Division of Forestry State Department of Conservation

Montgomery, Alabama

IN REPLY REFER TO:

December 14, 1944

Mr. Kermit Geary Route 2 Walnutport, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Geary:

I appreciate very much receiving your letter of October 19 and must apologize for not replying until this late date. From the description taken from your log of your receiption on Wednesday evening, October 18, 1944, the station you heard was undoubtedly WRBG, which is located about one mile north of Chapman, Alabama. This station is owned and operated by the Division of Forestry of the Alabama Department of Conservation in connection with our forest fire control work in the Butler Ranger District. Reports of the occurrence of forest fires are 'phoned by the towermen to Station WRBG which is located in the ranger headquarters and then dispatched to fire crews located at various points throughout the district. We have only one-way communication but hope to develop two-way communication as soon as equipment becomes available for civilian use. The transmitter is a 100 Watt Temco which was manufactured by the Transmitter Equipment Company. It has been in operation for about six years and has given us excellent service.

Unfortunately, we do not have a radio technician on our staff and have to have our station maintained by contract with a Montgomery radio operator who makes one and sometimes two trips per month to Chapman to check over our equipment. The last qualified man we had in our employ to do this work left us at the beginning of the war. For that reason we are unable to make any comment on the technical observations contained in your letter.

I am sending a copy of your letter of October 19 to our dispatcher at Chapman. I know she will be glad to read your comments on the reception of her signals.

Under separate cover we are sending you copies of the Department's annual report for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1942 and the fiscal year ending September 30, 1943 since they will give you information pertaining to the conservation work carried on in Alabama.

Very sincerely yours,

J. M. Stauffer

State Forester

JMS:DL

CC: Mrs. Valeria Rodgers

HELP PREVENT WOODS FIRES