

C. Lewis
Box 522
São Tomé
West Africa

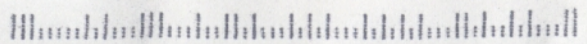


Mr. Jerry Berg
38 Eastern Ave.
Lexington, Mass. 02173
U.S.A.

Via Aérea

AIR MAIL

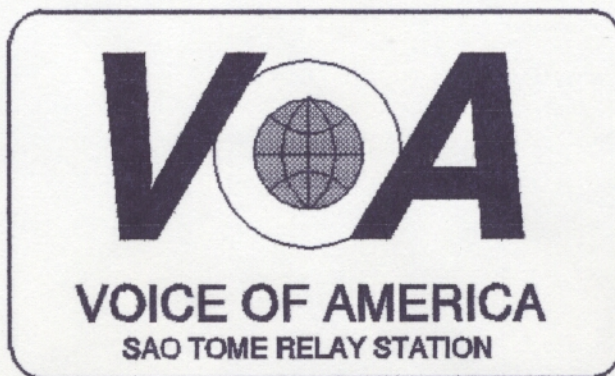
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Nov. 18, 1996

São Tomé Relay Station
P.O. Box 522
São Tomé e Príncipe
West Africa

Mr. Jerry Berg
38 Eastern Ave.
Lexington, Mass. 02173
U.S.A.



Dr. Mr. Berg:

This is to confirm your reception of Voice of America's São Tomé Relay Station on the frequency of 4950 kHz at 0250 to 0330 UTC on August 27, 1996. The program details you provided are accurate and the tape recording provides further dramatic proof. Shortly after the reception you cited, the morning frequency was changed to 4750 kHz in order to avoid interference you noted.

The transmission you heard is our English for Africa service with a target area centered more or less on Nigeria. The antenna is a 1X1 curtain aimed at thirty degrees azimuth, fed with a long run of 300 ohm four conductor open wire transmission line. The transmitter, our most troublesome one by far, is an ageing Harris VP100-B 100 kW vaporphase cooled unit. It was designed for the standard broadcast medium wave band and was converted from 1530 kHz to the tropical band (against the advice of Harris!). After having been warehoused for nearly a decade it previously was used in our interim start up MW facility which has now been upgraded to 600 kW.

The station is located in the small island nation of São Tomé e Príncipe, specifically just south of the town of São Tomé on the main island, São Tomé. São Tomé island sits atop the equator West of the African mainland. It is a small island of volcanic origin and measures about thirty miles north to south and about twenty miles east to west. The lushly vegetated interior is dominated by extinct volcanic peaks, the highest of which reaches to about 6,400 feet.

Thank you for your interesting signal report and tape. I am attaching a copy of our transmission schedule in case you would like to try for some of our other transmissions.

Best regards,

Charles Lewis
Assistant Transmitter Plant Supervisor