

Every since my youthful days of listening to radio programs (TV didn't come to Western Kansas until our high school days) I've been a pushover for the drama and excitement of the newsboy on the corner calling "Extra! Extra! Read all about it!" I've always wanted to put out an Extra. I've been waiting for a piece of Diary news big enough to justify it. Well, this is IT!



"EXTRA! EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT IT! FAMILY OF GOD BROADCAST TO GO  
ON WORLD'S LARGEST RADIO NETWORK! EXTRA! EXTRA!"

- \* The American Forces Radio Network has accepted the short On Campus \*
- \* series for daily programming during music segments over its network \*
- \* of 874 outlets and relays located all over the planet. \*

AFRN lists the following numbers of geographic area outlets:

Alaska - 73	Italy - 21	Taiwan - 5
Antarctica - 1	Japan - 9	Trust Territories - 7
Atlantic Area - 1	Korea - 21	Colonia
Ascension Island	Netherlands - 3	Koloni
Belgium - 2	Pacific Area - 8	Koror
Canada - 27	Canton Island	Majoro
Canal Zone - 2	Eniwetok	Moen
Cuba - 3	Johnston Island	Pago Pago
Germany - 63	Kwajalein	Saipan
Greece & Crete - 13	Midway Island	Turkey - 22
Greenland - 9	Wake Island	Thailand - 15
Guam - 10	Philippine Islands - 8	
Iceland - 2	Portugal (Azores) - 3	U.S. Navy Ships - 572
Indian Ocean - 1	Puerto Rico - 10	
Iran - 1	Spain (Morocco) - 14	

The AFRN possibility has been on the line for five tantalizing years, and finally has been landed. This is the tale of a BIG fish -- one that didn't get away.

Since early in 1970 Vern has been in contact with American Forces officials and the negotiations have been a progression of slow gains, some losses, and some periods at a total standstill. The headquarters for American Forces is in Washington, D.C. There are three major interlocking administrative areas of approval necessary to be accepted on the American Forces Radio Network: 1. The civilian Director of American Forces Network, 2. The broadcasting staff of the American Forces Network and 3. The Board of Chaplains. Obtaining agreement from three different administrative structures on a single proposal, all at the same time, is never easy, particularly when such a diversity of viewpoints exists. There were some seemingly insurmountable administrative and denominational tangles; more than once a combination of key administrators and red tape stopped progress entirely. I won't go over the stops and starts in detail, but I will say they were myriad. The whole possibility often lay dormant on our line (maybe even dead, as far as we knew). Sometimes a new round of negotiations was opened by a telephone call from Washington, D.C. to Vern; other times Vern would call Washington to check on the current status.

Last Fall, when he was on the East Coast, Vern made a trip to Washington, D.C. for the specific purpose of meeting with the American Forces Network administrators. Later, as negotiations progressed, Vern was referred to the West Coast Office, which handles the

technical aspects of pressing and distributing the long-playing discs. Vern contacted them and more administrative levels were negotiated through slowly. The day came when he received a long-distance telephone call requesting a prototype audition tape engineered to precise AFRN specifications. Vern went from the telephone to the editing studio and spent close to eight solid hours, into the night, doing the specialized, technical work. He then flew to LA and was in the AFRN offices with the tape less than 24 hours after the phone call in which the prototype was requested. (They were amazed.)

And now, five years after the first contact, the last obstruction overcome, the big fish is actually landed! AFRN accepted the broadcast!

We were never sure, at any point in the long process, that the negotiations would end successfully. Our success is unusual; there are other internationally known ministries which have also been trying for many years to be accepted by American Forces Network, and have not been. (Billy Graham is an outstanding example.)

We will be the only religious program aired daily. This final format pleases us. During part of the negotiations the plan was for a 15-minute program each Sunday morning (which is a good plan). However, AFRN officials themselves proposed and approved a plan to use the two minute format on a daily basis, and to program it during the standard music and news programs rather than with other religion. We much prefer this, and are delighted.

Our listening audience will be greatly expanded. American Forces Radio Network not only reaches American tourists, Diplomatic corps, business people and their families and service men and their families, but also has a large listening audience of "eavesdroppers" -- an AFRN term which is descriptive rather than derogatory. AFRN estimates that their audience of eavesdroppers in other countries is far larger than the total audience of Americans Abroad. In Germany, for example, AFRN is the most popular radio network among German youth.

Adding the various stations of the American Forces Radio Network means that the Family of God "On Campus" broadcast will be heard on more than 1000 stations around the world when broadcasting begins this autumn.

Landing this particular fish is a mammoth leap forward for us, not only in broadcast coverage, but also in expenditures of both time and money. The impact of this produces an immediate need for 100's of hours and 1000's of dollars. The air time itself is provided by AFRN. We are to purchase and provide the master tapes, which must be the type specified by AFRN. Hopefully, we will also be able to purchase at least one mastering machine. Each of the daily programs must now be edited by Vern onto the master tapes to the specifications of AFRN according to the prototype he produced for them earlier. Vern has a production schedule to meet of 100's of new, specially produced, programs per year. The broadcast is not scheduled to start on the air until Fall because the production, both in our own studios and then in AFRN Hollywood studios, requires that length of time.

*Henry*