

August 2nd 2002



Dear friends,

Well a month has gone again and we're now in the Anorak month August.

First of all there maybe some problems within the forthcoming weeks to get in contact with my normal e-mail adres

hknot@home.nl. The reason is that we will be getting a new computer. So if you do not succeed to get a quick answer please use the other e-mail address h.knot@ppsw.rug.nl

Then the news from the last month. Next to the sad news of Howard G Rose, on which I wrote already in an extra newsflash earlier in July, some other radio people have passed away. First I want to mention the death of Joop Verhoof as a result of cancer. Joop worked for Radio Caroline's Dutch Service, followed by Radio Atlantis and Radio Mi Amigo, which were all offshore radio stations. Even when the Dutch brought in an anti offshore radio law, Joop decided to stay with the station and recorded his program in Spain. In 1976 he decided to go back to Holland. Next to regional radio he started his own video company. The third person who passed away was Kenny Page. He started his radio career on Radio Clyde in 1974, an ILR station in Scotland. In 1976 he went to international waters to work for Radio Caroline on the MV Mi Amigo. Next year he went down south to Israel and again the international waters was his aim. Working for Abe Nathan's Voice of Peace was his dream. He worked there for two long periods to come back to Scotland in the early eighties. During the last years he was very popular with a variety of programs on Radio Tay.

And then other news in the section 'Offshore Radio Past and Present'. Nearer than the place where once the Dutch Offshore stations were anchored isn't possible when we talk about the location of the Sunday afternoon program on Radio 192 called Sangria. It's recorded every Saturday morning to be transmitted on Sunday afternoon, the same spot were Radio Veronica did this program in the Seventies. It's recorded at the Beach Company. Not only old Veronica deejays present this program during the summer months but also attention is paid to the importance of the pop music in the Hague. The program lasts for three hours a week. Today I've signed a contract with the station Radio 192 so they can use, for only one time, exclusive recordings from the Freewave radio archive free of charge for the 'Week van de zeezenders' (Week of Offshore Radio), which will be held in the last week of August. Ad Bouman will take a selection out of my archive to be used in the programs of the station

during that week. As I'm off to Germany in the last week of this month for a short holiday, I shall personally not be heard on any radio station with memories to offshore radio. And I must say this is years and years ago.

On Saturday July 6th and 13th there was also attention to the Belgian radio and music scene on Radio 192, including an interview with the most loved deejay for Radio Mi Amigo in the seventies (Mark Jacobs).

Also, after last month's long list of 'nick names of former offshore deejays' we got some updates including the ones remembered by Steve Young and Tom Lodge: Caroline North: Gordon 'The Cruiser' Cruse, Mick 'The Micker' Luvzit. On Caroline South 'Your deejay' Mike Ahearn, Rick 'The Great Dane' Dane, Mark 'The Big Toe' Sloane, Dave 'DLT' Travis en 'Dave 'The Weird Beard' Travis. But also Larry Tremaine informed me that I did forget him 'The geeter with the heater' Tremaine, 'the boss with the hot sauce'. Tom Lodge mentioned "Big' Jim 'Murph the Surf' Murphy and Alan 'Neddy' Turner was also a nicky. And Jan van Heeren, who came with the Tom Lodge updates mentioned also David 'Screaming Lord' Sutch. If you remember more, please don't forget to mention them. I still wonder why Paul Rusling didn't sent a mail as he surely was called Young Paul Alexander in 1973 when he entered international waters. It just suddenly springs into my mind.

Then a mail came in from Willem Dekker, former employee from Radio Veronica during their days on land. He is now co-owner of a radio station in the Caribbean on the Isles of Curaçao, Bonaire, Sint Maarten, Saba and Sint Eustatius. It can be received there on FM 97.5. Well the station has started on July 21st under the name Radio Dolfijn, like one of the offshore stations that broadcast from the MV Laissez Faire in 1966. Dekker wanted some interviews with former Dolfijn deejays on the starting day. A pity that he was wrong with the fact that on July 21st Dolfijn did stop programming. He meant of course Radio 227, the follow up station to Dolfijn.

Everyone knows by now that Radio Caroline is testing on World Space satellite and that listeners soon have to pay a monthly amount of money for Free Radio, that what Caroline always predicted to be. So on that subject nothing from me. What I wanted to mention is that the company with the best receiver for this transmission is Hitachi. Well the Dutch import company knows nothing about this special receivers and has nothing in stock. And so Caroline has a lesser change to get the millions of listeners they still want. Oh yes, I forgot the enormous blunder which was in the World Space and Caroline press report: It was mentioned that Radio Caroline was first anchored in the Irish Seal! Well Mr Moore where have your memories gone. Of course it was off the East Coast of

England, near Harwich.

I heard last week from inside people that there is a big change Radio Caroline Holland will be dropped from the cable networks of Essent next year in favour of Radio 192. Reason should be that there are too much English language programs on the Dutch service. A pity for I do like Sietse's station but would also like to see Radio 192 on cable in the North of Holland.

A new book on the pop industry in New Zealand is out. Not at all interesting to the main reader of this monthly newsletter. However there was an interesting chapter about the fact that two deejays of the former Offshore Radio station Radio Hauraki started in the sixties their own record company with labels 'Cindy' and 'Now'. Ross Goodwin and Rick Grant were keen enough to bring the local versions of international hits on their labels to earn a lot of money. Most of the songs were sung by The Cindy Singers and could be played only on 33 1/3 rpm. By the way, the book is called 'For the record'.

Hello Everybody is the title of a Flemish weekly and during a couple of weeks former Radio Mi Amigo director Sylvain Tack tells his story of his life. At one stage he remembers that Adriaan van Landschoot, former Atlantis director, was starting his own new radio ship. This after Tack had taken the airtime from Atlantis on Caroline's ship Mi Amigo. Well he tells in 2002 that he got an offer to blow the Atlantis ship with a bomb. Offer, following Tack words, was done by Tom van der Linden, who once put a bomb on the Mebo II, the former RNI ship. Well believe me that Tack was and is still a big dreamer and thumb sucker. He even told that Tom went to the Atlantis ship, broke the anchor chain and that would be the end of Atlantis in 1973. Strange enough I and many more people have the last hour of Radio Atlantis in their archive: 31. 8. 1974.

It also became known that this year's RSL program of Radio Mi Amigo in Harwich from a former lightship will take place on a later stage. It will start on August 8th up till September 5th. 1503 kHz will be the frequency on low power but there will be an Internet connection to listen to.

On the 24th of last month Anglia TV paid attention to the forthcoming Mi Amigo RSL interviewing some of the people involved. But also good old Keith Skues was interviewed in the program called 'A date with Helen' about his career in Offshore Radio.

The same date on 6777 kHz some people were chatting which each other on the plans to start a new offshore radio station of the coast of the USA in international waters, using short wave. Well indeed Allan Weiner, once the man

behind Radio New York international in the eighties, wants once again (I lost the counting) to start his own offshore station. First record to be played is by Perry Como and the Anita Kerr Singers: 'Dream a little dream'.

Some time ago I mentioned that two ships were bought by some people with the idea to start on one of the ships a permanent base for RSL stations. Now it can be mentioned that both ships are up for sale. These are the Grampian Princess and the Grampian Dawn, formerly the MV Linden Lea and the MV Ben Strome. They're up for sale in Ipswich harbour for an amount of 75.000 Pound each. It's rumoured that the owner wants to start a satellite radio station with a format Big L had in the sixties. Isn't it rare or Ray????

Nice was also to hear that on Yorin FM early in the morning Robert Jensen and Jan Zwart were memorizing their first day of meeting way back in 1987 in Scheveningen. It was one of the radio days organised by Rob Olthof and me on a yearly basis. Next year a quarter of a century!!

And then the rest of the news from behind the world famous Dutch dykes:

A lot of Dutch Internet radio stations have got a letter from the BUMA, the performing right society, in which is mentioned that the station can get a licence. When being officially licensed as web caster they have to mention how many listeners they have and if they have around 750 listeners they have to pay rights for a whole year, costing 56.350 Euro. There goes the yearly salary of the whole family in one bill.

Dutch government has to go to sell the frequencies for radio, as is decided by the court in Rotterdam. In this way new organisations can bid too. Before September 17th a date of the selling has to be mentioned. As a result of the decision from August 1st Radio Nationaal is non stop playing music. Director and owner Ruud Hendriks had dismissed all deejays, including Bart van Leeuwen, Chiel Montagne and Carel van Kooten. It's so that the station is almost at the red side of the financial figures.

Finally the news came in that former Atlantic 252 will be soon Radio Nova. A new restart by Chris Carey who did the best bid at UK betting, who bought the station a couple of weeks ago from Team Talk, the follow up to Atlantic. It seems that Chris (Spangles Muldoon on Caroline) wants to open studios at the Isle of Man and then there will be soon operating two long wave stations from the Isle of Man.

Well as told I will be going on holiday at the end of August so if you have on your

station or you've heard on a station a special on the MOA or the Dutch stations in international waters, don't forget to mention it in a mail to me. I'm in Eastern Germany so there it can not be heard.

May I wish you all a fine summer month of August. This also for our new readers this month.

Greetings

Hans Knot