

Hans Knot International Radio Report

May-June 2020

Welcome to the new edition of the international radio report. And again many memories, surprising items, questions and more. First we go to Steve Ball, who wrote: 'Nice one was the last issue of the report. I don't normally get a chance to read your reports fully. However I am now retired and thoroughly enjoyed this one. Lots of good stuff in there that I had not read before.'

Thanks for keeping the memories alive. I can remember many radio moments and disc jockeys going back decades but can't remember what I did yesterday. I think I prefer it that way actually.'

Thanks Steve and I hope you keep remembering those moments we all loved so much. Have a good time, now you're retired.



The Emperor Rosko from his own collection

Someone who will, I think, never retire, is the Emperor Rosko in Los Angeles. Like he did after almost every edition of the report since 2004 is writing an e mail, so he did in March: 'Great job on the missing persons! If that does not work I give up.' As you may remember Mike was looking a long time for two persons. One was the former Caroline deejay Rick Dane and so I could give him some information. And he was also lucky that Rick Dane's e mail address was send to him too, with thanks to Jon Myer. Hopefully Rosko is in contact with him again. Keep us informed Mike.

1975 02 08 record and popswop mirror



**FIFTY
ROSKO
SINGLES
TO WIN!**

HERE YA then, a chance to win a copy of the new single from the Emperor Rosko. This particular record out on Trojan, goes under the title of Al Capone. We've got 50 copies to give away, and all we want you to do is answer these three questions about Rosko and the Trojan label:

- 1 In which country was Rosko born?
- 2 Which band did Rosko first introduce on stage? Was it: The Dave Clark Five, The Stones or the Beatles? A clue, it was in Paris.
- 3 How many volts has John Holt got on his latest album?

Write your answers on the coupon, together with your name, age and address, and send it to the address shown.

ROSKO CONTEST COUPON

Name

Age

Address

To: Rosko Competition, Record & Popswop Mirror, PO Box 195, 1, Benwell Road, London N7. Closing date: 24 February, 1975.

Let's go from the USA to Belgium were Alex Bervoets is following the radio world also since decennia: 'Hello Hans, thanks a lot for continuing to send me the international radio reports! And yes as a fresh 70 year old I now also listen to Radio Minerva from Antwerpen. All kinds of deejays, but always heavenly music from the speakers.



This year Radio Minerva exists 40 years and coming Saturday there is a special broadcast from the former lightship the West-Hinder 3. It would be nice if that was a regular feature. Take a look at the new site of Minerva. <https://www.radiominerva.be/radio/index.php>

Take care Hans and until next time! Greetings, Alex Bervoets.'

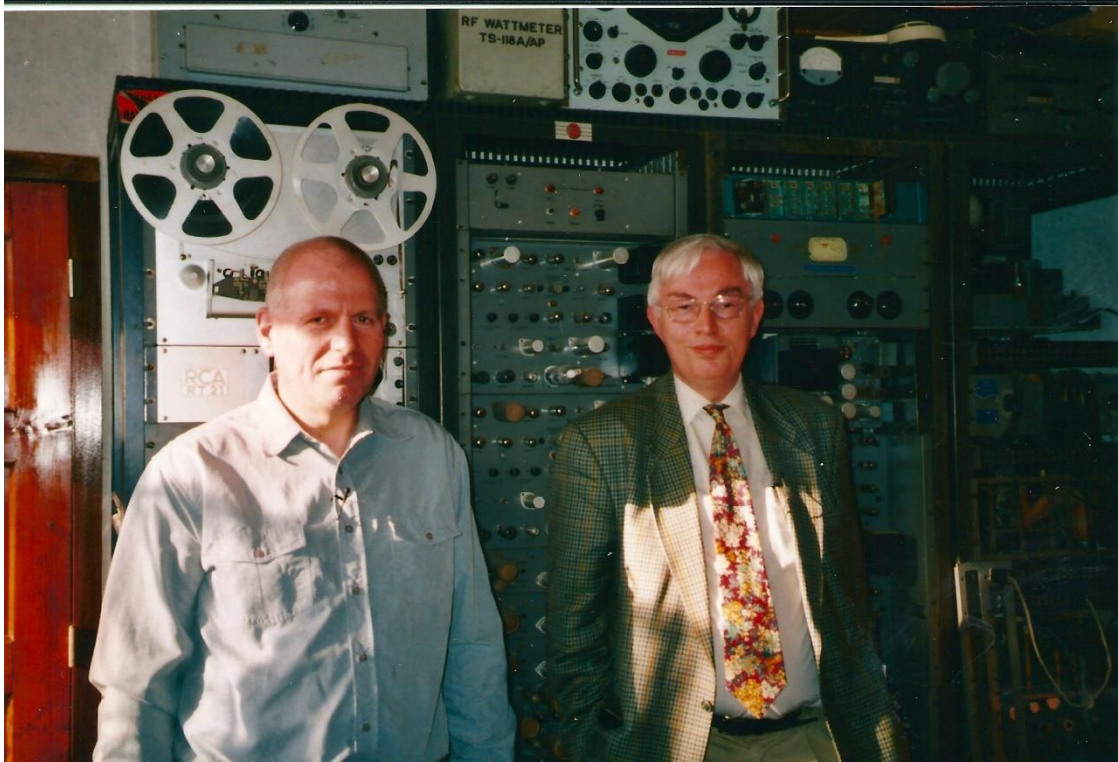
Well next is one of my own contribution to this edition of the international radio report. Still nice to go back to the archive once in a while and get a folder with notes out of it. This time I took one of the folders from the month April 1970. As so often in the days when the offshore radio stations were intensively active, there were all sorts of rumours. In that month, several newspapers reported on the plans of a resident of Vlaardingen to start television broadcasting from a broadcasting ship.

The person in question, Arie Swaneveld, had obtained a large part of the equipment, seized from the REM island project in 1964, through the Dutch government's property department. The Algemeen Dagblad reported that month that Swaneveld was planning to operate a television station from a ship. It added that he intended to broadcast mainly advertising.

In the preceding weeks, he had distributed a stencil to draw attention to his plans in which, among other things, it was reported that half of the expected profits from the television station would be made available for charitable purposes. And the news got even better, because Swaneveld reported that he wanted to set up a limited company with an initial capital of no less than 1.5 million guilders. According to him, that capital was needed in 1970 for the purchase of a broadcasting ship, a mast, a generator and a transmitter.

He wanted the programmes to have a recreational character and channel 11 was chosen as the broadcast channel. The idea had also arisen to simply call the station 'Channel 11' and he thought he could

achieve a range of at least 100 kilometers with the television station of the former REM island. He also reported that he had entered into far-reaching discussions with insurance companies to insure against any loss that might arise if the Dutch government decided to ratify the 1965 Strasbourg Treaty.



Arie Swaneveld and the late Rob Olthof in front of the former Rem Island equipment. Photo: SMC Archive

In all honesty, I have to say that, unfortunately, I have never seen the aforementioned document in stencil form. In April 1970, however, another report came to light, the source of which is not known but, given the format, it can be assumed that it was a publication by De Telegraaf. It mentioned a Foundation that wished to buy the REM station, which is something different from an NV (public limited company) that was mentioned earlier.

The article did link one thing to another, because the journalist, who worked for the RTV editorial staff of the newspaper in question, stated: 'While the Swiss pirate Radio Nordsee is slowly but surely collapsing due to a lack of significant advertisers, a foundation has

been set up in the Netherlands, which wants to broadcast a 'charitable commercial' television programs from a ship weighing over 2,000 tones, sailing off the coast of Scheveningen.

A little person with technical knowledge probably thought immediately upon reading that from a ship, if indeed television broadcasts could be organised, the reception on the mainland would certainly be poor. The Onafhankelijke Televisie Exploitatie en Radio Maatschappij' reported that the demand for television advertising in the Netherlands was four times as high as the STER (responsible for commercial time on radio and television at the public broadcasters) was able to provide in 1970 via Nederland 1 and 2. These were the only television networks in our country at that time.

In the second article, Arie Swaneveld mentioned that he was busy getting the Dutch business world interested in this project and of course he hoped for good investments by companies. He could also tell more about the desired ship, as it was planned to build a transmitter mast of no less than 100 metres high, weighing 10 tonnes. He also stated in this interview that he needed an amount of 1.5 million guilders. Broadcasting would be done via channel 2. Earlier, he stated channel 11, but 1and1 is 2.

Swaneveld knew how to throw figures around because the transmitter would have to cost 3 tons, while he estimated that the costs for the transmitter mast and generators would have to be about 2 tons in guilders. Swaneveld thought he could interest the business community in bringing in the desired amount by putting 1500 shares on the market. As a lure to the potential shareholders, a hefty discount was promised on the possible purchase of advertising airtime via OTERM.

The expectation was also expressed that, if channel 2 would actually be broadcast, it would probably be possible to reach no less than 2 million viewers. This was because channel 2 could be received on

every television set at the time. This second article did not talk about 100 kilometres but about a radius of 90 kilometres from Callantsoog in North Holland to Cadzand in Zeeland Flanders, inland to Den Bosch and Amersfoort.



The OTERM people had also thought about how things had gone in 1964 with the seizure of the REM equipment, after the intervention of the Dutch government. They thought they had heard that the owners of the REM project at the time had taken out insurance with Lloyds in London and had been able to collect a sum of nine million after the seizure. To be honest, I have never come across this figure before, anywhere. And that it was necessary for the Foundation or the NV or the Maatschappij OTERM, as all three were called, to insure future ownership, was certainly necessary because Swaneveld feared intervention by the Dutch government if it indeed planned to introduce a change in the law as a result of which it would be legally prohibited to be actively engaged in what the Dutch government considered to be an illegal radio or television project from international waters.

It is not clear what Swaneveld paid for the equipment at the time, but it is clear that the radio station was made available to Radio Atlantis when there was talk of a second broadcasting period at the end of 1973. A contract was concluded with Adriaan van Landschoot, which was later not honoured and through legal actions the transmitter was later recovered for Swaneveld, where the rest of the equipment was also stored.



Radio Atlantis in Flushing harbour 1974. Photo: Walter Galle

At the beginning of 1994, Arno Weltens and I came into contact with him, which, after consultation, made it possible for us to temporarily include a number of objects from his collection in the collection of the Broadcasting Museum in Hilversum. The objects could be seen during the exhibition 'Dutch Broadcasters', which was held from the beginning of June that year for a long period of time in the museum, located at the time on the Oude Amersfoortseweg in Hilversum.

Arie Swaneveld was born in Vlaardingen and used to own a woodworking company (also in sawdust and shavings) in 's-Gravenzande. The company has since been taken over by his son.

Caroline deejays once working on the Mi Amigo reunite for one last Caroline Broadcast.

A group of DJs who broadcast from the Mi Amigo in the 1970's are reuniting for one last broadcast on Radio Caroline this summer, live

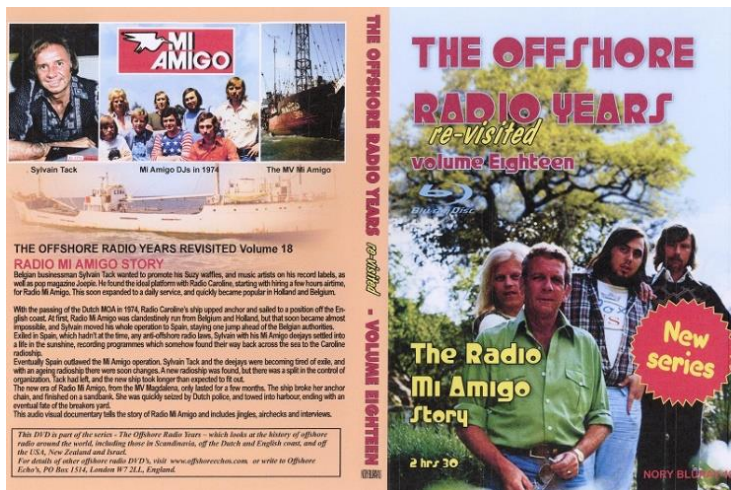
from the studios on board the Ross Revenge. The theme of the broadcast on Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th of July is 'The Sensational Seventies'.

Here's the line-up: Nigel Harris (Stewart Russell), Martin Fisher, Bob Lawrence (Richard Thompson), Tom Anderson, Mike Stevens, Cliff Osbourne, James Ross, Mark Lawrence, Marc Jacobs, Brian Martin and Roger Mathews.

During that special weekend six trips to Ross Revenge will be done. Visitors will meet the DJs and tour the ship. Unlike the usual trips, the boat will depart from Bradwell-on-Sea in Essex. Places are expected to fill quickly. To book yours, email boattrips@radiocaroline.co.uk or call 07535 493501 (office hours).

More details about the event will be posted on the Caroline website and social media over the next few weeks.

Next a review by Martin van der Ven



In the Benelux, Radio Mi Amigo is probably, next to Radio Veronica and Radio Northsea probably the offshore radio station that evokes the most memories, but also a lot of emotions. Not coincidentally, there have been numerous reunions in the past almost 5 decades, especially in Flanders, and several Radio Mi Amigo reincarnations are

broadcasting on the Internet. Many Mi Amigo disc jockeys from the offshore era also seem full of nostalgia and enthusiastically participate in such projects.

Radio Mi Amigo was active on two radio ships during the period 1974-1979. The OEM team has done an excellent job of comprehensively and almost completely documenting the history of this impressive radio station. This two and a half hour video consists of a fascinating firework of video and sound recordings with countless photos, jingles, tunes and recordings from the exciting history of the offshore station.

One gets the impression that really every historically significant aspect and every employee are mentioned in sound and vision, and even the short time span of the broadcasts from the MV Magdalena is looked at in particular detail. As with any OEM production, a goosebump feeling immediately sets in with the viewer. The time in 'exile' in Playa de Aro is presented in particular detail, with many video recordings in excellent quality, but also countless newspaper clippings, photos and interviews. Without any doubt, the new DVD (or even Blu-Ray) should not be missing in any collection.

Duration of this DVD/Bluray: 146 minutes.

<https://www.offshoreechos.com/DVD.htm>

In the early days of Radio Caroline in March 1964, there were numerous reports in both the English and Dutch newspapers. From the latter it was possible to reconstruct how the various journalists thought about whether or not listening to an unofficial station, often called a pirate station, was legal. For instance, I found a newspaper headline in which it was reported that a Caroline listener could theoretically be punishable.

For the journalist of the Haagsche Courant had received a message from England stating that English listeners to Caroline would be breaking the law if they listened to the clandestine Radio Caroline.

He thought that this reporting could give a wrong impression. After all, there was no mention of a warning that had gone out from official sources in England to inform listeners of an official offence and that in a country where personal freedom was held in high esteem.

An opinion of a high-ranking employee of the Dutch PTT was also requested, at the time, about the regulations in the Netherlands. The answer was that, according to the 1948 Wireless Telegraphy Act, it was forbidden to listen to a radio station that was not officially authorised.

The conclusion was that the Dutch were not allowed to listen to either Radio Caroline or Radio Veronica. There were no consequences for illegal listening because the offence was typically theoretical in nature, and the possibility of prosecution was also purely theoretical. The legislation did contain a punishment clause for violations of the law. In England, this was either a 100-pound fine or three months' imprisonment, or a combination of the two.



MV Caroline, Photo Colin Nichol

But in those days, this clause was mainly used as a stick for people who repeatedly refused to pay the licence fee. It was also stated at the time that any illegal listening to a so-called pirate station could only be a minor technical offence. Moreover, if someone turned on the medium wave band to listen to various radio stations and ended up on the frequency of Caroline or Veronica, there was absolutely no question of an offence. They just happened to end up on the station's music. It was a different matter if the station made its name known; theoretically, one should have switched off the radio or listened to another station.

The British PTT was completely silent on the subject in April 1964, and the British listening public was also unaware of any infringement. Even if any potential advertisers (Caroline had no advertising at that time) would be deterred by the law, it was not known. The PTT spokesman reported at the time that there was no impediment as there was no article in the legislation about this. Although this would happen in 1967 for England and 1974 for the Netherlands. (Hans Knot)

Here a very interesting found from Martin van der Ven:

Richard H. Cummings on a grandly failed offshore radio project by an US intelligence agency

part 1:

<https://www.historyisnowmagazine.com/blog/2022/1/4/us-cold-war-propaganda-the-cias-ship-for-radio-broadcasts-to-albania-in-the-early-cold-war>

part 2:

<https://www.historyisnowmagazine.com/blog/2022/2/15/us-cold-war-propaganda-the-failures-of-the-cia-in-its-radio-broadcasts-to-albania-in-the-early-cold-war-part-2>

Details of the yacht Juanita and even a picture:

<https://www.navsource.org/archives/14/31357.htm>

Cummings' book "Cold War Frequencies"

https://play.google.com/books/reader?id=dvclEAAQBAJ&pg=GBS.P1&hl=en_US

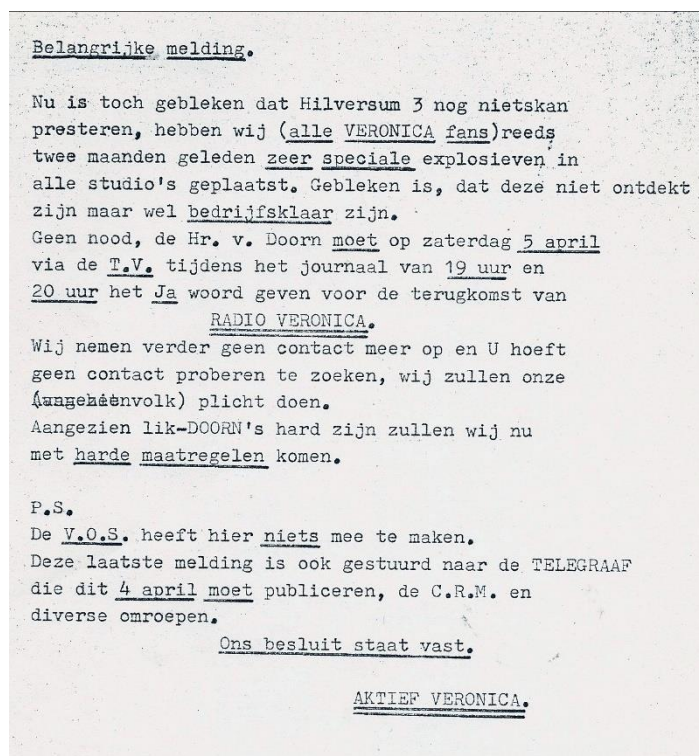
Next e mail time again: 'Hi Hans. Thanks so much for the Spring Report - a lengthy but informative read. It still amazes me that the effect 'pirate radio' had on us is still remembered and revered to this day. After all a lot of it happened in a few short years from 1964 to 1967 all of which was over half a century ago. Best wishes, Stephen Raindle.'



Message from Paul Bourn: 'Hi Hans, for the last 12 months I have been doing all the behind the scenes work for the Radio Ship. Due to Doug Wood's very poor health it has been decided to cease programming on Easter Sunday at 15:00, 8 years since we began in 2014 as a tribute to the many offshore stations which followed in the steps of Radio Caroline. Thank you for the coverage you have given to this project over the last 8 years.' And of course many of my readership have found the way to the programming of the Radio

Ship during the past 8 years. In name of those also a big thank you to Doug, you and the rest of the crew aboard the Radio Ship. It was good to deliver a lot of interesting programs too.

It was more than 47 years ago that the Aktief Veronica (Active Veronica) action group sent one or more letters to various recipients with the aim of causing unrest and damage because they were dissatisfied with the harm done to the then Dutch government by the entry into force of the anti-sea-broadcasting law in the summer of 1974.



Belangrijke melding.

Nu is toch gebleken dat Hilversum 3 nog nietskan presteren, hebben wij (alle VERONICA fans) reeds twee maanden geleden zeer speciale explosieven in alle studio's geplaatst. Gebleken is, dat deze niet ontdekt zijn maar wel bedrijfsklaar zijn.

Geen nood, de Hr. v. Doorn moet op zaterdag 5 april via de T.V. tijdens het journaal van 19 uur en 20 uur het Ja woord geven voor de terugkomst van RADIO VERONICA.

Wij nemen verder geen contact meer op en U hoeft geen contact proberen te zoeken, wij zullen onze (aangezienvolk) plicht doen.

Aangezien lik-DOORN's hard zijn zullen wij nu met harde maatregelen komen.

P.S.

De V.O.S. heeft hier niets mee te maken.

Deze laatste melding is ook gestuurd naar de TELEGRAAF die dit 4 april moet publiceren, de C.R.M. en diverse omroepen.

Ons besluit staat vast.

AKTIEF VERONICA.

People were also dissatisfied with the procedures that the VOS, the Veronica Broadcasting Foundation, had to go through in order to possibly qualify for an aspirant licence as a broadcaster. As is well known, the name would later change from VOS to VOO, the Veronica Broadcasting Organisation, via a different structure.

Who was behind the action group is totally unknown, only one document was found in a large box of documents that Robert Briel, once very involved with the VOO and the Veronica magazine, sent me years ago. It is also not clear to whom the threatening letter,

because that is what it was about, was sent. It did say that it was also sent to 'De Telegraaf', with the obligation to publish, as well as to the Ministry of CRM and the various broadcasters.

The document only has the headline: 'Important announcement'. The threat concerns an announcement that two months before the, undated, letter was sent, a number of fanatic Veronica fans had allegedly placed heavy explosives in, supposedly, the then complex on the NOS premises in Hilversum, in which the studio of Hilversum 3 was also located.

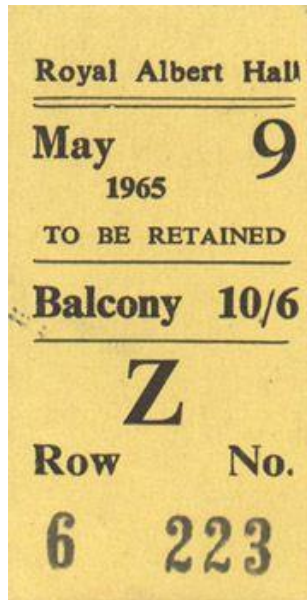
Because the fanatical supporters of Radio Veronica found it taking far too long to listen to their beloved programme makers again, they felt they could threaten with the explosives if Minister van Doorn, then responsible for the Ministry of CRM, which also included broadcasting, did not give the desired explanation for the television broadcast on Saturday 5 April that year.

Always nice to hear from Vivien in England: 'Hello Hans, thank you very much for emailing the latest radio report. I was interested to see the picture of the Stax Record show flyer as I went to see that show on Saturday April 8th 1967 at the Hammersmith Odeon. I went with my friend Pamela Hayward, who sadly died in 2019. Pamela ran the Radio Caroline Pen Pal Club from 1965 until 1966".

We didn't book tickets beforehand but bought them at the door and were given front row seats at the side costing 17/6 (17 shillings and sixpence). We really went to see Emperor Rosko, who was comparing the show, as we were Radio Caroline fans. (I don't know who Al Bell was, perhaps he couldn't make it!) I loved all the Stax record music and it was a very exciting show. Eddie Floyd sang his latest release "Knock On Wood" and Sam & Dave sang their latest "Soothe Me". Otis Redding ended the show.

Before the show started I turned round to look at the audience and recognized B.B.C. disc jockey Pete Murray sitting behind us. Pamela

and I went to the stage door after the show to try and meet Emperor Rosko but we didn't see him. The prices of concert tickets were so low compared with today but then, we were not given high salaries. I paid only £1. for a ticket to see Bob Dylan in 1965 at the Royal Albert Hall. Happy memories! Vivien Barnard,'



Thanks a lot Vivien for these great memories and on the internet memories go further as I found this ticket but there's more about this concert in 1965: <https://www.bobdylan-comewritersandcritics.com/pages/programmes/dylan-london-royal-albert-hall-may-1965.htm>

Dave Stewart wrote on fb on May the 10th: '40 years ago today, 77 WABC turned off the music. It's not a cliché to call it the end of an era. WABC's time as a pop music station was legendary. They started in 1960 when Motown was beginning to explode with hits and Beatlemania was right around the corner.

1010 WINS and WMCA were New York's pop music stations at the time, but WABC had a better signal, reaching nearly every inch of the market. After sundown, when AM travels farther, WABC had listeners all over the eastern half of the continent from Canada to Florida. Cousin Brucie sometimes got calls from listeners in England

during his nighttime show. Harry Harrison, Ron Lundy, Dan Ingram, and the other jocks became as iconic to the audience as the music artists.

By the early '80s, pop music was in the doldrums and listeners wanted the better fidelity of FM. On May 10th, 1982, WABC played its last song, "Imagine" by John Lennon, before launching the talk format. Those aforementioned WABC DJs joined CBS-FM. I acquired one piece of history from WABC's Musicradio era when I worked down the hall at WPLJ: A "cart machine." Literally billions of ears heard hit songs and jingles played from tape cartridges through this device. It still has an ABC company control tag on it. These machines were ubiquitous at radio stations before computer audio became the norm. The cartridge in the machine now contains a 1990s-era promo for Scott & Todd's morning show on WPLJ.



In the previous report, I told you about an application letter from one Albert Dieffenthaler to Radio Caroline in the 1970s. Through a number of readers something more has become known about Albert. He was born on 11 November 1950 and went back to Aruba at some point and has been active in many ways in the radio and music

industry as well as some other business. Where he currently resides or is still alive remains a question mark. Although it was suggested in a newsgroup that he may be living in Australia. He is still registered in the Commercial Register of Aruba.

Nevertheless, I would like to return to my earlier suspicion that he was a good fantasist. In an interview that Rob Veld sent and that was published in BNA-DIG-BOULEVARD in December 1977, Albert mentions that he worked as Terry Daves at Radio Noordzee. We know that only one real Terry Davis worked at RNI so fantasy to make a career even more exciting. In the same interview, Radio Scotland and Radio Sweden also come up. Earlier statement that he worked together with Suhandi on Veronica can't be true either as on the list with names of people who have been working for the station and is in possession of Juul Geleick, Albert his name either is mentioned. What is true is that he worked for a long time at Radio Carina and Radio Kelkboom, both on Aruba.



In February 1989 Rob Out was on Aruba and there was talk of a possible exchange of satellite television programmes between Aruba and the Netherlands, in which Dieffenthaler would also have been involved. Will this subject be continued in the summer edition of the International Radio Report?

Here's a recent posting in Luxembourg FB Group from Mike Grant: 'I Thought fellow Luxy fans might like to see this....Luxy still very much

alive via the sticker on the back of my 1972 Bond Bug. Just to complete the picture I had Bob Stewart playing from 1972 over the stereo system. '



Photo Mike Grant.

Of course Mike reflected on the posting of a photo of a bug car in the Luxembourg Magazine we also saw in last report. By the way if anyone wants to share a memory, photo or more just send it to HKnot@home.nl

Well of course there's a daily range of e mails coming in and mostly I try to answer those as soon as possible. But it's not always possible so be patience for an answer, it surely comes.

On April 10th I was very surprised to receive the following e mail letter from the head office from MEBO II Ltd in Zürich. Of course for sharing with the readers of the report.

Radio Nordsee International



Radio-Ship MS Mebo II

Management, Administration:
MEBO LTD. Telecommunication
Badenerstrasse 41
CH 8004 Zürich
Switzerland

Phone:
0041 44 492 50 20

HANS KNOT
International
Radio Report
HKnot@home.nl

Zürich, 10th April 2022 vp

MEBO II and MEBO I - sold to LIBYA...

Dear Hans


As an attachment you will receive the Original Bank document concerning the sale of MEBO II and MEBO I to LIBYA. It is for the first time that Edwin Bollier is releasing it for exclusive publication. The radioship was used for broadcasting (Koran Programme a.o.) and later it sank in the Mediterranean Sea after it was used as a target for shooting exercises by the Libyan Army. Unfortunately we had no chance to save the legendary radioship.

Edwin is well and still fighting for the truth in the neverending Lockerbie affair. Erwin is fine and back in Switzerland. They are very impressed that the spirit of Radio North Sea (RNI) is still going on.

Best regards from Switzerland

Victor Pelli

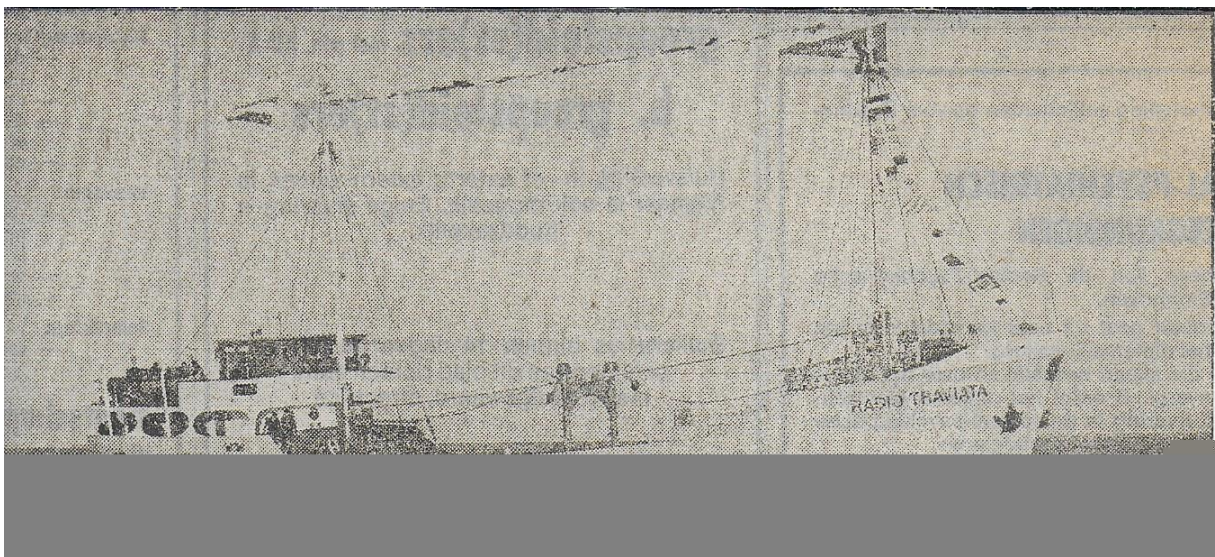
Of course the attachment will be shown too in this edition of the report. Paid figure is in Swiss Francs at the time and it is a high amount of money. Really they were good businessmen. Many thanks to the owners of MEBO Ltd as well as Victor Pelly for bringing these two documents officially for the first time for publication after so many years.

 SOCIÉTÉ DE BANQUE SUISSE SCHWEIZERISCHER BANKVEREIN SOCIETÀ DI BANCA SVIZZERA SWISS BANK CORPORATION		Doc. Credit No 258'800 8022 Zürich, 28. Dezember 1976 hU-2524 <small>Paradeplatz Telefon (01) 29 50 11 Telex 52 581 lvzn ch</small>
gemäss Voranzeige vom 16.12.1976		
Nous vous informons de l'ouverture du crédit documentaire irrévocable suivant en votre faveur: Wir benachrichtigen Sie von der Eröffnung des folgenden unwiderruflichen Dokumentarkredites zu Ihren Gunsten: We inform you of the opening of the following irrevocable documentary credit in your favour:		EINSCHREIBEN MEBO AG Badenerstrasse 414 8004 <u>Zürich</u>
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Utilisable contre remise des documents suivants: Benutzbar gegen Einreichung folgender Dokumente: Available against surrender of the following documents: Sw.Fr. 4'056'567.17 representing the total value of the imported "ships" to be paid as follows: 70 % payable against: - draft at sight drawn on Swiss Bank Corporation, London - 6 copies of invoices approved by the Ministry's Representative - (enclosed) * certificate of receiving the equipments contracted for in the international waters; said certificate should be authenticated by the Central Bank of Libya 30 % payable against: - draft at sight drawn on Swiss Bank Corporation, London - preliminary acceptance by the Ministry as per Central Bank of Libya authorization Sw.Fr. 870'000.-- representing the total value of "spare parts" to be paid as follows: 70 % payable against: - draft at sight drawn on Swiss Bank Corporation, London - 6 copies of invoices approved by the Ministry's Representative 30 % payable against: - draft at sight drawn on Swiss Bank Corporation, London - 6 copies of invoices approved by the Ministry's Representative - Central Bank of Libya authorization that all the parts have been received by the Ministry on site		

A vague clipping, that came to my attention again after half a century, concerned the disappearance of wire broadcasting in the Netherlands, which particularly upset the people who often tuned in to button 4, where mainly classical music could be heard. It prompted numerous letters of objection in various newspapers. The photo shows a ship called Radio Traviata. Not that this ship was actually a broadcasting ship, but it was imagined by a newspaper reader.

He came up with the following text: Radio Traviata does not really exist yet, but the ship could look like this. As a supporter of

Netherlands Classical Music, I propose sending such a broadcasting ship into the North Sea for the permanent broadcasting of classical music. This is in view of the lenient attitude of the Dutch judiciary towards the pirate stations, which only broadcast pop music. It seems like a nice idea, but one that cannot be realised. How then to compensate the lovers of classical music for the loss of their beloved fourth line of wire broadcasting? Studying the way the BBC does this in England may contribute to a solution of the matter that apparently so many people in the Netherlands care about.



Some three years later, on 9 April 1973, it was the *Morgenster*, a ship owned by Rederij Vrolijk, that left the port of Scheveningen to be in international waters for a few hours for the broadcasts of Radio Petat. However, it was not an offshore radio station like Veronica, Caroline or RNI, but a legal broadcast that went to Hilversum via a radio link. This was via the VPRO Monday programme, where that day a fierce plea was made for more classical music on Dutch radio. At the end of 1975 Hilversum 4, with a lot of classical music, was officially established. And the *Morgenster* was later used for Radio Delmare, yet another offshore radio station.

Friday May the 6th some technical work was done by Peter Chicago in Naarden. You see him here near the Optimods from 100% NL, Slam! and Sunlite in de Hofstede, where once RNI was housed too in the seventies of last century.

Photo: Herbert Visser



On May 12th an interesting article was in the Cambridge News in New Zealand. One of Chris Prouse's neighbours told him recently when her crook hip is playing up in the middle of the night, she prefers to listen to Cambridge Oaks FM.

The music takes her back to memories of what life was like when it was being played on the radio and helps her insomnia. Talkback radio gets her mind going.

"It's all about the music," Prouse, 76, a radio veteran who worked as a technician and engineer at Radio Hauraki for 13 years including stints onboard the Tiri II in Auckland's Hauraki Gulf.

Read more here with thanks to Svern Martinsen:

<https://www.cambridgenews.nz/2022/05/pirate-of-the-airwaves-in-cambridge/?fbclid=IwAR1KZo3HqxziZOjGAq5CQumXIFccGNrWy3LSBTORsi1Q6nRmDd5I+4-sWtw>

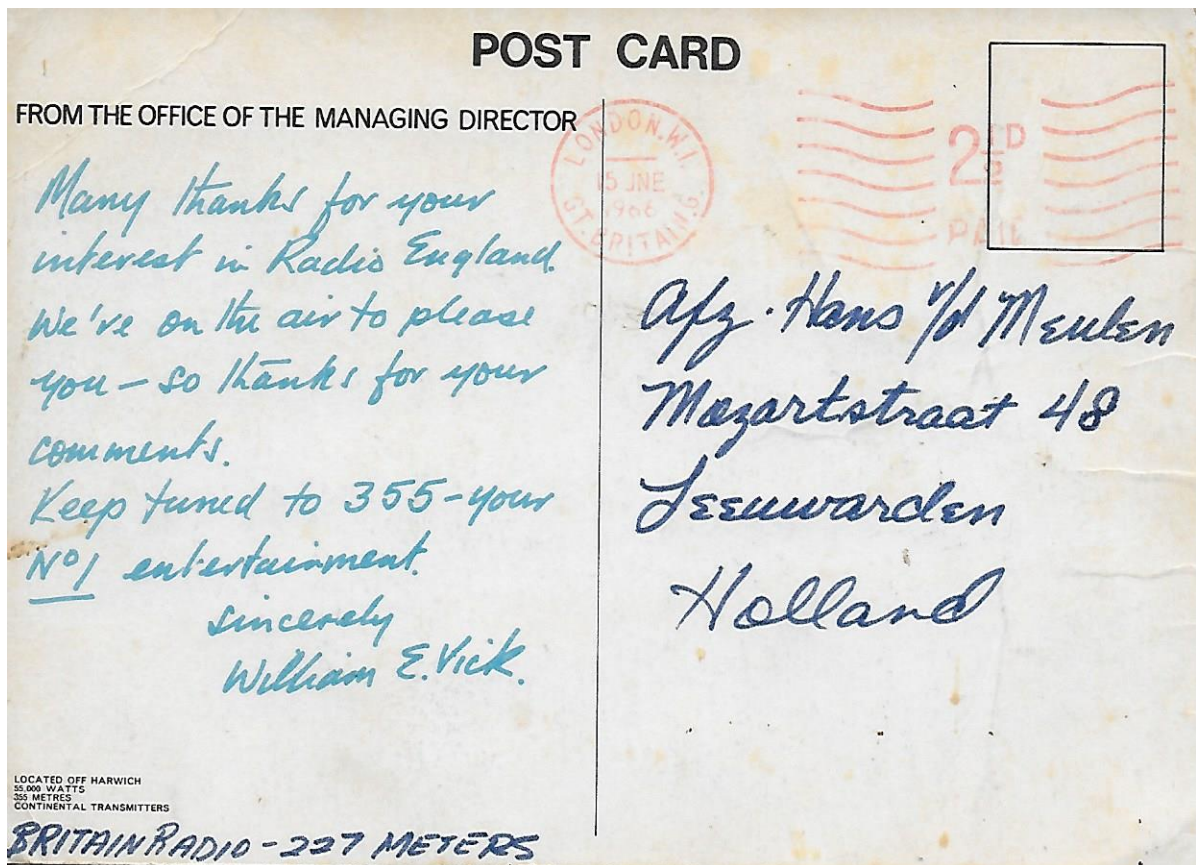
An American Old Style car festival was organised up till 2019 in Foxwolde, some 14 km from where we live. However the organisation announced in April they cancelled the event sadly forever. I announced this on my personal fb page and I got response



Rob Ashard sent me a link to such a festival and he was there too for promoting Radio Caroline. It's all in this interesting video.

<https://youtu.be/zAC-uVBjotU>

A parcel arrived in Groningen recently with a lot of newspaper cuttings. Many known ones but also ones which will be scanned and showed here partly in the future. Nice to see in the envelope were the posters from Pirate Radio News with Veronica on the beach, which I released in 1973. Also an appendix to an early Freewave from 1978 with an average drawing of the Mi Amigo. But first here a very special QSL card from SRE which the former owner kept more than 55 years. It's from the very early days both stations came on the air in 1966.



I published it the same day on the SMC FB Spot and it was Svenn Martinsen, the person who knows the most of the facts behind the Laissez Faire, who reflected with: 'Interesting Hans Knot, this could be the earliest QSL I have seen. Before the official opening June 19th, and with a slightly different text. And, SRE still on 845 with BR on 1322. Mine is from September 1966 and I also have one signed by Assistant CE Bob Gittis from December 1966, but that one is only for Britain Radio 845. You have a special one indeed as the frequency switching is not indicated as late as June 15th. The decision must have been taken in haste?'

Hans Hettelder has finished another model from offshore radio days gone by. This time hundreds of hours have been gone since he started this new project and I must say this is a 100% wonderful model of the radio ship which was once used by Radio Nord, off the coast of Sweden.

Talking about update here's Jon and the May update for the Pirate Hall of Fame: Hi, I have just updated The Pirate Radio Hall of Fame.

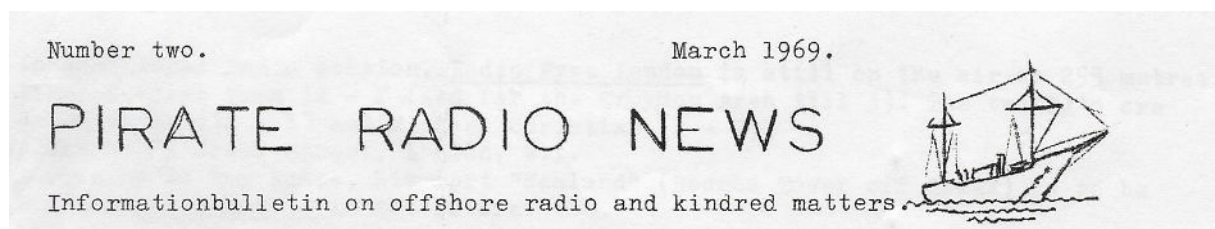
Mark Stuart is best remembered for his time as a DJ on Radio Northsea International but he returned to sea in 1984-5 to work behind the scenes as an engineer on Laser-558. This month we have some superb recordings of Laser made by Mark on board the mv Communicator;

plus five Radio Northsea International Toppers 20 charts from 1974. I hope they bring back good memories. Best wishes, Jon.'

www.offshoreradio.co.uk

Many of you know that I wrote between 1970 and 1976 for Pirate Radio News. But it's always interesting to look back in earlier issues of the Magazine, which was at first a publication run only by Dick van Schenk Brill in 1968. From issue number 2 in April 1969 is this news item about Mario Welman, the famous hairdresser, who always knew how to make the newspapers and more.

Even he went out to the MEBO II in autumn of 1970 with the message he wanted to own the radio station.



Dutch Hairdresser plans to start Broadcasting Station in Amsterdam.

Mario Welman, once a famous hairdresser plans to start a radio station, which will be located in the wellknown club of Underground Music "Paradiso" in the Dutch capital. It is not clear how he wants to collect the required number of contributors, necessary for an official License, according to the new Broadcasting Law, so we doubt if the station ever really will start, unless it will become an illegal station. The station would come on the air at the beginning of March and will be called RADIO PARADISO, RADIO PARADO, RADIO PARADADIO or something like that.

(To avoid misunderstandings; this project has nothing to do with Radio Parade, the internal broadcasting of the hospitals in Haarlem)

Going back to the June 1968 issue of the Pirate Radio News I could say that probably this was the very first item ever published about the Voice of Peace.

PEACE PILOT will become PEACE PIRATE.

The wellknown peacepilot Abie Nathan from Israel, who did much to contribute to peace between Israel and the Arabic States and also tried to mediate in the Biafra conflict has plans to start a floating transmitter. If everything goes on, he will buy the "Cita", a 570 tons coaster from Groningen, which sails under the flag of Panama. The ship will be anchored about 10 miles off Israel in International Waters. The station will be called "The Voice of Peace" and will broadcast in English, Arabic, French and Hebrew, 12 hours a day. The crew will consist of Arabs, Israelis and Dutchmen, according to Nathan. Abi himself will be chief disc-jockey of the station.

He will try to convince the Arabs that peace can only bring progress and he will stimulate his own countrymen to live in peace with their Arab neighbours. In this way he hopes to eliminate the hate and mistrust that exists amongst the nations in the Middle-East.

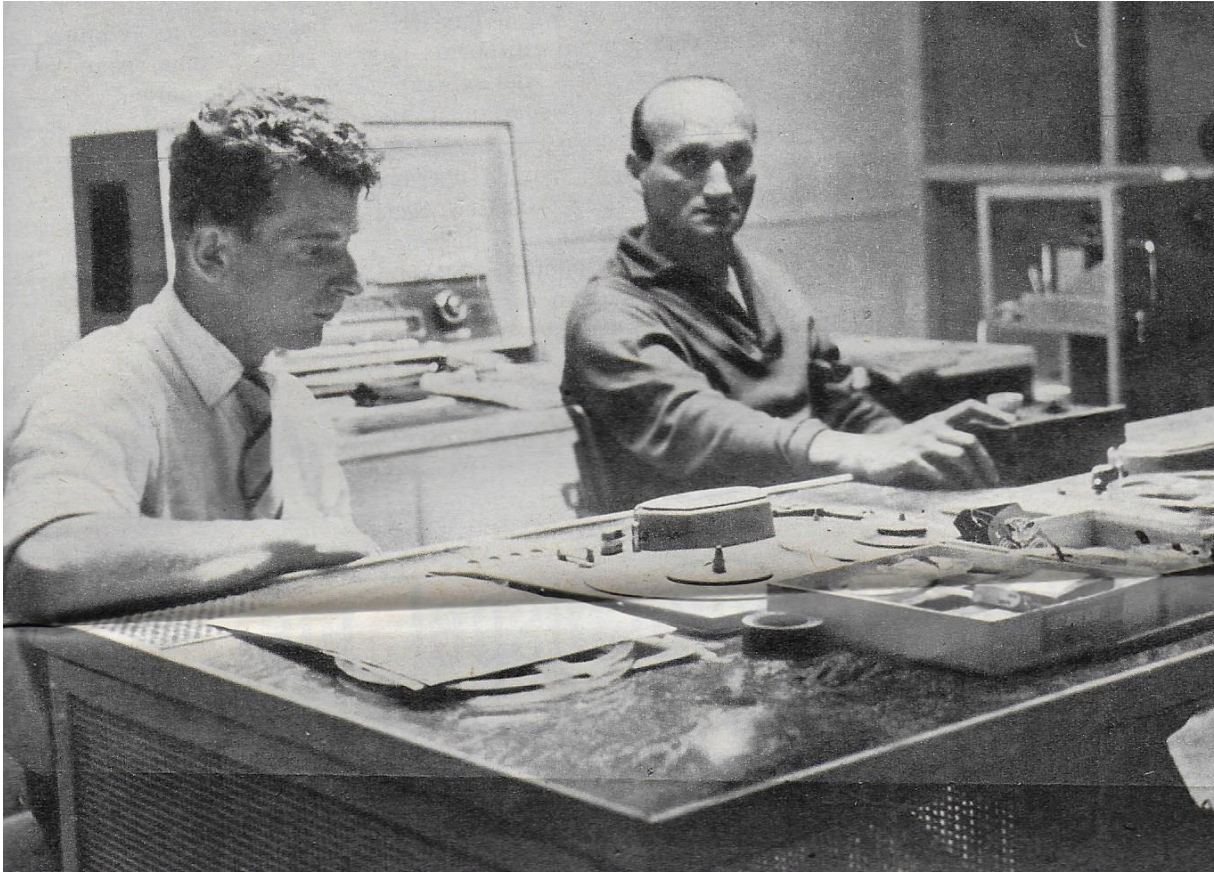
This message from Bob LeRoi might be of interest: 'I thought this might be of interest to your followers. I've completed a copy free web page of last week's cruise out into the Thames Estuary, where I also produced 'Bob's 60's Splash', which was transmitted during Week 21 commencing 23rd of May. Stations including Netherlands: Emmeloord, Happy AM, Seabreeze 1395, Starlight and VMR 1485. It is also be on stations here in the UK plus Norway, Spain, Slovakia and Germany.

The web page is now live from Home Page:

http://www.bobleroi.co.uk/ScrapBook/Grand%20Forts%20Tour%2080522/Grand%20Forts_080522.htm

The family name Hermann brings is back to the early months of Radio Veronica in 1960. Father Günther and sons Jan and Ludwig worked very hard on the technical side of the radio ship to bring the station on the air in April that year. Here we see on the left technician Croese and Günther Hermann on the right in the studio on Veronica's first radio ship Borkum Riff.

The photo is from the collection Max Lewin SMC bought from him many years ago.



By the way Yvonne and Ludwig are now grandparents from a grand child and the name of the station came back in the family as the girl got the name 'Veronica'.

And before we forget just follow this link for the latest updates about Radio London by Mary and Chris Payne:

<http://www.radiolondon.co.uk/kneesflashes/happenings/2012julyon/july2012.html>

We have some space left so we continue where we stopped 3 issues of the International Radio Report ago. Excerpts from Brian Long his exclusive long stories about Radio London. Last time we had the first part of the interview he made years ago with Chris Denning. Now here's the second part:

"I was the very first person on BBC2 - it's never gone right since. After six months on BBC2 I got fed up with that. In those days everybody had 405 line sets and to get BBC2 you had to get converted. I used to go around posing, standing by petrol pumps as I filled my car, hoping to be mobbed, but nobody had ever seen me because they all had 405 line sets. I got a bit fed up with this because being an egomaniac I needed the boosting so I had another go at Luxembourg and I got it this time.



Chris Denning Photo: Soundscapes info

I was there for two years. I get bored with everything I do after two years as a matter of policy. I started getting bored and I couldn't control myself. We used to have commercials, one from a man called Horace Bachelor, which was a complete con. He used to claim to be a pools tipster and he listed all the hundreds of people who had won through his system. He had an easy system, he just sent different numbers to anybody who wrote in so somebody was almost bound to win. He sold thousands and thousands of tips to thousands of people. He gave every one of them different numbers. It was obvious that someone would win and he claimed that thanks to his tip, Mrs. E Thribblethwaite of Clacton-on-Sea, has just won half a million pounds, so he could afford to boast. He was based in a strange place called Keynsham, in Bristol. His little message was always taped. He would talk for about 30 seconds and tell you about the wonders of his infra-draw method - which I used to call secretly, in-for-a-dig method - and at the end of it we had a script where we used to have to say, 'Write

now to Horace, at department L, Keynsham, spelt K-E-Y-N-S-H-A-M, Keynsham, Bristol.' I got bored so I started saying crazy things like, 'Write now to Horace, at Department L, Keynsham, spelt J-Q-R-Z-T-L-D, Keynsham, Bristol.' I just started going slightly bizarre and berserk because I just became bored with the whole thing. Eventually Geoffrey Everitt came out on a rather rapid visit and we had a talk and we decided I wouldn't work for Luxembourg any more. I think he thought that was the end of my career, but I went back to London.



Geoffrey Everitt photo Luxembourg Magazine

The first night I arrived back I went into a disco called The Scotch of St. James, which was terribly famous because the members consisted entirely of hugely famous superstars. At the door, if you applied to join, they would say to you, 'How many million records had you sold?', and if you'd sold less than 17 million records you weren't considered good enough to join. If you'd only had three or four gold discs they wouldn't let you anywhere near the premises. In those days, everybody was very trendy with all these new styles of the 60s. A typical night you would have Paul McCartney, and Ringo Starr. I can remember a night where on one table were The Beatles, on another table was Stevie Wonder, Bob Dylan was at another table and The Yardbirds were jamming. They were all terribly impressed because Chris Denning was there as well. I was sitting there and in came a deejay that I'd never heard of. The owner came over to me and said, 'Chris, you must know Ed.' Ed was a deejay on Radio London, but in Luxembourg we couldn't pick up Radio London. So Ed Stewart, who it

was, knew me well, but I'd never heard of him because I was in Luxembourg all that time and he'd become quite famous in the meantime. He said to me, 'What are you gonna do now?' I said, 'I'm gonna have to get some work, probably on the BBC. I don't know. I've come back, I'm gonna take a chance.' He said, 'You don't want to come and work on Radio London do you?' I said, 'I don't know. I don't think so.' I thought it was a little bit of a retrogressive step because I'd been on an official station and he was on a pirate station. And then I thought and said, 'It's terribly well known isn't it.' The truth was they had eclipsed Luxembourg, but I didn't know. I said, 'How come there's a vacancy at such short notice?' He said, 'Johnny Moran, - who'd also been on Luxembourg at the same as I was there. He'd left Luxembourg a month before me - was supposed to join Radio London.' I didn't know he was going to join Radio London. He (Stewart) said, 'Yes. It was all secret and arranged but Johnny, at the very last minute, had cold feet.' I don't know why it was, but he had called off at the last minute and they were very annoyed with him and they didn't know what to do. I went along the following day at Ed Stewart's suggestion and met Alan Keen, the Sales Manager of Radio London. We agreed, and the day after that I was on the ship. So I went straight from Luxembourg to Radio London."

Next time we return to the Radio London stories written by Brian Long it will be about Chris Denning his time on Radio London.

Well that ends this edition of the International Radio Report and next is the summer edition. As a walking in Limburg holiday is planned it will be in August the next one will come to you. As always reflect, bring back memories, photos and more. The only e mail address to use is HKnot@home.nl

Have a good summer or winter, which depends in which part of the world you follow the International Radio Report.

greetings Hans Knot