

FORCES RADIO TIMES

Christmas Number

ISSUED BY THE BRITISH FORCES STATION - ROME - 203.4 METRES

(THE ARMY BROADCASTING SERVICE)

PROGRAMMES - FOR THE WEEK COMMENCING 24 DECEMBER 1944



"But you can't expect them to play Arab Music all the time, Old Man."

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Army Broadcasting Station is made up of studios, transmitter, control room, amplifiers, microphones, trucks, drivers, a technician, gramophone records, rations and announcers. We also have an aerial or radiator (no - not the kind you have on your car, or some of you have in your offices). We don't want to get ourselves involved in a mass of technicalities which might bore you and which we wouldn't understand, but we think you should know roughly what happens before you can receive our signal on your set. Take the Early Morning Session for instance — the first thing that happens before you get a peek out of us is that the announcer turns over, turns off the alarm clock, turns over and goes to sleep again. Sometime later, he wakes up with a start, turns over again, looks at his watch and leaps out of bed — oh well, gets out of bed. After switching on several machines, he plays our signature tune, opens up the microphone and brightly (but not too brightly) says « Good Morning Everybody, it's just half-past six » The busy day has started. The most pleasant part of the Early Morning Session, by the way, to people who, unlike himself, have not yet got up, is making the announcement at intervals of the time, to people, who unlike himself have not yet got up. This goes on until eight-thirty when he closes down — switches off all the knobs he switched on before, and potters off to the cookhouse to get some breakfast — a procedure not at all appreciated by the cook, who is just clearing up after the Station personnel's breakfast. This sort of thing goes on all day until 23.00 hours when we usually close down. Of course, this doesn't take into account outside broadcasts in between, from the YMCA, Argentina (ENSA) Theatre, Alexander Club, English Church and so on — and I hate to mention the trifling matter of Admin; which enlivens our days with unfailing regularity. We are, after all, an Army unit. It's a full life, and a merry one if you don't weaken.

STATION COMMANDER

CHRISTMAS QUIZ

Christmas is a time for sitting round the fire telling stories, eating chestnuts and playing word-games lazily lying in cosy arm-chairs with a turkey-stuffed dog contentedly chewing your idle slipper. This must be a dream for the present — but at least we can supply you with the word-game. We'll make it a quiz. No prizes offered, but on Friday December 29th: at Letter Box Time — eight thirty to nine — we'll give you the answers.

1. - What are the real names of Signor So-So and Mrs Mopp in Tommy Handley's ITMA?
2. - Name any three well known Stations of the Army Broadcasting Service.
3. - What is the average number of grooves to the inch on a gramophone record?
4. - Up to the outbreak of War, which was the most powerful Radio transmitter in the world.
5. - Name the first notorious criminal to be caught with the help of Radio.
6. - What is the principal difference between a Wurlitzer Organ and a Hammond Organ?
7. - When you hear the six « pips », is it dead time on the first or the last « pip »?

" CALLING RHYTHM FANS "

Quoting Wilfrid Boocock - Rhythm Reporter to the Radio Rhythm Club of Rome. Over to Studio Three.

« recording you have just heard. Benny Goodman, world famous clarinettist and Dance Band leader, was born in Chicago on May 30th: 1909. His early boyhood was a period of hardship and struggle but his father was determined that Benny should have a musical education and bought him a clarinet. He took lessons from a local teacher who afterwards arranged for him to study under a well known symphony clarinettist. This legitimate training was the basis of the amazing technique and beautiful tone which later established Benny as one of the greatest clarinettists in the world. His first professional employment was on one of the steam-boats on Lake Michigan, after which he worked for a number of Band leaders and formed his own ideas about popular music and how it should be played. Goodman then formed his own Band and very quickly became known as the « King of Swing ». Engagements followed at the Pennsylvania, and Waldorf Astoria hotels, Paramount Theatre and contracts for Radio and Film work. His famous trio and Quartet then came into being but Benny's greatest triumph was when he appeared as soloist in classical concerts with the Budapest String Quartet, New York Philharmonic and Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra, Without a doubt, these concerts helped to make it possible for Benny to take his place among the great virtuosi.

Well done, Benny Now I'm going to play you

"TO BE.....?"

« Christmas Comes But Once A Year » — as some mediaeval philosopher once wittily put it, and with Christmas comes music — modern music, spreading it's warm, sensuous flood of soothing appeal to every part of the world on the vibrant wings of Radio; giving golden promise of of heterodynamic harmony from Bootle to Bangkok when Peace smiles brash on a twisted Universe. Just think of it. Music for the million, seeping from the lush, ripe lips of Commerce. Imagine a little village in England; on the South Downs perhaps. The day's toil is over and all the world is engulfed in the velvet beauty of night. There in his cottage the ageing labourer sits before the fire, his strong gnarled fist soft-clasped in that of his white-haired partner — the two of them dreamily listening to Hank Rope's Jive Five cutting a Boogie rug with the Morphine Sisters holding down the vocal. On the other side of the globe a Causican horse-coper tunes in to International Enterprises Inc: to hear a kind, sympathetic voice insistantly whispering « Does That Baby Itch? Catch Each Itch In Time and Save Whine — «Pinky Winky Napkins Banish Baby Bothers» Unable to understand a word, he smiles contentedly — knowing that on the third stroke of the gong the signature tune « Bash Me Shorty » will herald a welcome reappearance on the air of glamorous Betty Bedding singing the songs she loves best by courtesy of Burner 'Hear Them Sizzle' Bath Salts. Time will roll majestically on, prodded excitedly by Super Radio's News Flashes in Televisicolor Hemispherics — « Maddened Crosby Strikes Sinatra In Night-Club » — « Three Japanese Found Alive In Asia » — « Post-War Reconstruction Plans Reported Nearly Complete » And all this to a Bacchanalian background of lovely lovely music stretching tenuous tentacles of opiate sound to every living creature; from peasant to pachyderm — from prince to polyp. Just think of it.

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0630 Morning Medley

0700 News

0715 Shaving Time

0730 Break For Breakfast

0800 Headline News

0802 Second Helping

0830 Close Down

1030 News

1035 Canteen Medley

1100 Sunday Miscellany

1130 Break For Music

1200 News

1215 Ice Hockey From Canada

1230 Salon Orchestra

1300 Headline News

1301 Orchestra In Khaki

1330 The Squadronaires

1400 News

1410 Close Down

1600 Indian Programme

1630 Dance Music

1700 Band Of HM Coldstreams
Guards

1730 The Stage Presents

1800 News & War Reports

1815 Symphony In Blue

1900 RAF Rhythm Sextet

1930 Hospital Requests

2000 The BIG SHOW - Vic Oliver
and All Star Cast

2100 Dance Music

2114 Headline News

2115 Young In Heart Ep: 3

2135 RAF Theatre Orchestra

2200 Carol Service (C of E)

2220 Announcers Choice

2245 News

2250 Take Your Partners for
Christmas Eve Non-Stop
Dance Session

2350 When Xmas Eve Is Done

2359 MIDNIGHT MASS

ST. PETER'S - ROME from
the VATICAN RADIO

0145 (app) Close Down



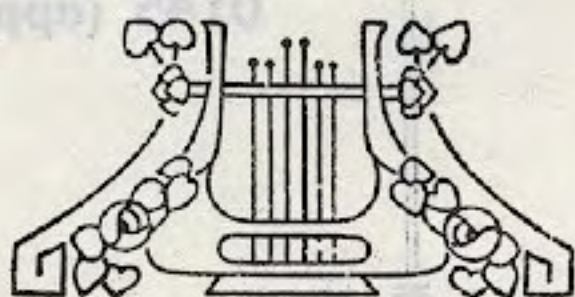
CHRISTMAS DAY PROG

0630 Morning Medley
0700 News
0715 Shaving Time
0730 Break For Breakfast
0800 Headline News
0802 Second Helping
0830 Close Down

0945 Christmas Music
1000 Christmas Service from En-
glish Church in Rome
1030 News
1030 Canteen Medley
1102 Scottish News Review
1107 Apertif
1130 Musical Magazine

1200 News
1215 Accent On Rhythm
1230 Turkey Time
1300 Headline News
1301 Palace Of Varieties
1330 Swing Digestif
1345 News
1400 SUPER HOSPITAL RE-
QUESTS
1500 HIS MAJESTY THE KING
1515 Close Down

1600 Indian Programme
1630 All The Bands
1715 Carols
1730 All The Bands
1715 Carols
1730 Waltztime
1800 News
1810 Random Jive
1830 BBC Revue Orchestra
1900 Al Bollington (organ)
1915 Anglo American Xmas Par-
ty from Rome Theatre



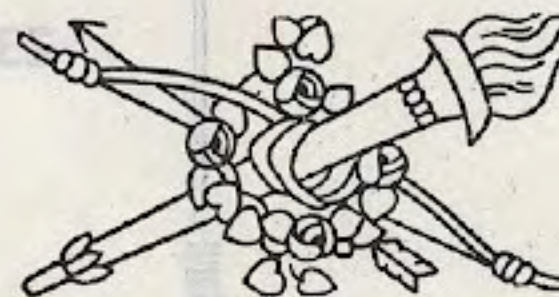


CHRISTMAS DAY PROGRAMME

1200 News
1215 Accent On Rhythm
1230 Turkey Time
1300 Headline News
1301 Palace Of Varieties
1330 Swing Digestif
1345 News
1400 SUPER HOSPITAL RE-
QUESTS
1500 HIS MAJESTY THE KING
1515 Close Down

1600 Indian Programme
1630 All The Bands
1715 Carols
1730 All The Bands
1715 Carols
1730 Waltztime
1800 News
1810 Random Jive
1830 BBC Revue Orchestra
1900 Al Bollington (organ)
1915 Anglo American Xmas Par-
ty from Rome Theatre

2000 Christmas Night At 8
Askey/Murdoch & Co
2250 Xmas Bells of Britain
2100 Headline News
2101 Field Marshal THE HON
SIR HAROLD ALEXANDER
Supreme Allied Cmdr-in-
Chief Mediterranean Thea-
tre.
2110 Letter Box Requests
2130 March Of The Movies
2200 Command Performance
2230 Music For Dancing
2245 News
2250 The End Of A Perfect Day
2300 Close Down



0630 Morning Medley

0700 News

0715 Shaving Time

0730 Break For Breakfast

0800 Headline News

0802 Second Helping

0830 Close Down

1030 News

1035 Canteen Medley

1102 Home Press Review

1107 Interlude

1115 Music From The Movies

1200 News

1215 Theatre Organ

1230 Music of MICHAEL NORTH

1300 Headline News

1301 Variety Band Box

1400 News

1415 Dance Music

1500 Close Down

1600 Indian Programme

1630 White Christmas

1700 Canada Calling

1715 Old Acquaintances

1730 Light Orchestral Concert

1800 News

1805 Benny Goodman & Orchestra

1830 Boxing Night at the YMCA
Centenary Club Rome

1900 ALADDIN - All Star Christmas
Pantomime

2100 News (Inc: Cdn: News)

2015 Band Of RCAF

2050 Letter Box Requests

2100 Round The Matrons

2115 ITMA

2145 Harry Roy and Band

2215 Phil Green and Concert
Orchestra

2245 News

2250 BOXING-NIGHTCAP -
Rhythmic Revels

2350 Last Round

2350 You've Had It
Midnight Close Down

0630 Morning Medley

0700 News

0715 Shaving Time

0730 Break For Breakfast

0800 Headline News

0802 Second Helping

1030 News

1035 Canteen Medley

1102 Home Press Review

1107 Interlude

1115 Skyrockets Dance Orch from
Stage Door Canteen

1145 The Western Five

1200 News

1215 Reginald Dixon

1230 White Mixture

1300 Headline News

1301 By Way Of Music

1330 Harry Parry & Sextet

1400 News

1410 Close Down

1600 Indian Programme

1630 Dance Music

1700 Donald Peers

1715 All The « Rs »

1730 Famous Overtures

1800 News and War Reports

1815 W. London Services Club

1845 Military Band

1915 Syncopated Songs

1930 British Band of the AEF

2000 News (Inc: Cdn: News)

2015 Victor Silvester

2030 Letter Box Requests

2100 Radio Rhythm Club, Rome

2130 Bob Hope Programme

2200 Ballad Memories

2215 Alec Cave and Band

2245 News

2250 When Day Is Done

2300 Hot Spot For Highbrows

Mozart's Quintet in D

2330 Close Down

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|---|---------------------------------------|
| 0630 Morning Medley | 1600 Indian Programme |
| 0700 News | 1630 Dance Music |
| 0715 Shaving Time | 1700 Music Time |
| 0730 Break For Breakfast | 1730 First House (2) |
| 0800 Headline News | 1800 News & War Reports |
| 0802 Second Helping | 1815 Here's Wishing You Well
Again |
| 0830 Close Down | 1900 Melodious Moments |
| 1030 News | 1915 Evening Star |
| 1035 Canteen Medley | 1930 Orchestral Concert |
| 1102 Home Press Review | 2000 News (Inc: Cdn: News) |
| 1107 Interlude | 2015 To Town On Two Pianos |
| 1115 Dance Music | 2030 Letter Box Requests |
| 1200 News | 2100 ITMA |
| 1215 Ivor Pye | 2130 Introducing Sheila. No 7 |
| 1230 Light Music from EFI Alexander Club-Rome | 2145 ENSA Half Hour |
| 1300 Headline News | 2215 RAF Rhythm Sextet |
| 1301 Swing Spot | 2245 News |
| 1340 Alec Cave & Orch. | 2250 When Day Is Done |
| 1400 News | 2300 Close Down |
| 1410 Close Down | |

0630 Morning Medley

0700 News

0715 Shaving Time

0730 Break For Breakfast

0800 Headline News

0802 Second Helping

0830 Close Down

1030 News

1035 Canteen Medley

1102 Home Press Review

1107 Interlude

1115 Here's Wishing You Well
Again

1200 News

1215 Swing Spot

1230 YMCA Salon Orchestra

1300 Headline News

1301 Film Favourites

1330 ITMA (Repeat)

1400 News

1410 Close Down

1600 Indian Programme

1630 Dance Music

1700 Everybody's Songs

1715 At The Console

(Bobbie Pagan)

1730 Services Music Hall

1800 News & War Reports

1815 Listening To Music

(AEC Talk)

1830 Orchestral Concert

1900 Merry-Go-Round

2000 News (Inc: Cdn: News)

2015 Spotlight On The Stars
Derek Roy

2030 Letter Box (Requests)

2100 Douglas Byng

2115 Hi-Ya Pal (Presented by
Member of American Ex-
peditionary Station)

2145 Songs From The Shows

2215 Late Dance Music

2245 News

2250 When Day Is Dine

2300 Close Down

0630 Morning Medley
0700 News
0715 Shaving Time
0730 Break For Breakfast
0800 Headline News
0802 Second Helping
0830 Close Down

1030 News
1035 Canteen Medley
1102 Home Press Review
1107 Interlude
1115 Dance Music
1200 News
1215 Romance In Rhythm
1230 Theatre Orchestra
1300 Headline News
1301 Glenn Miller
1330 Services Music Hall
1400 News
1410 Close Down
1600 Indian Programme

1630 Dance Music
1700 South Sea Island Magic
1715 Carroll Levis
1745 Blue Rochets Dance
Orchestra
1800 News & War Reports
1815 Orchestral Concert
1900 What's On In Rome
John K. Newnham
1910 Harry Farmer (organ)
1930 RAF Concert Orch:
Orchestra.
2000 News (Inc: Cdn: News)
2015 Football Results
2030 Letter Box Requests
2100 Jack Payne's Orchestra
2130 I Remember
2200 Dance Music
2245 News
2250 When Day Is Done
2300 Close Down