March 2025 uploaded Document 46

Criss Onan <conan@fastmail.com>

Aug 6, 2020, 11:52 AM

to ron, Jim, Lynn

Hi Ron,

I am delighted to let you know that the AWA has a 10" aircheck transcription of WJZ that contains at least some of this broadcast. According to our records, this was presented to AWA Founder Bruce Kelley by NBC Chief Engineer Raymond Guy in 1970.

Attached is a MP3 recording of the disk. Alternatively we have .WAV, .WAV normalized, and MP3 (slightly) declicked versions.

Also attached are snaps I made of the disk and its corresponding documentation. I made these quickly which accounts for their poor lighting.

Here's the object entry description in our database:

```
"1st transatlantic broadcast, March 14, 1925.

3" reel, 7-1/2"/s., 1/2 track, side 1 only, 3 minutes

Description of source material follows:

ID

PRESTO - N.Y. U.S.A.  (green painted label)

(on sleeve) Historical Recording made in 1925? of first re-broadcast - presented
to B. Kelley by Raymond Guy, Chief Engineer NBC Oct. 10, 1970

12", 78 rpm., Al based acetate, outside start, single sided
```

00:00 fragments of music

00:34 announcement from NY

01:30 music from London

03:00 end

Copy of a disk recording made by NBC of a broadcast from England.

(note enclosed with disk):

5 Aug 75

Bruce

Heres a quote from an old report I have here

"On March 14 1925 the WJZ organization attempted to rebroadcast the reception of the first transatlantic specially arranged transmission by radio.

It originated at station 2L0 at London, England and was transmitted on 1600 meters through station 2xx at Chelmsford, England.

It was received at Belfast Maine and relayed by short wave on 120 meters to the RCA Research Dept at Van Cortland Park and transmitted to WJZ and its network by telegraph lines.

The program material was provided by the Hotel Savoy Orchestra in London.

The log reports that it was 98% static and noise and 2% music and call letters."

73 Bob"

AWA Librarian Jim Kreuzer and Curator Lynn Bisha was follow up if we have any paper documentation or equipment documentation (unlikely).

We'd love to have any documentation that you can send us. Depending on size, please let me know the easiest way for you to get it to us.

If you share any IEEE activities with Paul Shulins, please say hello for me. I worked with Paul in "previous lives". He even convinced me that my employer should display at an IEEE Symposium in Hartford just before I retired.

Best,

Criss Onan

AWA AV Archivist

1925 transatlantic broadcast follow-up

Inboxbelfast history

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Criss Onan

AWA AV Archivist

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I am the IEEE Region 1 Historian and am working on a project to memorialize the first commercial trans-Atlantic radio broadcast which took place March 14, 1925. A summary of this significant event is:

* After earlier unsuccessful attempts, a broadcast of a dance band playing American jazz at the Savoy Hotel was carried by wire to BBC station 2LO in London on March 14,1925. The program was broadcast at 10:30 (local time) as a regular BBC program,

* It was also carried by landline to 5XX Chelmsford UK for broadcast by long wave toRCA's !XAO facility in Belfast Maine.

* 1XAO received the signal using a Beverage antenna.

* From 1XAO it was transmitted by short wave to an experimental station in Van Cortlandt Park New York.

* Then it was transmitted from Van Cortlandt Park over Western Union landlines to US stations WJZ New York and WRC Washington, DC.. for broadcast to their listeners.

* Listening at home in Mt Vernon, NY RCA’s David Sarnoff said, “Progress in joining continents by radio in this manner has come more rapidly than we had dared to expect. Listening-in at a country home to concerts in London is an experience which will live in the memory of thousands and marks a milestone in radio progress. The people of the United States have received a new gift from radio. …”.

* The Belfast transmission was also received by General Electric’s WGY Schenectady which rebroadcast to its listeners.

* Importantly, the event was not an accident. It was coordinated between RCA and the BBC. An early example of systems engineering.

Does the Antique Wireless Museum have any information regarding this event and/or any of the equipment or facilities used in it. If so, I would be appreciative if you could make this available to me for my proposal to have this event become an IEEE milestone. Of course, I will give the museum credit for any assistance.

Also, I have collected over 100 documents related to the event and early radio history. If you are interested, I would be pleased to send you electronic copies.

Regards,

Ron Brown
IEEE Region 1 Historian
IEEE Region 1 Board of Governors
IEEE Maine Com/CS Chapter Chair
IEEE Maine Outreach Chair
Maine Technology Users Group Board of Directors
7 Attachments

Hi Criss,

Nice find, I figured if anybody could help Ron, you could! I wasn't aware of that aircheck.

I'm sure that we don't have any hardware relating to this event, but Sandy or Caroline could check

our database to see if there is any documentation.

73 Jim Kreuzer

Aug 8, 2020, 7:12 AM

Criss Onan <conan@fastmail.com>

to ron

Hi Ron,

Since there were a few large-size attachments with this email, I'm double checking to make sure that it made its way to you rather than being trapped in a spam filter or something.

Best,

Criss

> On Aug 6, 2020, at 11:52 AM, Criss Onan <conan@fastmail.com> wrote:
>
> <AWAHD-067 WJZ 3-14-25 direct normalized.mp3>
> <2020-08-06 10.56.06.jpg>
> <2020-08-06 10.54.31.jpg>
> <2020-08-06 10.54.53.jpg>
> <2020-08-06 10.55.12.jpg>
> <2020-08-06 10.55.39.jpg>
> <2020-08-06 10.55.50.jpg>

Aug 8, 2020, 11:25 AM

Ron Brown <ron@ronaldobrownconsulting.com>

to Criss

Yes, I got them all. I'll study them more closely next week -- the transcriprt is wonderful. I'll look into getting the almost 100 docs I have to you next week.

Regards,

Ron

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www.ronaldobrownconsulting.com