

Hans Knot's International Radio Report - May 2003 (2)



It was an early report last month due to the many pages we had to publish. And again more than enough e-mails within a day thanking me for the report and wishing us all the best for our holidays. I decided again to send the report earlier. This due to the high amount of news, gossip and your e-mails. It was Keith King who responded very quickly. I doubt if he could have read all before sending an e-mail back. Here is what Colin Wilkins wrote: 'Many thanks for the April newsletter, your newsletters are always interesting to read and catch up on what's happening over a nice cup of tea. It's the only way to learn of what's been happening, through your newsletters. Offshore Echo's these days is just a magazine of taking a look at things that happened all those years ago, so thanks once again. Anyhow have a nice holiday and I hope to hear from you soon. Best Wishes from sunny England'.

Colin, thanks a lot. Of course Chris Edwards, François Lhote and others at Offshore Echos are doing their best to bring a magazine for many years. And if they've chosen to do it in almost 100% reminiscing, it's their choice. I still do enjoy the OEM. On the other hand I do read a lot of other magazines, too.

On the evening I sent the report away it was Tineke de Nooy from Veronica's offshore days, who was guest in the program 'Night Club' on Veronica TV. Of course the past of the offshore station Veronica was highlighted. Not only with 15 seconds with pictures of the good old station but also questions how about Tineke came to work with the station. She told that she saw some people distributing stickers at the Zeedijk in Hilversum in 1960. She was 17 at that stage and walked into the building. Following that she was a very nice presenter to read 'words' written by others and herself. It changes, she told, when the presenters from CNBC, Commercial Neutral Broadcaster

Company, came in. From that point on she started doing deejaying, with thanks for putting a cover of an Eddie Gormé record in front of her. One of the CNBC jocks told her: 'This is your public and so talk to them'. From that point on she has never written a text herself again. The 14 years, she has worked with Radio Veronica she never wanted to have missed and still she gets angry to think back again to August 1974. This due to the fact that Radio Veronica had, as an offshore radio station, to leave the air. The Dutch government had then brought in the Dutch version of the Marine Offences Act.

Congratulations to one of our regular listeners over in Ireland, Tom Hardy. For the first time in his life he became a father of a daughter, Laurie Carter. Tom nowadays works for Today FM and found his way in radio through stations like Chiltern Radio, Radio Nova and not forgetting Radio Caroline. He started there in 1978 and was one of the crew members who had to abandon the MV Mi Amigo in a hurry in March 1980, when it finally sunk.

On www.carolinecentral.com at the end of April the next info could be read: 'Fresh information about the ex Laser 558 ship shows that the new unnamed British owner does not intend to scrap the ship if such can be avoided, but has a project for the vessel. However, his hopes have been dampened after contractors removed equipment that was not part of the sale inventory and left the ship open. In a remote location it was easy for vandals to board the Communicator and she has now been extensively looted and vandalised. A group of people, fascinated by the ship, have been visiting it on a regular basis to observe it's decline, but seemingly have done nothing to guard the vessel or make it secure. On Sunday 27th April, structural engineers from Radio Caroline boarded the ship with the owners permission. It is thought that this team will first secure all openings to the ship and then see if some lighting and running water can be restored. They are hampered by the fact that the engine room is flooded and the ship is listing heavily to starboard having settled on an underwater obstruction at the stern. It is not known if Caroline's intervention is a one off emergency gesture or the first phase of a

permanent involvement.

In one of his programs on satellite Radio Caroline, Johnny Lewis told that the Communicator will be anchored next to the Ross Revenge to get two ships together as a statue for the history of Offshore Broadcasting.

It seems we're getting older and more and more people, who were active in radio, are passing away. This month the sad news that at the age of 70 Barry Mordici Ainly died. People reading this bulletin and who are following radio since the early sixties, know he was at one stage managing director of Radio Caroline. He was the man who was almost always at the Caroline office at 6 Chesterfield Gardens. Some of the stars of the Sixties, like Blackburn, Rosko and Dave Lee Travis, can claim that it was Ainley who did offer them a job.

Also this month we have some nick names coming in. When the former tender king of the Ross Revenge, Leendert Vingerling, was sending me some beautiful photos by e mail, there was a shot from some people, including Andy Johnson. And people who did listen to his programs or were on the ship during the period he worked for Radio Caroline, know his nick name was Andy 'Cosmic' Johnson. And from the same period, the Eighties, we have another Caroline deejay, Bruce Purdy, who was called Bruce 'Stonehenge' Perdy.

On the story from Ed Simeone from last month it was Bill (Will) Danse who gave some more info. Like some of the other guys, who worked on the VOP, I sent a separate set of photos to their private address. One was featuring good guy Tony Allan with some other people. Here's what Bill wrote: 'Very nice to receive the photo's. The guy who is sitting next to Tony is Jo. It's what we call nowadays a social defected boy. He got total protection of Father McTague. On the ship he was the cook's mate. Jo had one ideal and that was the same McTague had. They wanted to visit St. Peter's Square in Rome. And they succeeded in doing so.

It was Norman Barrington who sent me an mp3 file. On this he had edited some parts of the very first live program on April 18th in 1973 from the MV Mi Amigo. It was the late Freek Simon doing the presentation and Norman B doing the technical assistance. And believe it or not, I got cold shivers on my body. Norman B did it in the correct way, he edited it to 3.19 (minutes and seconds). Thanks Norman!

On Dutch TV on TELEAC a new series of programs has started on April 27th. 'Nederpop with heart and soul', is the name of the series which is featuring the music from Dutch beat and pop groups in the sixties and seventies. Next to the history of the pop music, there is some attention to the influence of the offshore radio stations in the programs. Shit! Again the bomb attack. Are there no other interesting subjects of that area?

Also this month I will mention some of the thousands of interesting internet sites. On the next one is a run down of the RSL relating to offshore Radio during the past years. Also some unique photo's from the Alan Beech archive on Radio Scotland. Sorry Alan, we lent one. <http://www.qsl.net/m1eyp/offshore.htm>



Steve Merike, Jimmy Mack,
Brian McKenzie, Tony Allan

Another one from the past (also present) who reflected on the report is Barry Everett: 'You can hear my radio shows on Borderline Internet Radio streamed 24/7.... www.borderline.co.uk Hugh Nolan, my old DJ partner on Radio Geronimo and Seagull, is in town and much talk of 'the old days' has been going on. I would love to get back on terrestrial radio again but the club is taking more and more of my time, still my little studio at home is producing my internet shows and the audience is growing, about 8,000 a week now. Anyhow mate a great read and I look forward to the next one..... All the best, Barry'.

Remember Radio 270? It was really good to hear from Mike Hayes. In perfect Dutch he wrote me how he enjoyed the report. I wrote back to Mike and have asked him to come to the Radio Day to do his story. Agenda: October 25th Radio Day Amsterdam.



Andy Archer promised earlier to come to Amsterdam. He was one of the first people attending our very first radio day in 1978 and since then we met each other once. So Andy, hope to see you in October. He sent the next message: 'Thank you Hans, as usual, most fascinating reading. I hope you and your family are well and enjoy your island holiday. I seem to remember that one of the cooks (Big Jan) on the Mi Amigo in 1967/68 lived on Terschelling, I'm sorry that I cannot remember his surname. Does anyone know the whereabouts of Carl Mitchell, he seems to have completely disappeared!! Best wishes from Andy Archer.'

Andy is not the only one who's searching for Carl Mitchell. Roger Day too. I met Carl for the last time in Discothèque de Berenkuil, in Groningen, where he did work for a while in 1969 and early 1970. After that he went to RNI. So who knows something about what happened to Carl Mitchell after September 1970?

Martin van der Ven has passed along a press report that Dr. Carl McIntire, the fiery radio fundamentalist-evangelist, died on March 22, 2002 in Voorhees, NJ. He was 95 years of age. His daily broadcasts were heard over 600 stations until the early 1970s when the stations ran afoul of the FCC's fairness doctrine. I do remember Dr. McIntire as the man of the offshore radio station Radio Free America, a radio station that broadcast briefly over 1160 kHz from a former mine sweeper off the New Jersey coast. It went on the air on September 12 1973 with test transmissions, from the MV Columbus. The ship was in international waters, off the New Jersey coast. Complaints were brought in by radio station WHLW that Radio Free

America was making interference with their signal. But that were not the first troubles RFA got. In a storm the anchor chain broke and they had to go into harbor again. Official transmissions started on September 19th. The next day a federal judge issued an order restraining that the station could not make any broadcast again until October 1st. Then the authorities came with an old law, from 1934. In this it is forbidden to make transmissions from airplanes and ships, which are registrated in the USA. Carl McIntire had made the big mistake not to buy a foreign flag and so this little piece of radio history ended.

One who also knows what communicating is all about is Chris Cortez from Cherrey Hinton. He sent in a very long letter. Of course Chris, it's impossible to place everything but we will publish some of your comments and question regarding the March and April editions and hopefully, if I don't have the answer, someone else can reflect: 'Where will the proposed TV Documentary about Radio Scotland to be broadcast?'

Referring to earlier things about the line between Ronan O'Rahilly and Georgie Fame in the early sixties Chris has also a question, so let the answers come: "What was the title of the Georgie Fame promo disc which Ronan was taking to get BBC/Luxy airtime far way back in 1962 or 1963? Legends claims it to be 'Do the dog' or 'Do re mi', both Columbia Records in 1964. But the date seems to rule this out. So was it 'JA Blues' or 'Stop right here', both by the Blue Flames on R&B Records in 1963? Ronan's links with Colin Berry of this record company in North London are well documented."

Also Chris Cortez is shocked about the things I published about John England and his other friends. Cortez: 'I was shocked to see that our American cousins are still querying whether it was really possible for Ronan O'Rahilly to have chosen the name for his radio station after seeing a magazine photograph of Caroline Kennedy. Does anybody care about this? The fact is that Ronan called his station 'Caroline' and today only damn fool politicians try to rewrite history. "We think

that London is a better name than Caroline", say our American cousins. They cannot surely be serious. How crazy that a powerful radio station broadcasting to Great Britain and Half of Europe had a name of just one city! Then again many aspects of this Radio London operation were crazy. Eg.1: Anchoring within British territorial waters upon arrival from the USA aboard the Galaxy. Guess which Irishman told the people of Big L of their serious error? EG2: Broadcasting a nighttime heterodyne whistle on her signal, due to the use of an off channel crystal in her transmitter! Guess the nationality of the broadcast engineers who did not know of the 1 kHz difference American and European (British) MW/AM Channels.' Thanks Chris and I will have one on you.

Steve Szmidt sent the next e mail: 'That was a bit of a marathon! Thanks. A good read as always. Yes, I got the finishing line, eventually!

John McKay is a big fan of the former Laser ship Communicator and he wrote in, too: 'As you have written, if the Communicator really is to be scrapped, I would like you to print in your next letter a plea for anyone in the local area that might be able to take some LAST digital photos of the once great LASER 558 ship before she disappears forever...I would very much like to have some pictures on the website of the old girl before she is scrapped. Regards: John McKay www.laser558.org 'Dedicated to preserving the memory of one of the greatest radio stations of all time...LASER 558'

Ben Groenendijk, Director for Radio and TV Rijnmond, one of the two regional companies in the Province of Zuid Holland, has decided to quit the job. After 14 years with regional stations, from with the last 6 years with RTV Rijnmond, he thinks that it's time for a new job. He will become the new director for RVU Educatieve Omroep, a broadcast society who makes educational radio and television programs completely financed by Dutch government.

Dutch government has decided that from 2005 the Public Broadcast Societies only has to have 150.000 members to get a licence for radio and television programs. Up till now the law says that they have to have 300.000 members or more.' Vice Minister Van Leeuwen, once member of Dutch band Kayak, brought in the plan to make the number lower. For broadcasting societies it's more difficult to get the younger people to their membership. BNN, a special broadcasting society for the youth, has more chance to get a new licence under the new restrictions.

Sometimes there are surprises, when reading some old magazines. I was doing archive work for an article and came around with a 1966 edition of the then famous pop magazine Muziek Express. In this I suddenly found a nick name, which we hadn't mentioned during the past 12 month. Known from his accident on board the MV Norderney, where he lost a finger. But also he was famous due to highlighting a lot of country music on Radio Veronica. Therefore in this certain magazine I did found back his nick name: Gerard 'Nashville Tennessee' de Vries.

A 'miracle city' is the idea of the JMWZ, the Johan Maasbach Wereld Zendingen. This religious company, headed by two brothers, plans a very big centre for all religions of the world in The Hague. Next to a big church they want to built a congress building, a prayer hall as well as other buildings. The JMWZ is already 50 years in Dutch the Hague and was formerly headed by Johan Maasbach. He transmitted his daily radio programs on more than 160 different radio stations around the world, including offshore radio stations like RNI, Radio Caroline and Radio Monique. In the early nineties Johan died and the company was taken over by the family. For some people, within the offshore scene, Maasbach was the man from: 'Put your hand on the radio, I'll will pray for you and you sent me all your money'. I don't know what they want with the name 'Miracle city', we can all guess.

The organisation behind the most important award for Dutch TV, the

'Nipkow Schijf' has decided that Kopspijkers, from VARA TV, will get this Award this year. On the 22nd of May, Jack Spijkerman and his crew get this award for their program, which gained already several important awards during the past years. Transmitted on Saturday evenings on VARA TV this program brings, with a bright smile and a lot of humour, things from a normal week. The best radio program, Kunststof from the NPS, get the Award 'Zilveren Reissmicrofoon'.

Program director Kees Gerritsen of Yorin will leave the HMG, where Yorin TV and Yorin FM are a part of. Watchers of the Dutch broadcasting system know that Yorin was born after Veronica Broadcasting Society decided to step out of the Holland Media Group. Kees was then the new man on Yorin. In total he has 25 long years for Veronica. During the years with Yorin he decided to bring the very popular program 'Big Brother' to his station.

Each week the Radio Newsletter is sent around to a lot of people interested in the British radio scene and edited by Liam Gough. Have a look on his site and try to get his weekly free of costs by e mail: www.ukRadio.com

Roger Day came back from the USA and wrote in: 'While in Los Angeles I met up with Larry Tremaine who I hadn't seen since 1970 on Radio North Sea International. In fact the bugger sacked me. Life is too short for grudges (unless of course it is the Radio Authority) and we had a good reunion. Larry admitted it was a mistake to sack me and I could only agree. By the way US radio is far better than what we get over here. So many great formats.'

'Shocking' is the word for the decision taken on April the 29th, by the cable authority for the Northern Provinces of Groningen, Drenthe and Friesland. Each year this commission decides which television stations have the chance to be on the cable network, which is provided by Essent. Of course, as many new stations are trying to get space on the cable networks, others have to disappear. One of

the decisions taken this year is that CNN has to disappear. New on the cable here will be EuroNews. A great shock for democracy. We have a lot of European stations on cable so we don't sit and wait for EuroNews. The real reason is that the people within the Cable Authority have decided that CNN has to disappear due to the fact the programs are too pro American! Yes, that's really a Dutch democratic decision. However two days later the board of Directors of Essent came together in an special meeting to talk about the advice of the cable authority, which should be the voice of the people. Reason was that hundreds of inhabitants of earlier mentioned Provinces had phoned to Essent. Also the regional newspaper got hundreds of phone calls about the decision. All think that we're living in a democracy and that we have to decide ourselves if we would like to watch CNN or not. The board of directors of Essent have decided that CNN will stay on the cable network. Victory for Democracy.

I do get, next to a lot of e mails, also regular calls from radio friends I made through the years. One of them is Bob Noakes, who has been living for more than 30 years in the Netherlands. Of course you know him from the days on the MV Mi Amigo (Radio Seagull and Radio Caroline) as well as from the period he worked on the MEBO II (RNI) and the MV Cito (Voice of Peace). One other station he did a program for, I do remember: Radio Iris from Amsterdam. Bob phoned me to tell a funny story. He had watched a television program in which a Dutch show master, Willem Ruys, was highlighted. Willem died in the eighties of last century on the top of his career and as a book was published about his life, also a lot of attention is paid on him on Dutch TV.

In one of the historical shots in the documentary small film cameras were given to people to make some shots at home, for showing in the then next week's television show. Bob then told me that he fell asleep. Suddenly he awoke and remembered that during the time on the MV Mi Amigo, in the early seventies, two of the crewmembers where always filming. Not only the action in the studio but also the other daily routine on the ship. He also remembered that the movie

was one time shown at a local cinema in The Hague, where people could bring in their own product which would then be shown before the big movie was started.

This two guys were Peter van Dijken and Jaap de Haan. The father of Jaap had a driving school at that time. Here's the big question: 'Does anybody know the present whereabouts of Jaap and Peter as Bob would really like to see them again, as well as the movie. You can contact Bob Noakes by e-mailing myself at HKnot@home.nl



News from a former Caroline and Laser deejay, this time the story is done by Paul Alexander Rusling: 'One interesting bit of news I got this week, which may be useful for your news round up, came from my good friend Blake Williams who you may remember from Laser early days and

Caroline in 1984 and 1985. He has just moved back to his home town of Tucson in Arizona for a while, and will be spending the next month or so in Austin, Texas, (home of those Ladybird stations and the worlds biggest radio network, Clear Channel Communications. Here is a picture of him with his trusty truck - note the number of this - a real anorak tag plate! It reads AMFM Dr (short for Doctor in English). The first time I saw it I thought it read AMEN Dr, we thought he had gone all religious on us!' Also Leen Vingerling got in contact with him lately and he wrote about Blake: 'He is a freelance engineer doing things like cleaning up signals, installing studios and transmitting facilities, as well as helping out with satellite program interfacing. He is still doing some voice work from his home studio. Tom Anderson from Caroline had a profound effect on his life, because he convinced Blake to become a vegetarian. And up till now he still is.'

But there is one other friend from Caroline days in the seventies and eighties found back by Leendert: 'Out of the blue I've got an e-mail from good old Simon Barrett. 'Wally on the wireless'. Simon worked

for radio Caroline in the seventies(Mi Amigo) and eighties(Ross Revenge) He is also the author of a book about his adventures on the Mi Amigo. Simon left the Ross in 1985, stayed over a year in my place and earned a living as a deejay in clubs and Radio Nova in the Hague. He did also some voice-over work for EuropaTV in Hilversum. In 1986 he left Holland. Since then I never ever heard anything from him, until recently. He lives in Cala d'Or on Mallorca. In the early nineties he organised karaoke shows in pubs. When that hype was over he was talented enough to become a singer and tambourine player in a band. In the weekends he's touring around the island and sings songs like 'riders on the storm' and 'have you ever seen the rain'. Simon works as a painter or taxi driver and occasionally as a night porter in a hotel. During one of those boring nights he started playing with the computer and found out that Howard Rose died 6 months ago. Howard visited him 7 years ago. I'm sure I will hear more of him, now he is connected to the 'offshore-world'.

An announcement from Germany came in: For the very first time since 12 years a famous radio duo is working together again. From May 2nd on each Friday between 16 and 19 hrs Dennis King and Andreas Dorfmann are doing it together again. They can be heard on Spree Radio 105.5 in Berlin. Dennis is mentioned during the past months a few times in this monthly report. He started as a deck hand on the Mi Amigo, then became the office boy for Andy Archer and the gang and made some programs on Radio Caroline. Later on he became very big in Germany.

And now something about a new CD and a book, which were released during the last weeks. First the book: The Summer 2003 edition of Broadcasts in English is now available from the British DX Club. It was compiled by Alan Pennington and includes details of all currently known international broadcasts in English on short wave and medium wave for the Summer A03 schedule period. It is in time order throughout and covers all target areas. Transmitter sites are listed where known. A comprehensive guide to DX and Media Programmes is also included plus schedules for WorldSpace and World Radio

Network for Europe. Copies are available at the following prices (postage included): United Kingdom - 2 pounds sterling, Europe - 5 International Reply Coupons; 5 Euros or 4 US Dollars, Rest of the World - 6 International Reply Coupons or 5 US Dollars. UK cheques/Postal Orders should be made payable to British DX Club. Payments in Dollars or Euros are only accepted in cash. All orders/enquiries to: British DX Club, 126 Bargery Road, Catford, London SE6 2LR, UK

60 YEARS OF AFN IN EUROPE



When I'm looking back at my youth in connection with the subject radio, than first comes into my mind the many fine evenings listening to the radio under the blankets. It's not like today that children watch television up till the late hours. No, we had to go to bed at an earlier time. Television in Holland was just born and only a few hours a week it could be watched.

That's to say if your parents had a television. Ours decided to buy one in 1960, a Siemens from Germany.

The three of use shared a big sleeping room and so in the late fifties we had the opportunity to listen either to the fading signal of Radio Luxembourg on 208 metres in the AM band or to another station. The later was also transmitting in English, although the presenters had an American accent. They brought us music we never heard before, including rock and roll and country music. The station was on AM and became known as AFN Bremerhavn, which was not too far away from our hometown Groningen and so the station came at a reasonable quality.

If you listened more and more to AFN Bremerhavn you could found out that a part of the programming came from their own local station. The other part where programs, which also were aired on

sister stations around the world. Yes, programs which were aimed at the American soldiers. Only a few years later I found out what AFN, American Forces Network, really stood for. Next to AFN Bremerhavn there were many other AFN stations all over the world to provide the soldiers with news, information, sports, comedy, culture and music. The programs which went to all stations were delivered in those days on record. Later on tape, cd's and through satellite feeds.

Of course during the last years also programming has been done with the use of the modern techniques, including the use of internet.

But the three of us were not the only in our hometown listening to the sound of AFN. During playtime, at school, we learnt that more of our age were tuning in and all had the same reason: 'We're hearing things which we are not allowed to listen to on our Dutch Hilversum 1 and 2. Music we never heard before. Gorgeous.' It would take more than 10 years up till 1971 before I would be in contact with someone in a foreign country who also tuned into AFN on a very regular schedule: Ingo Paternoster. It became clear to me that AFN was his most favourite station. Both we started to exchange material we had recorded through the years and we sent each other spoken letters in which we talked about our love for radio.

Not much later the first visit from Ingo to Holland was taken, not only to see me, but also to listen to AFN Shape (Soesterberg) as well as visiting the studios of Radio Veronica in Hilversum. Still after 32 years Ingo and I are still in contact and exchanging material of all kind. But after the first meeting with him I really started to learn more about AFN and AFRTS. The idea of grounding the station came about a year before the invasion of the Allies in Europe and was the brainchild of General Dwight Eisenhower, also known as Ike Eisenhower, in later years President of the USA.

He had the idea that the American soldiers, far away from home, would feel better if they could be informed on a regular basis by radio and other forms of communications. His first target were the

American soldiers, who were already in British - overcrowded - military camps. With in mind the forthcoming invasion they had to be informed very properly.

It was in September of 1942 that a research brought the information that more and more soldiers got demoralised. This was not only through the fact that the camps were overcrowded but also due to the growing fear to be part of World War 2. The soldiers could tune in to the BBC program but they didn't enjoy the stiff way of presenting of the British in those days. Also they only got 30 minutes a week of American music and, yes, 5 minutes of sports information a week. Information was sent to Washington's White House that due to these facts more and more soldiers started listening in to the Propaganda radio stations of the NAZI's.

This development was reason enough for Dwight Eisenhower to contact a few of his best persons within the Ministry of War: General Everett Hughes and Mr Brewster Morgan. They got to order to change things very quickly. Not much later they came with the plan not only to start a newspaper and a magazine, but also a radio station. From Dwight they got the free hand to start up this information systems. The newspaper was earlier used during World War 1 and was called 'Stars and Stripes'. By the way, it still consists. And it brought the birth of AFN, the American Forces Network with several low powered transmitters, nearby or on the several Military Camps in Great Britain.

Of course after that all over the world such stations have been brought in were American soldiers were and are active. They can bring info about the war they're in, but also news and information from home. Next to stations which have a more permanent status, a lot of mobile stations were and are used around the world. After World War two, to mention one of the many, Blue Danube Network was grounded. The main station was in Vienna (Austria) while two sister stations were built in the cities of Linz and

Salzburg. But also countries as Spain and Italy got their own AFN stations.

But not only during times of war AFN was and is on air. During the Cold War many AFN stations were active in countries like Germany and from Offshore. The Americans used a radio ship, the MV Courier, to transmit programs off the coast of Rhodes in the Mediterranean. And if it was AFN Vietnam, AFN Bosnia, AFN Shape, AFN Berlin, AFN Heidelberg, AFN Balkans or AFN Iraq, all those were interesting enough to listen to. Of course for me and Ingo and all those other AFN lovers, mostly by recordings we exchanged.

During the time, since our very first meeting in 1971, I stayed in contact with Ingo and we shared our love for radio, with AFN and the offshore radio as the most important within the industry. Up till March 1993 it was for me possible to tune in to AFN Bremerhavn, after which the local station was closed down. Ingo had moved from Northern Germany to Bavaria years and years ago, and could listen to stations like AFN Frankfurt and AFN Munich. His top favourite deejays were Rick Damerest and Bill Switcher.

Lucky enough we and other AFN friends did share and archived a lot of transmitted material. This resulted in a beautiful production which is produced and edited by Ingo Paternoster. Almost 130 different tracks give the listeners of the double cd 60 Years of AFN Europe more than 2,5 hours of listening pleasure. It gives also a bright look at the fantastic history of this network of radio stations.

The concept idea for this CD is from Dr. John Proven and Ingo has done all the research and editing of the existing material. Just to mention a few of the many recordings which can be heard on this double cd: First of all you'll be hearing a comic man who was always related to American Army: Mickey Rooney. There is a speech of General Lucas, from 1946, which was well conserved. A report from

the Nuremberg Process is one of the other unique things on the CD. Also you will be hearing recordings of the jubilee program from '5 years AFN Berlin'. But also a visit by Frank Sinatra to one of the AFN studio's is brought back on the cd. As everybody knows Elvis Presley did his military service in Germany and during this period he could be heard a lot on the AFN stations over there. Also nice it's to hear that for instant recordings have been saved from AFN Orleans and that in the program 'On the scene' an item about President Kennedy from the early sixties has been saved. Many more can be heard on this double cd 60 Years of AFN Europe, including a lot of beautiful promo's, commercials, air checks, jingles and bloopers.

As told earlier, more than 2,5 hours of listening pleasure. No, I won't give you a complete index of the double CD. I just suggest to you to order your own copy. I surely know you won't regret. In the meantime I've put the CD 60 Years of AFN Europe away on the shelf with the ten best produced CD's in the history on radio.

The double CD 60 Years of AFN in Europe can now be ordered by sending 20 Euro (the price including postage and packing). For people outside countries with Euros you can send in 15 Pounds to: Ingo Paternoster, Postfach 127, D-86439 Zusmarshausen, Deutschland.

Then came news from the BBC. It was Mark Macdonald who sent us the following press release: BBC Worldwide has appointed Susanne Gallagher as its new Head of Channels for Europe, the Middle East, India and Africa (EMEIA). Effective immediately, Susanne is now responsible for the distribution of BBC Worldwide's entertainment channels, including BBC PRIME and BBC FOOD, throughout the region. Announcing the appointment, BBC Worldwide Director of Channels for EMEIA, Wayne Dunsford, said "Susanne will play a pivotal role in the development of our channel business across all territories. With several years' experience of both programme sales and channel distribution in several key markets, Susanne brings a comprehensive understanding and appreciation of the broadcast

industry to the role."

Susanne Gallagher said, "There is enormous potential for new growth of our channel business and it is an exciting challenge to drive channel sales to a new level. Our team will build the business with the introduction of BBC PRIME and BBC FOOD into new territories, expansion of our subscription levels with existing contracts and by establishing new network partnerships to extend coverage in territories where we already broadcast. Another key focus is also to extend our strategy of adding value to existing distribution with initiatives such as localisation." Susanne Gallagher joined the BBC in 1993 working for BBC World Service. She has worked for BBC Worldwide since 1994, taking up sales roles in various markets including Iberia, Africa and the Middle East. Susanne replaces Charlotte Repholtz, who is returning to her native Denmark to manage the BBC Worldwide channels office in Copenhagen. From Denmark, Charlotte will focus on developing channel distribution across Scandinavia, Poland and Hungary.

During the weekend July 7th Mark Dezzani (Caroline Satellite) and Grant Benson (Caroline deejay in the eighties) will be organising a special radio anorak weekend for friends from the past. It will be held in Seborga (Italy). Tom Anderson, Bilbo, Pyers (engineering staff MV Ross Revenge) will join them. Also Marjo and Leen Vingerling will go to the Sunday Lunch, which is part of the reunion, and hopefully Leen will make some photo's for next report.

Some months ago we published a question from Stuart, who wondered if someone could help him with the original 'That Man' jingles as used on Swinging Radio England. Paul Byford answered that he could provide Stuart with the original demo tape in good quality. Many e-mails have been sent but until now.....

I hope Paul will sent the jingles to Stuart, as this report tries to be as much as honest as I can be, I also do try to contact people with each other. On the other hand I get a little bit dissatisfied with

people who promise us a lot, but don't do the things they promise.

And the following nice e-mail I received when coming back from a short break at the Isle of Terschelling: 'I've no idea where you find the time-but I'm glad you do find it! I look forward to reading the report each month and was fascinated by the stories this time. Keep it up - hope you and your wife had a great break. Best wishes Dave Shearer. Dave and all the others did sent us an e mail: We did enjoy the break, had wonderful weather and the isle was beautiful, too.

And in the harbour of Terschelling we found for you all an excellent ship which we all could imagine to be on the air. Remember very early Top 40 Radio and one of the pioneers: Dallas and Gordon McLendon? He was the man who was brought to Scandinavia to get fresh ideas to the staff of Radio Nord too. And guess what? We found the KLIF vessel in the harbour of Terschelling, 45 years after the start of offshore radio in Europe.



An e-mail from California came in: 'Just been listening to the Jumbo Records double album set from the Flashback '67 convention in London 1977 and I got to wondering. Do you know if more of the lectures and panels were recorded? Really enjoyed that, specially Alan West's piece. I'm haunted by the thought of Johnny Scott throwing up live on air, and it'd be nice to know if one day the rest of the recordings might show up? Also the Monthly report is the highlight of the anorak month, sir!' Well thanks for that one and you all know now the question: recordings from the Convention Flashback 67'. Who can answer this for us, just sent me an e-mail:

HKnot@home.nl

Another e-mail came in from the USA and one of the former people who worked next to Abe Nathan when money had to be found in the USA to get transmitters and refit the ship in 1973: 'I was delighted to read the report about how the Peace Ship got over the side. The writing was quite good and what an adventure that must have been.

Keep up the good work! Russell Dodworth.' Maybe the next step will be for Kas Collins to write some of his memories on his days on the Voice of Peace. By the way, on May 14th on station 100FM in Tel Aviv a 2-hour program was transmitted on the history of the Voice of Peace. In the evening a special festivity was held to get money for the recovery of Abe Nathan. He got two strokes during the last two years and is living in a care centre.

Harry Beyers from Rotterdam is looking for a program, transmitted on August 1st 1973 on Radio Veronica. It's the Jukebox program with Stan Haag. Please look in your archive if you can help him. His parents were 20 years married that certain day. If you do have, you can mail him at: h.beyers@planet.nl

Dear radio friends, that's all for this time. Let your news, gossips, memories and stories coming in. And of course if you've some nice photos to share it's always welcome too!

Till next time all best wishes, from Groningen

Hans Knot