

Military Delays Surrender Broadcast

Technical, Censorship Problems Cause Cancellation

OFFICIAL surrender of Japan was brought to the world the night of Sept. 1 when a delayed pool broadcast carried the story of the proceedings aboard the USS *Missouri* in Tokyo Bay.

Original plan for the broadcast called for live pickup from the *Missouri*, which has a 3 kw transmitter used many times for direct broadcast to San Francisco. Because of technical and censorship problems decision was made by the military to delay the broadcast an hour-and-a-half, with President Truman picked up live from Washington between signing of the peace document and speeches by Gen. MacArthur and Adm. Nimitz.

Pool Narrators

As the ceremonies took place Merrill Mueller of NBC and Webley Edwards of CBS served as pool narrators. Mueller was chosen from correspondents attached to Gen. MacArthur's staff, Edwards from Adm. Nimitz' staff. Public relations officers made the selections, instead of using the lot-drawing procedure.

Execution of the broadcast setup was under direction of Gen. Diller and Lt. Col. Jack Harris, of MacArthur's staff, and Capt. Fitzhugh Lee and Lt. Monroe of Nimitz' staff. Proceedings took place on the veranda deck of the *Missouri*, with Mueller and Edwards speaking from an anti-aircraft gun mounting, behind and above the Allied signatories and facing the Japanese.

According to Mueller, Comdr. Don Thompson, radio officer for Adm. Nimitz, and Lt. Bruce Dennis, both at Guam, drew plans for transmission facilities. Lt. Munroe, stationed on the communications ship USS *Ancon*, executed the plan. Aiding also were Lt. George Zachary and Lt. Chick Morris, radio officers; Radioman Hank Cavell and Radioman Russell Anderson, of the Navy; Fred Haake, recorder, of Chicago; Radioman Walter Hench and Maj. Untermeyer of the Army.

Two sets of recordings were made, on acetate disc and Armour No. 50 magnetic wire recorders. The discs were sent by a destroyer to Lt. Col. Harris, who had taken over Radio Tokyo's transmitter. The wire recorders were sent via small boat to the *Ancon*, where the wire was rewound on the original recorders.

In all, 17 frequencies were set aside. Signal selected by RCA San

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U. S. Marine Corps Photo
RADIO TRIO ready to land at Yokosuka Naval Base just off Tokyo are (l to r): George Folster, NBC; Webley Edwards, CBS (who took part in surrender pool broadcast); Larry Tighe, American. They are aboard a troop transport.

BMB Meeting to Consider Net Plan, Coverage Terms Changes

TWO major proposals will come before the board of directors of Broadcast Measurement Bureau when it holds its regular fall meeting in New York on Friday. One is for the elimination of reporting primary, secondary and tertiary coverage of stations in the BMB reports and confining them to station circulation and percentage of circulation figures. The other is for a network participation plan which would permit networks to become BMB subscribers in order to receive data on network circulation. It is considered likely that both will be adopted by the board.

Suggestion that the primary, secondary and tertiary coverage terms be abandoned was first made last April by a group of Chicago Broadcasters. The arbitrary setting of 50% coverage or better as primary, 25% to 50% as secondary and 10% to 25% as tertiary has evoked much criticism which was ably set forth by D. H. Denenholz of the Katz Agency in an article in the Sept. 3 issue of BROADCASTING.

Copies Sent Members

D. E. Robinson, vice-president in charge of research of Sherman K. Ellis & Co. and chairman of the BMB board committee on research, last week sent to all BMB board members copies of the letter of the Chicago broadcasters and of Mr. Denenholz's article, together with copies of the resolution unanimously adopted by the BMB technical research committee at its

meeting Aug. 29. Resolution points out the committee's conclusion that "the figures of radio families, percentage circulation and station circulation are of transcendent importance" and recommends that the BMB reports be confined to those data "without further stipulation of circulation levels" and that "BMB adopt an official position discouraging the practice of presenting BMB figures in circulation levels."

Technical research committee also endorsed the development of network coverage data by BMB which would enable advertisers and agencies to have the same sort of single-basis information available for network circulations that BMB is already set up to provide for individual stations. Details of the network circulation plan have not been divulged but it presumably entails methods for elimination of duplicate coverage arising from individual family votes for two or more stations affiliated with the same network and for providing the networks with data on affiliates which are not individual subscribers to BMB.

J. Harold Ryan, NAB president and chairman of the BMB board, will preside at the session on Friday, first meeting of the board since May 3. Board will also hear the reports of Mr. Ryan on the actions of the executive committee, of which he is also chairman; Hugh Feltis, BMB president, on organi-

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ALL IN A DAY
Interference Problem Just
Routine Stuff for FCC

ONE OF THOSE problems which either gives you gray hair or makes life very fascinating—depending on how you look at things—faced the FCC last week. It was, to put it mildly, somewhat "complicated". Try and follow us:

KOMA Oklahoma City (1520 on the dial) wanted to move down to 690. The reason: 1520 kc belongs to TGW Guatemala City under international agreement and it was raising hell with the State Dept. because of KOMA interference in its primary coverage area. Besides, KOMA's signal interferes with WKBW Buffalo which operates as a Class I-B station on 1520 kc with 50 kw power and a directional antenna to protect KOMA.

KGGF Has 690

Now, it so happens that KGGF Coffeyville, Kan., operates on 690 kc and has no desire to change its location. Moreover, it wants to increase its nighttime power to cover a larger area. BUT, the present daytime operation of KGGF interferes with KFEQ St. Joseph, Mo., which has the adjacent frequency of 680 kc, and the present nighttime activities of KGGF interferes with CBF Montreal in violation of international agreement.

SO, here's what the Commission did: It directed that KOMA be issued a 6-months temporary authorization on its present frequency with only 500 w night, thus eliminating interference to the Guatemala station and reducing interference substantially to WKBW. But it left a way open for KOMA by making its denial of change in frequency "without prejudice", so that KOMA may file another application anytime within 12 months "looking toward the permanent solution of the interference problem". It incidentally suggested that "the proper use of the frequency 1520 requires the use of a directional antenna which will protect station TWG Guatemala and station WKBW".

Solution Helps KFEQ

As for KGGF, the Commission permitted it to stay on 690 kc and will authorize it to move its transmitter to a new site, to install a directional antenna and to operate with 1 kw both day and night (it now uses only 500 w at night). This will substantially reduce interference to KFEQ, adding 50,000 population to its coverage area, and eliminate objectionable interference to CBF Montreal. It will also mean a gain of 125,000 potential listeners for KGGF in the daytime and approximately 33,000 listeners at night.

Ho Hum. Solomon wasn't so terribly smart.

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