA, MICHIGAN

February 16, 1956

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

Dear Sir,

The purpose of this letter is to verify your report of hearing our station on the morning of February 13, 1956. Your report was sketchy but enough information was included to that I feel no remorse in verifying it.

We have a frequency check on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 3:30 to 4:00 A. M. EST. WSOO Has a frequency check on the same night but from 2:30 to 2:45 A. M. EST. I don't have to close contact with WDBC as they are our competitor in this market but I think if you write to the Chief Engineer at WDBC he can give you all of the information on there frequency check etc.

Thanks for your report and the best of luck on future DXing.

Sincerely,

*Richard F. Deitz*  
Richard F. Deitz  
Chief Engineer  
Radio Station WESK  
Escanaba, Michigan



February 13, 1956

Radio Station WESK  
Escanaba, Michigan

Attention of Mr. Richard F. Diets, Chief Engineer

Dear Mr. Diets,

Well, it was really rugged listening, but I believe I heard enough of your special "DX" program for our club this morning to prove my reception of WESK, and I hope you will be so kind as to verify my reception of your station, WESK. Here is what I heard :

Date: February 13, 1956

Frequency - 1490 kc/s.

2:59 a.m., E.S.T. - "Star-Spangled Banner."

3:00 - Announcer, with fairly high tenor-voice stated the calls and location, and mentioned this was a special program for the National Radio Club.

3:16 - He gave the call letters very slowly, and asked for letters from those listening, and then continued, "You are listening to a special program ----- Monday morning."

3:16:55 - Record by Gene Autry, "----- in the Sky."

3:20 - Mentioned the National Radio Club.

3:20:45 - Country song by Carl Smith.

This was all I could get through here, Mr. Diets, but I hope it does prove I did hear WESK and that you will verify my reception. 1490 was in bad shape here, with top dog being all-night WTKL in West Springfield, Massachusetts. Second to them was another all-nighter, WAHR down in Miami Beach, with mostly talking. Then there was one other station with music heard here, and my co-DX club member over in Staten Island, Bernie Duffy, told me on the phone he could swear the testing station said it was in the Virgin Islands, but did not have a "W" call as would an American station there. Do you know if there is a station on your frequency in the British Virgin Islands? He said the call letters sounded like "PBR" or "VBR." Another member of our club, also on the phone, told me he heard KBUR in Burlington Iowa also on testing during your DX program! So it looks as though it was rough tuning for many of the members, and I consider you did remarkably well to reach me here on the East Coast at all.

My receiver is an 11-tube 1947 Hammarlund HQ-129-X, and the antenna is a 120' long 65' high NE/SW inverted L with single lead-in taken from the NE end. I have been a DX fan for 24 years, and have a grand total of about 2,650 verifications from that many different standard broadcast stations, like WESK. This was the very first time I have ever heard Escanaba, never having heard WDBC either on 1490 or on their present channel, 680. Do they every make early-morning tests that you know of? Is WESK's transmitter the one formerly used by WDBC on 1490?

I would like to know what the population of Escanaba is, and how it got its name. When did WESK first go on the air, and what are your current regular operating hours? When is your frequency check held, and with what monitoring station? Might I please have one of your coverage maps? How wide an area do you serve by day as compared to nighttime coverage?

Thank you most sincerely for this special test for our club, and return postage is enclosed for your reply. Please VERIFY my report, if correct, and thanks again for your fine courtesy towards us of the National Radio Club, and I do hope the replies you receive will please you.

Yours DXingly

