

MEMO---

RE: KGAL KGAE KSGA
~~KBKO~~ OTHER _____

DATE: October 13, 1953

BEAVER NET

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

PLEASE FILE
CONFIDENTIAL DESTROY

Mr. Cooper:

We don't record our program and verbal comments verbatim. I can't tell you exactly what my comments were during my frequency check. It seems to me you must have made a short-hand transcript of the broadcast with 100% accuracy, however, except that I may have referred to myself as a technician since I'm not a graduate engineer. In case you did not make a copy of my transmission I'm copying it from your letter for use in your file.

Date: October 8, 1953

Frequency 1430 kc/s

1:30 a.m., P.S.T. - Station came on the air, and announcer said, "one, two, three, four. One, two, three, four-testing. One, two, three, four." Then, "This is Radio Station KGAE, Salem, Oregon." Pause. He mentioned the power, 1,000 watts, and at 1:31:45 said, "1430 on your dial!"

1:32-Read the latest Associated Press news, beginning with the item of the horrible kidnap-murder case in Kansas City in St. Joseph, Missouri.

(I didn't read the account. I mentioned that it was in the news and said I'd skip it since it was being played up in the news coverage and I thought it too depressing to read.) The announcer continued to read news copy and talk. It was difficult to understand what was being said due to the weakness of the signal, and the fact that the voice was not cutting through sharply.

1:46-Gave call letters, location, frequency and power and said the station was about to sign off until six o'clock this morning, and concluded with, "And this transmitter engineer is almost ready to go home and go to bed. Good night." At 1:47:15, the carrier left the air.

We were not actually delivering 1000 watts power to the antenna at the time of the transmission. My antenna current was 4.2 amperes into a 55 ohm shunt-fed non directional steel tower 175' high over-all. We broadcast a music-news program from 6:00 a.m. P.S.T., til official sundown, except on Sunday when we begin at 8:00 a.m. The transmitter is a W.E. 443-A-1 w/Doherty final amplifier employing four 357-A tubes. Frequency checks are made with Point Reyes Station, California, on the second Thursday of each month at 1:30 A.M.

We have been on the air since June last year, and our studio is now under construction at the transmitter site. We have no turntables or control equipment at the transmitter so I have been taking a little Gates remote amplifier to the transmitter in the morning to make it unnecessary for an announcer to go to the studio. I read news items because we have not had (of all things) a signal generator to put a tone on the carrier. I am not an announcer and have an extremely poor voice, which accounts for some of your comments under the heading "readability" HI!.

Your comments and correspondence welcomed,

Harold D. West
transmitter operator
KGAE, Salem 15

: : : : VERBAL ORDERS DON'T GO! - WRITE IT! - FILE IT! :

Rec'd and noted by: _____

Date: _____

RADIO STATION

K G A E

STUDIOS: HOTEL MARION

SALEM, OREGON

October 21, 1953

KGAE1000 W.
Salem

Dear Mr. Cooper:

I have been quite busy and disorganized in the past few days so I haven't completed my correspondence with you. You and another listener in the New York area are the very first Dx listeners who have asked verification from us in over a year's broadcasting. We do not attempt to radiate effectively beyond our primary ~~main~~ service area, and our commercial staff is quite naturally unconcerned about DX conditions. We have not printed QSL cards so I will just have to acknowledge by letter, enclosed seperately. Never-the-less you may be assured I am interested and pleased to know of your interception at such a great distance. Incidentally my call is W7RSB. I've never been on the air as an amateur but I've had my call since April~~in~~ last year. Now isn't that something. Hi! I've been a radio operator in the Navy, so the amatenur exam~~ination~~ was easily passed.

Incidentally, I'm typing this letter with my portable Royal typewriter at the transmitter site, on a box at about knee level. Kinda hard to keep from making mistakes in such an awkward position. Hi!

I know only one Short-Wave and Broadcast Band listener personally. He is Ray Shafer in Powers Oregon. Is he in your club? He listens with a Mc Murdo Silver rec~~iever~~ and has been an active listener for years. I sort of infected him

Oregon Radio Stations affiliated through GORDON ALLEN Radio Interests

KGAL1000 W.
930 Kc.
Lebanon
Albany
Corvallis**KSGA**~~Salem~~
~~Redmond~~

with the Hi-Fi bug recently so his house is now cluttered with the usual array of equipment associated with that fad.

I am enclosing a field strength chart showing the area we cover in our primary service areas. Yes we are associated with other stations, ~~KGAL, KSGA, KSGA~~ KGAL 1000 watts, and KSGA 250 watts. KGAL has a better antenna than we have and is going directional soon. (with the idea of going full time) We are planning to go to 5,000 watts in the next year. We will probably add another tower at that time, too. I did not know of any significance to the call of our stations, so I asked some of the other staff members about it and they suggested that the owner's initials were thus being preserved for posterity. His name is Gordon Allen. Now we could say KGAE, Gordon Allen Enterprise in Salem, Gordon Allen Lebanon in Lebanon, and you can use your own imagination with KSGA. We are also involved in the construction of a TV station in Eugene.

I believe Salem has been named after a city in Massachusetts. The settler who named it was fond of his original home town and apparently named it in memory of the Massachusetts town. We are situated in the Willamette valley. Incidentally, most easterners do not pronounce 'Willamette' correctly. Will-AM-ette with emphasis on the second syllable is correct, not Will-a-met. More information about the area, taken from the "Capital Press Directory and Guide Book" covering central Willamette Valley and North Santiam Canyon, is provided thus:
Capital city of Oregon Seat of Marion County. (We are the

only Salem station with the transmitter actually located in Marion county. The other two, KSLM and KOCO have both studios and transmitters in Polk county. We kid them about it when we can.)...city population, 1950 43,064 while pop. of metropolitan district is estimated 85,000 with some 250,000 in commercial trading area.... altitude 171' above sea level ... mean temp. 52.7° Precipitation, mean average 37.5 inches.... Special events, Blossom day, in April, Cherry Land Festival in June, Salem Air Derby, in August; Oregon State Fair, in Sept., Soap Box Derby in the summer, with the fair and the derby leading in importance.

Well I hope this acknowledgement covers ever thing you had in mind. I am building an AM tuner for my outfit. Maybe one of these days I'll be sort of a BCL. The tuner features continuously variable I.F. selectivity through the use of a ganged mechanical unit that varies the coupling of the coils in the I.F. units. I got the unit out of an old Philco. I used it in a previous unit and with a stage of r.f., two stages of I.F., an infinite impedance detector, and a separate oscillator for the mixer stage I could get real D.E. reception if I so desired. Improvements ^{???} this time include the use of a 6U8 in the osc.-mixer stage in place of a 6SA7 and 6J5. I am replacing the Meisner oscillator coil and ~~oscillator~~. Mixer R.F. coil with Miller units that have a little better mountings. The oscillator coil I used before used to cause annoying drift because the slug was mounted to the top of the shield can and as the set would warm up the can expanded (or something) thus detuning the set. I've wanted to add A.F.C. but haven't found a suitable set of coils for the discriminator stage of the A.F.C. which could be used at 455 kcs.

*Yours, Fraternally
Harold A. West*