

phone : Carlisle 249-1717



"The BIG 960 Sound"

HARRISBURG, PENNA.



November 5, 1963

P.O. box 520
CARLISLE, PA.

Mr. Kermit Geary
Box 298
Walnutport, Pa.

Dear Kermit:

I read your DX letter with interest hoping I would find sufficient information to officially verify your report. Your comment about the weatherman from the Harrisburg-York State Airport clinched the matter as we are the only station broadcasting that information at that time. Therefore it is my pleasure to verify your reception of WHYL FM on the morning of Saturday, October 26, 1963 at 8:10 a.m. EST.

You might be interested in learning that our antenna is only 19 feet above average terrain. Actually the tower is about 285 feet high but surrounding terrain eats up most of this height advantage. We are using 250 watts output. The combination of lack of antenna height and low power makes reception in your area most unlikely. It might be pleasing for you to know we have never received a report from your area before.

Let's hope the 1963-64 DX season is a great one.

Radiocordially,

Phil Potter
General Manager

P.S. Your report was very complete and accurate—a credit to the NRC.



MEMBER OF

NATIONAL RADIO CLUB

PLEASE REPLY TO:

Kermit Geary,
R.D. 2, Box 298,
Walnutport, Pa. 18088

October 27, 1963.

*verified as correct.
D.J. DeHart
WHYL*

Chief Engineer,
Radio Station W-H-Y-L,
Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

Dear Sir,

The morning of Saturday, October 26, 1963, was excellent for tropospheric skip on the FM band, especially from the east, and many stations from the metropolitan New York City area were rolling in with S-9 signals. In order to add some of the lower-powered stations to my reception log, I tuned to 102.3 megacycles to find out whether a station such as WBAB-FM, Babylon, Long Island, might be coming through. Shortly after 8:05 A.M., Eastern Daylight Saving Time, an announcer was heard speaking on a station sandwiched tightly between the S-9 plus signals of semi-locals WFIL-FM, Philadelphia, on 102.1 mc. (60 miles away), and WRFY, Reading, Pa., on 102.5 mc. (35 miles away). I was unable to identify the station due to spill-over from these strong adjacent signals, but the signal peaked at 8:10 A.M. and I heard the announcer say that we would hear the "weather report from the Harrisburg - York Airport". This report from the U.S. Weather Bureau at the airport was heard between 8:10 and 8:14 A.M., E.D.S.T.

The signal level at 8:10 A.M. was moderately strong, about S-7, sufficient to provide good, clear reception. However, as described above, reception was difficult due to the powerful signals on the immediately adjacent channels of 102.1 and 102.5 megacycles. My receiver was not selective enough to completely eliminate cross-modulation from one or the other of these stations. Nevertheless, I was happy to log this transmission despite the interference, and I thought you might be glad to know that your FM station was able to reach out to a distance of 95 air miles at 8:10 A.M. on the morning of Saturday, October 26, 1963. I would be glad to hear from you, informing me whether it was actually WHYL-FM which I heard presenting the weather report from the Weather Bureau at the Harrisburg - York Airport at that time. I feel that it must have been your station, but would appreciate your confirmation of this fact. Return postage is enclosed for your reply.

My receiver is a Zenith model C-845 8-tube AM-FM set. I have no outside antenna installed as yet, but am merely using the built-in antenna which operates on inductance from the A.C. power lead and provides good coverage on the FM band, regularly receiving stations from the Washington, D.C., area, Norfolk, Va., and Hagerstown, Md. Although I am situated in the Lehigh River Valley, the terrain toward the west is fairly open, with the nearest hill in your direction (about 600 ft. high) being 1 mile away. The elevation here is approximately 350 ft. above sea level. The location is 14 miles north of Allentown.