



"Preaching the Gospel to every creature..."

Trans World Radio

Monte Carlo

Bonaire

Paul E. Freed, Ph.D.
FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT

Newsletter

November-December 1964

BONAIRE ON THE AIR

The Sleeping Giant Awakes

by William P. Mial, Station Manager

The six thousand inhabitants of the tiny island of Bonaire were fast asleep. Not so however for the small band of missionaries who for the past year had spent endless days of work and prayer to make this moment a reality. It was 1 a.m., August 8, 1964, yet excitement was high among the Trans World Radio staff. This was the hour when the giant 500,000 watt medium-wave transmitter would begin regular broadcasting.

The huge diesel generator, as powerful as a railroad locomotive, throbbed in a nearby building. Missionary technicians in the studio tensely watched the clock, their nimble hands resting lightly on the controls. Efficient missionary engineers carefully turned the dials and threw the switches that would put the transmitter on the air. Meters jumped, tape recorders turned, the sleeping giant sprang to life.

Suddenly eyes filled with tears; tense hands relaxed; the back-breaking labor and long hard hours of the past months were forgotten as prayers of thanksgiving ascended to God. After a year of planning and building, Trans World Radio Bonaire was finally on the air proclaiming the riches of Christ! Around the world people would be pulling their World Atlas off the shelf to find the location of Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles.

The next day telegrams of congratulations from far and near were received in Bonaire. A phone call from Greely, Colo-

rado, assured us that the programs were already reaching far-flung areas. For each of us the challenge of missionary radio took on new proportions: the verse of the song "Give the winds a mighty voice . . . JESUS SAVES" had come true that day.

Two days later the mail began to pour into our offices. A new department, Trans World Radio Follow-Up, began the gigantic task of answering each letter. After three weeks of regular programming we have received more than 1200 letters from 58 countries including Finland, South Africa, Cuba, Argentina, Canada, and of course the United States. Every country of South America has been heard from. One listener wrote: "Each night here in an apartment house in the center of Buenos Aires (a city of three million inhabitants) you are heard loud and clear on a pocket-size transistor portable radio."

Beginning at 4 a.m. each day the waking giant sends the message of eternal life through Jesus Christ Our Lord to Brazil in the Portuguese language; then to South and Central America in Spanish, English, and Dutch. Although much work has gone into this station, the real job is before us. Many more missionary workers are needed to join us in this thrilling task. Standing on the threshold of this mighty new missionary venture, our feelings are best expressed by Ephesians 3 — "Unto Him who is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think . . . unto Him be glory."

Bonaire Staff Swamped with Letters

More than 6000 letters from every corner of the globe have poured into the Bonaire station since broadcasting began in August. Excerpts from a few of the letters are printed below.

Curacao, Netherlands Antilles: "My religion is Roman Catholic by name only. I have gone ten years without visiting the Roman Catholic Church or any church. I am ashamed to face the Lord and have been trying to hide from Him which is impossible. Sir, pray and help me to be back on the path of life. I feel like a lost sheep that any time can be devoured by wolves. Every morning many neighbors and I listen to TWR."

Colombia: "The manager of the Liquor Industry of Boyaca greets you very attentively and wishes to congratulate you on the magnificent transmission of your radio broadcast that I have listened to on various occasions. I hope that you keep going forward more each day in your programs for Colombia."

At Sea: "At present I am a crew member on board an oil tanker. I am a Christian worker and it made me feel so happy to sit and listen to the wonderful songs of praise. Please keep up the good work and may God continue to help your station so that more people may come to know Jesus as their own dear personal Saviour."

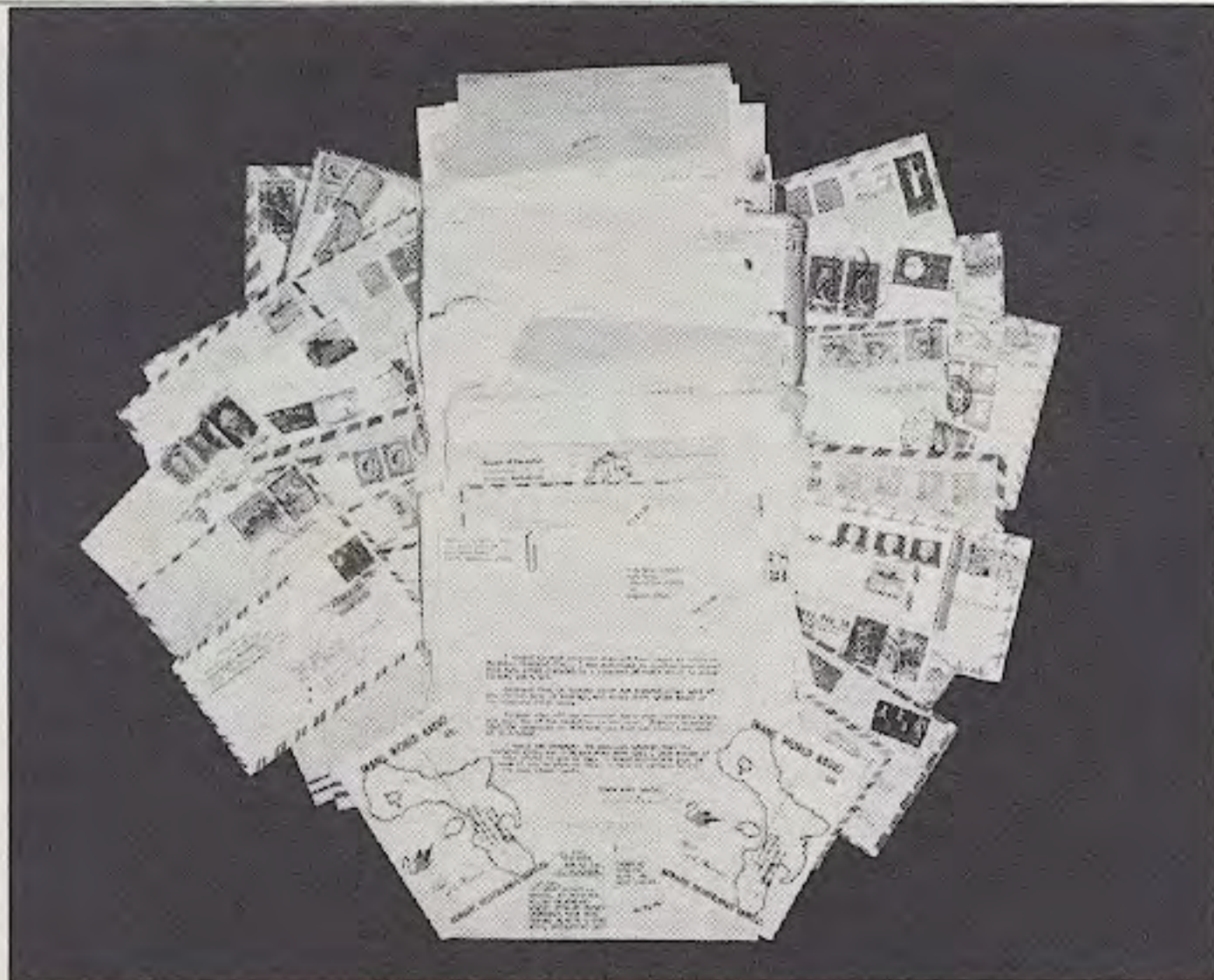
Dominica, West Indies: "As a missionary with the Worldwide Evangelization Crusade here in Dominica, where a living Gospel is so needed, it is good to hear the message of the almighty Saviour going forth. Reception is excellent."

St. Thomas, Virgin Islands: "We do enjoy the station even when it comes on in Dutch and the other languages. Even if we cannot understand the language the tunes of the old hymns are the same. I sing along in my language. I told a neighbor about the station and she too enjoys it. I pray for the stations that proclaim God's Word and you in turn please pray for me."

Colombia: "We give thanks to the Lord for having a new Christian station where the messages of the Gospel can be sent out to the world, because in my country there is not the liberty to preach the Gospel by radio."

Argentina: "In trying to tune in for news from Buenos Aires two nights ago, we suddenly heard such magnificent singing of hymns, and we just wondered what had happened at Buenos Aires!! What a thrill it gave us. The reception was magnificent. No doubt all the believers and friends here in this VERY isolated region of Patagonia will listen in with great delight. We have laboured here as evangelical missionaries since 1922."

Finland: "A good programme from a good station. We need your station all over the world."



Letters report a strong signal in each target area. Souls are being saved and Christians strengthened through the Gospel broadcasts.



The Follow-up Department in Bonaire answers each letter personally. Tracts, Gospels, and Bibles are sent to those seeking spiritual help.

Colombia: "We are a family composed of two persons, mother and son. I am an evangelical; he is neither evangelical nor Catholic, but he is very addicted to those beautiful programs that we listen to at five in the morning and I believe that with the blessings of God and the prayers of you people that he will one day come to know our Lord. As you offer a New Testament, I would be very grateful if he could receive it."

Trinidad, West Indies: "After searching the wave band one night I accidentally came over your wonderful station. I am an active Christian and for a long time I was in search of such a station. As a result I have found added inspiration through the messages preached and the sacred music. I tell all my friends about the station and they are all thirsty to listen to the Word of God."

Dominican Republic: "Believe me, that permitted to do so, I could gather together an immense list of devoted listeners to TWR."

Norway: "I'll take this opportunity to thank you for your programs which now go into the air from your newly erected radio station on Bonaire. I've listened to TWR-Monaco for a long time and like the religious programs very much. Through missionary radio stations my eyes have seen our true God. I am a young Norwegian of 21 years, a student of philology making studies in Oslo."

Florida: "We were on vacation at Apalachicola, Florida and had checked into a motel early just to relax. We had asked God for a special blessing from Him, and in dialing around our little transistor radio we picked up your program very clear. We do hope you can continue the program as it is next to impossible to get a Christian program at night. Thank you again for the spiritual 'lift' your program gave."

Cuba: "Your transmissions are heard perfectly here in Cuba."

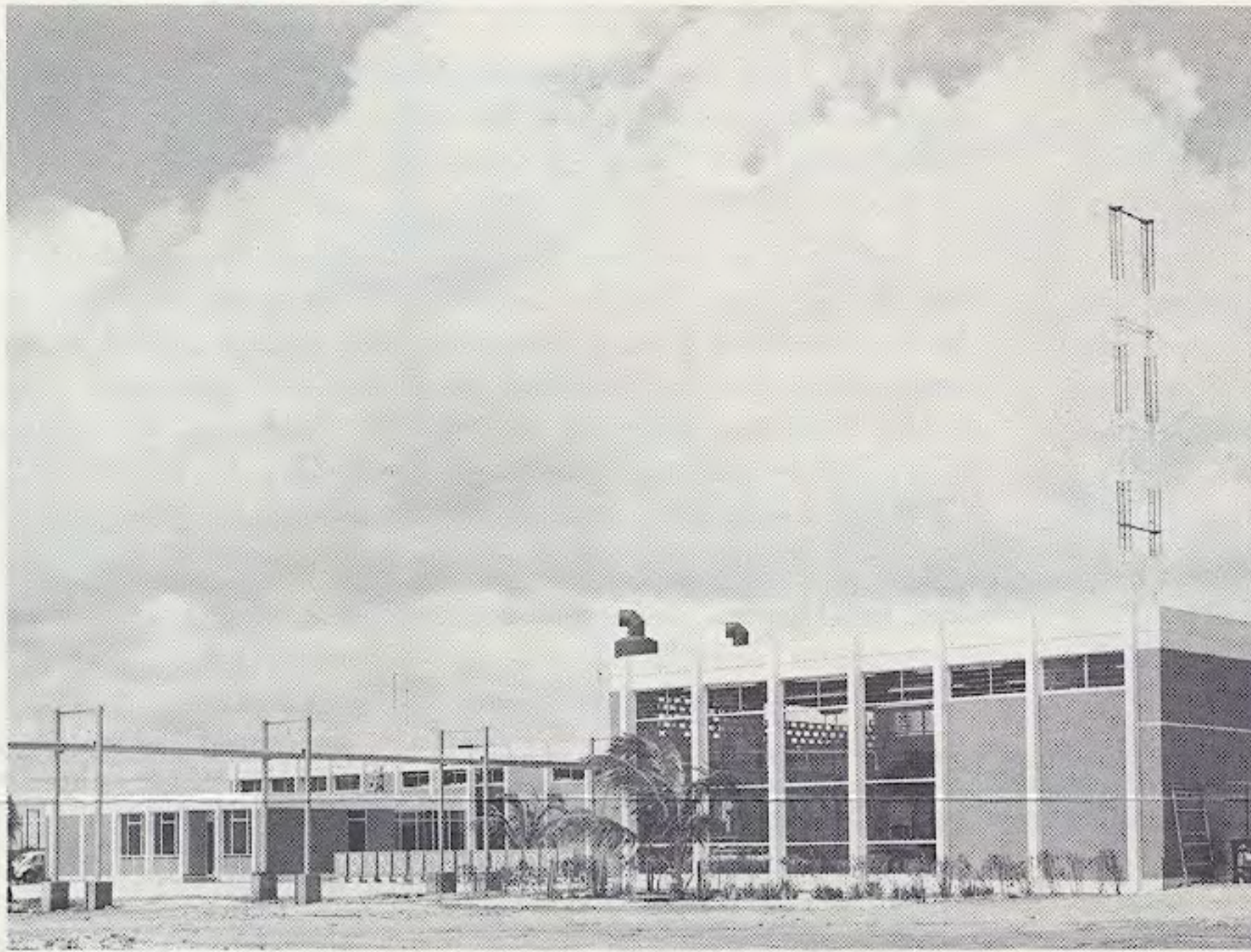
England: "I look forward to hearing more of your early morning broadcasts in English on 800 kcs. from Bonaire. The strength of your signal can best be described as 'Colossal'—never heard anything like it before from the Latin American area on medium wave."

Puerto Rico: "With what joy I write to you! I almost never write to a radio station but your case is different. Trans World Radio deserves our salutations and good wishes because what you are doing for the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the Christian people is of immense spiritual help. In our home we listen with much affection. I want to tell you that many other people are hearing your programs."

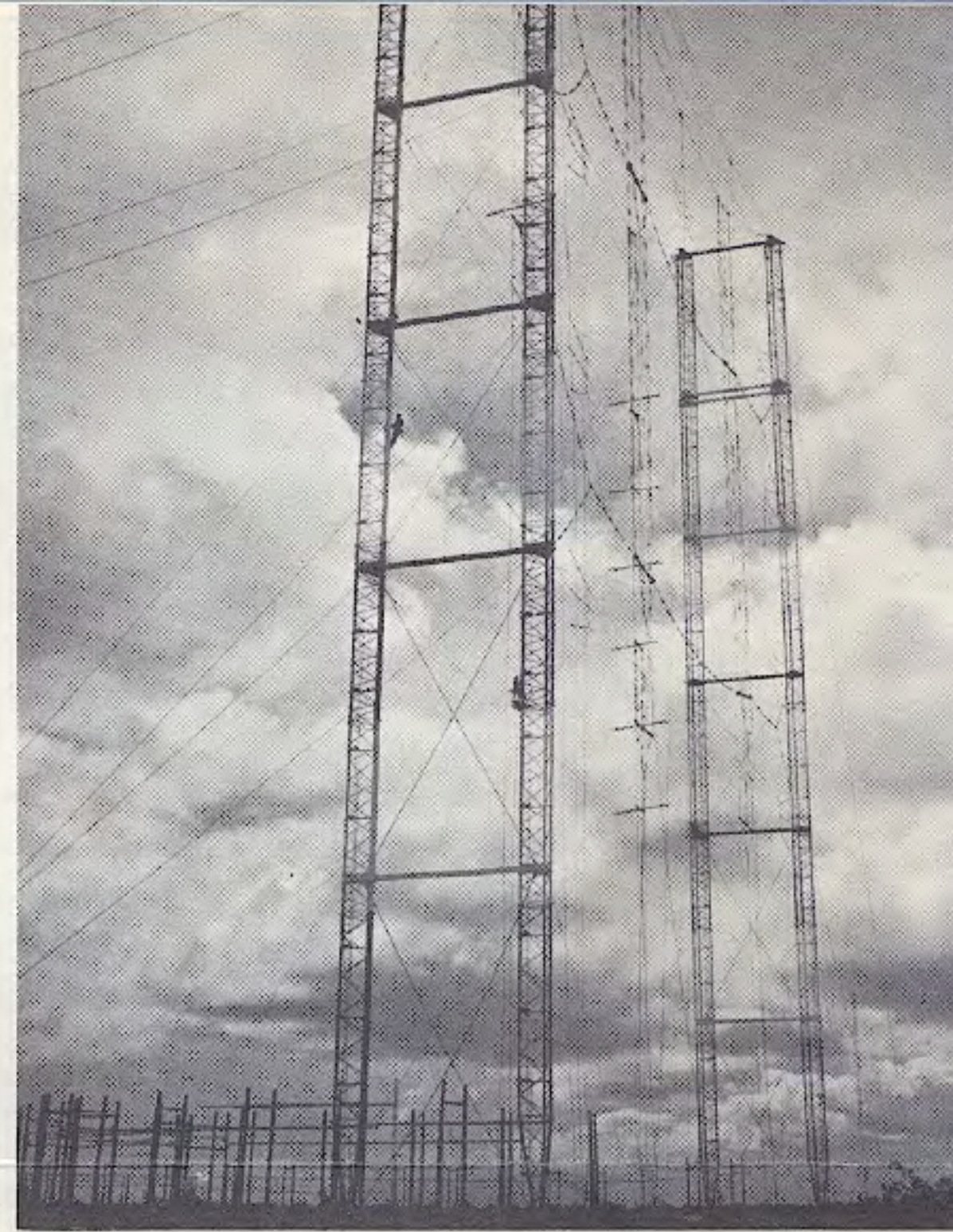
Dominican Republic: "In this part of Santo Domingo we hear your radio station clear and powerful. But much more, the priests of this parish and I, in particular, are grateful for the good music that you transmit and also for the news that you give us."

West Virginia: "With Trans World coming on the air I'll have a feast of good things from God's Word. Last night—not feeling well—I cherished the beautiful music over Trans World Radio and tears came to my eyes as I listened to "What a Friend we have in Jesus" accompanying my prayers. May God bless you abundantly and keep you till He comes. May the radio trumpets sound loud and clear around the Jericho walls of the world till they crumble."

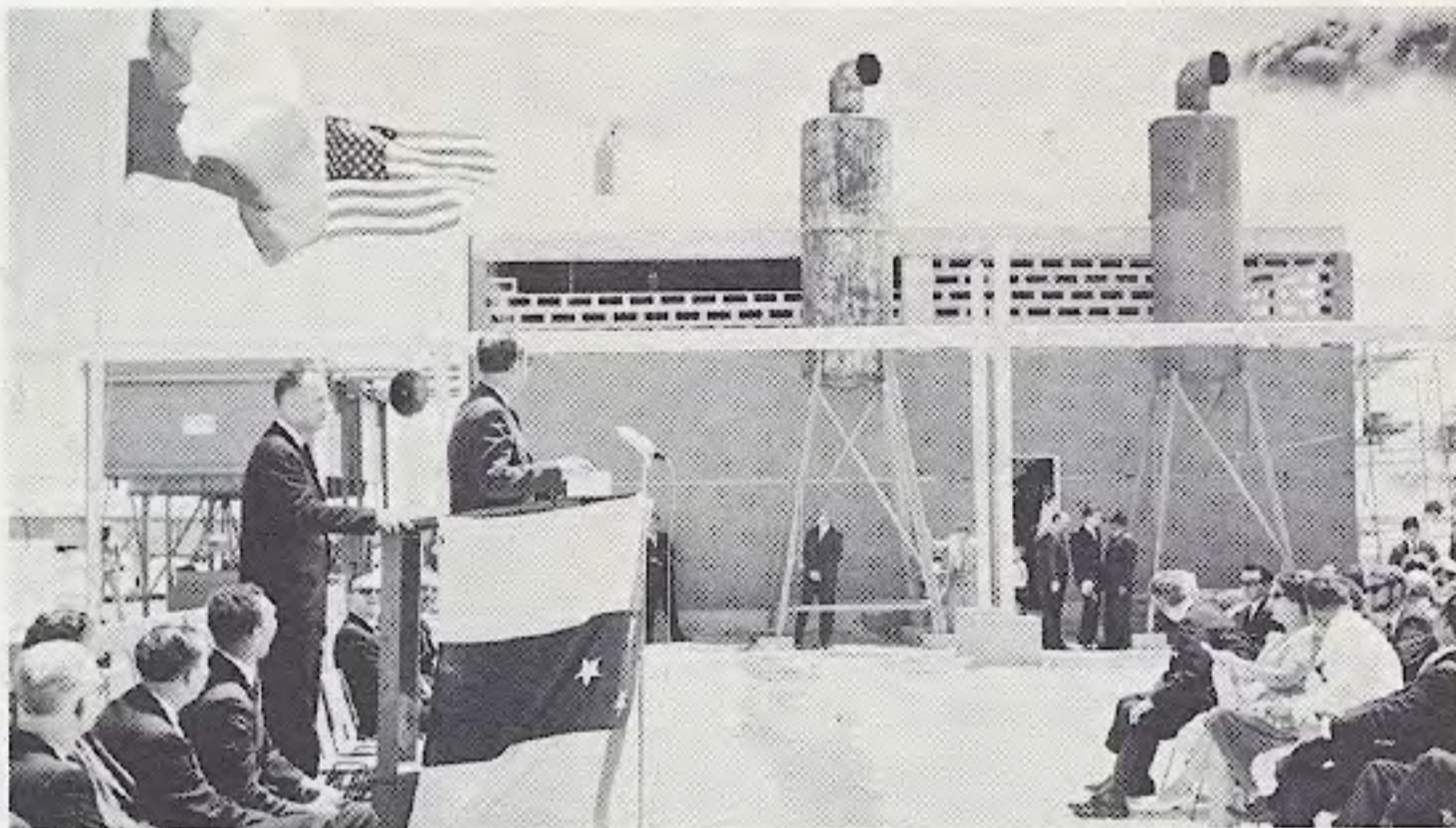
On the Air



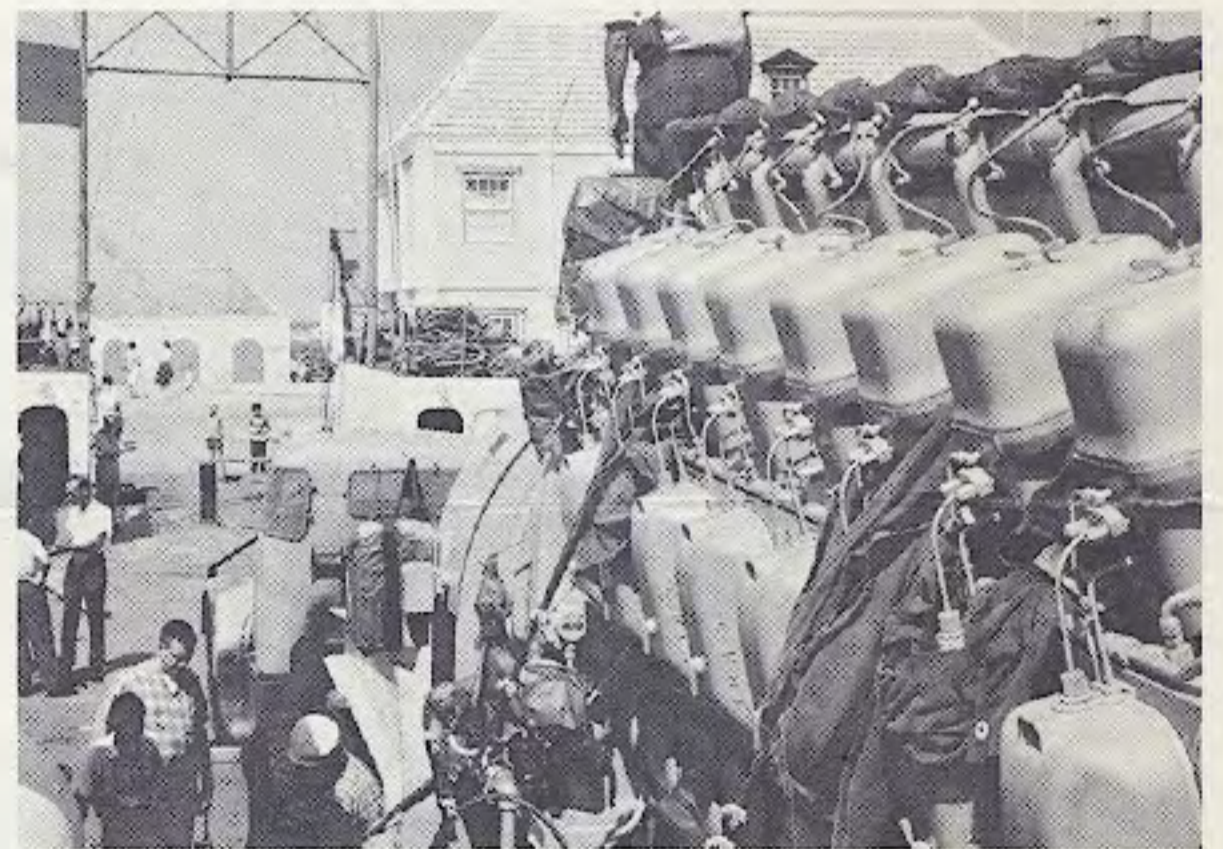
Building complex at transmitter site in Bonaire with the generator building (foreground) and transmitter building. Two towers of the curtain antenna can be seen in the background.



Workers on towers are dwarfed by the curtain antenna which will beam programs to Europe from Bonaire.



His Excellency, Mr. Debrot, the governor of the Netherlands Antilles, officially opens the station by throwing a special switch starting one of the huge diesel engines. See Story Page 4.



Second 1,600 kw diesel generator arrives in Bonaire. The two huge generators will make it possible to operate both the medium wave and short wave transmitters simultaneously.



Missionary technician Brian Moyer (left) and Virgil Stanley intently watch controls in master studio as programs are broadcast over the medium wave and short wave transmitters.

On the Air! But the big job is still ahead. Gospel programs must be written, produced, and recorded. The equipment must be kept in top-notch shape. The torrent of mail must be answered. Payments must be met on the transmitters, antennas, and generators. "Brethren, pray for us that the word of God may speed on and triumph."

OFFICIAL OPENING IN BONAIRE

Special ceremonies marking the official opening of Trans World Radio Bonaire were held on October 1, 1964 with more than 125 guests in attendance. Ceremonies were held at the transmitter site on Bonaire, and then luncheon was served at Hotel Bonaire in Kralendijk.

The opening ceremonies at the transmitter site began at 11:00 a.m. with words of welcome and commendation from many government officials. The main speakers at the morning ceremonies included His Excellency, Mr. Debrot, the governor of the Netherlands Antilles; His Excellency, Mr. Jonckheer, the Prime Minister of the Antilles; His Excellency, Mr. Beaujon, Minister of Communications; and the Honorable Mr. Markos, the Lt. Governor of Bonaire. Each official emphasized the fact that the completion of Trans World Radio's new super power station was one of the greatest events in the history of the island of Bonaire and the Netherlands Antilles.

Dr. Paul E. Freed, President of Trans World Radio, expressed the gratitude of the entire mission family for the fine co-operation which the various governmental bodies had given during the construction on Bonaire. At the conclusion of Dr. Freed's speech His Excellency, Mr. Debrot, the governor of the Netherlands Antilles, officially opened the station by throwing a special switch which started one of the huge diesel engines.

Following the ceremonies, the guests were taken on a tour of the transmitter building and the entire Trans World Radio

complex. They were able to see first-hand giant transmitters, huge diesel generators, and the many high towers which are being used to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ to millions of souls.

At 1:30 p.m. a luncheon was held at the Hotel Bonaire with the dining room filled to capacity. In the center of the large buffet table was a huge cake decorated with a model of the transmitter building, diesel building, and antennas. Dr. L. F. Tijnstra, Director General of the Radio Nederland World Broadcasting Foundation, and Mr. A. B. Roosjen, Chairman of Nederlandse Radio Unie, addressed the luncheon guests.

Mr. van Haaren also spoke and expressed admiration for the tremendous accomplishment in the construction of Trans World Radio Bonaire. He said that his government could not really believe that Trans World Radio would actually accomplish this project which seemed much too big to be successfully completed. His government saw that we had accomplished all that we had promised and even more. Speeches by the president of the Netherlands Antilles Senate, the American Consul General for the Netherlands Antilles, and speeches by three of the leading island officials concluded the afternoon program.

Dedication Services for Trans World Radio Bonaire will be held early next year, once all of the transmitters are in operation. Outstanding Christian leaders from around the world will be invited to attend.

NEWS OF BONAIRE PROGRAMS

Listeners from forty states in the U.S. have written us telling that they are hearing our Gospel programs clearly on the regular AM (standard broadcast) band. You too will want to tune in between 9:00 p.m. and 11:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time at 800 (your radio may be marked 80, 8 or .8) on your regular AM radio. Not everyone will be able to hear us because listeners in some areas may encounter local interference. Reception can be improved by turning the radio around or by using an outdoor antenna in an East-West direction. Write and tell us if you are able to receive the programs.

Trans World Radio Bonaire is transmitting eight hours per day from the new 500,000 watt standard broadcast transmitter. The schedule features Gospel programs supplemented by news and music. Additional programs will be added in the future. The current schedule is as follows:

Eastern Standard Time	Language	800 kc.
Morning		
4:30 - 5:30 a.m.	Spanish	
5:30 - 7:30 a.m.	English	
Evening		
5:30 - 6:00 p.m.	Spanish	
6:00 - 6:30 p.m.	Portuguese	
*6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Government — Programs in Dutch, Spanish and English (Dutch World Broadcasting)	
8:30 - 9:00 p.m.	Spanish	
9:00 - 11:30 p.m.	English	

*As part of the overall agreement in Bonaire, Trans World Radio has allocated to the Dutch Government 10% of the standard broadcast time and 15% of the shortwave time for relay broadcasting. Radio Nederland rebroadcasts news and cultural programs.

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