

RADIO **KSO** STATION  
ABC for CENTRAL IOWA

MURPHY BROADCASTING COMPANY

TENTH AND GRAND AVENUE  
DES MOINES 9, IOWA

August 4th 1955

Mr. John Sampson,  
7940 Pacific  
Omaha, Nebr.

Dear Mr. Sampson:

Thanks for your letter and report of reception of KSO. We are always glad to get reports on distant reception and while yours is not too distant, it is still outside our normal listening area and we are glad to get your report.

I am enclosing one of our regular DX cards for your display and will be pleased to have it included in your line-up.

In answering the questions you had concerning our operation, some of them I can't answer. As for the program schedule; this station was just recently sold and you will note from the letter-head and the type of programming is being changed so rapidly that we have no printed program schedules yet. We are changing over to a music-news type of operation, similar to that of KOWH there in Omaha.

As for the technical questions; we operate non-directional to sundown with a two tower array after sundown. The towers are in line ~~NE and SW~~ NW and SE which gives us a figure 8 pattern northeast and southwest, with two very deep nulls to the northwest and southeast. Studios are located in our own building at 1916 Ingersol Ave here, which is just outside the business district. We operate the transmitter by remote control from the studios during the daytime with a night man at the transmitter. The Station has a very interesting history. Briefly, KSO was originally the call letters of a ship operating on the Great Lakes and became a Broadcast station in 1922 when it was operated by the Berry Seed Co in Clarinda with 250 watts on 1320 kc. In 1932 it was purchased by the Register and Tribune here in Des Moines and moved to Des Moines. There were several increases in power and it was 5000 watts days, 1000 watts nights in 1935 when the Register and Tribune started the other station, KRNT. They made a switch in frequency which put KSO on 1420 and KRNT on 1320 kc. Then the FCC changed frequencies of all stations in the country and KSO became 1460 kc, the frequency

on which we presently operate. In 1944, as you know, the FCC ruled that no one company could operate more than one station serving the same area and the R&T was required to dispose of one of their stations and they chose to sell KSO. It was purchased by a Minneapolis man and became the Murphy Broadcasting Company in 1944. Mr. Murphy died about two years ago and the station then was sold to the present owners, a group of business men from Indianapolis, Ind and is known as KSO, Inc.

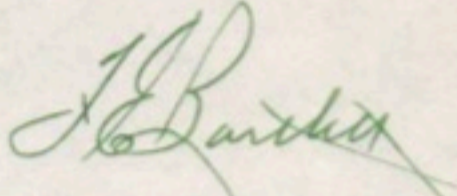
We also operate KSO-FM which is programming duplicate with the AM operation at present. We do not have any television ambitions. We've seen too many of them flop!

Incidentally, I've been with KSO since 1932, as chief engineer since 1944, so I feel as tho it were my own flesh and blood!

Thanks again for your report and I hope that the information I've given you fills the bill.

Sincerely

K S O Inc.,

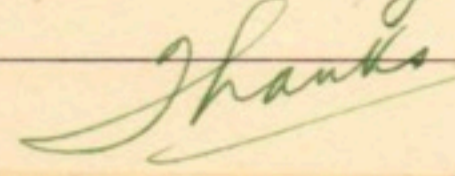


F. E. Bartlett  
Chief Engineer.

VERIFICATION of RECEPTION <sup>271</sup>

5000 WATTS **KSO** 1460 KC  
DES MOINES 9, IOWA • U.S.A.

THIS WILL VERIFY YOUR RECEPTION OF OUR  
PROGRAMS ON Aug 1 1955 AT 841-57 pm



F. E. BARTLETT, Chief Engineer 