

## Notes on JRAK, Palau, from Tetsuya Hirahara

### I. Parao Hosokyoku (JRAK)

A radio station established by Nippon Hoso Kyokai in Palau was called "Parao Hosokyoku" (Palau Broadcasting Station). The station consisted of the following facilities:

- Office/studio, located at Koror in Koror Island
- Receiving station at Ngatpang in Babeldaob Island,
- Transmitter site at Airai in Babeldaob Island (to the south of actual Palau International Airport)

The station was authorized to operate on 6090 kHz, 9565 kHz and 11740 kHz, with a power of 10 kW. Another channel on 17 MHz was used to communicate with Tokyo with the same 10 kW transmitter.

Facilities at transmitter and receiving sites were owned and operated by International Telecommunications Company (ITC) of Japan, as is the case with shortwave facilities at Yamata/Nazaki.

### II. Schedule (all times in local time = JST = UTC-9 hours)

#### 1. Authorized weekday schedule at the beginning:

0619-0640, 1100-1120, 1140-1200, 1230-1245, 1530-1630 (Radio Tokyo relay to Hawaii), 1800-1830, 1859-2150, 2205-2330 (Radio Tokyo relay to China and South Pacific).

Programs mainly consisted of relay of "East Asia Relay Broadcast" (EARB, mainly Tokyo programs). They also carried Radio Tokyo relay, as well as local programs (news, music, etc.), which occupied only 30 minutes or so in total.

#### 2. Weekday schedule

August 1, 1943 (7 hours 35 minutes for EARB relay and 3 hours 35 minutes for Radio Tokyo relay): 0555-0750, 0800-0850 (Radio Tokyo), 1100-1130, 1145-1230, 1600-1630, 1700-1730, 1755-2220, 2230-0115 (Radio Tokyo).

November 1, 1943 (7 hours 35 m for EARB and 2 hours 30 minutes for Radio Tokyo): 0600-0730, 0800-0850 (Radio Tokyo), 1110-1130, 1145-1250, 1600-1630, 1700-1730, 1800-2130, 2200-2340 (Radio Tokyo).

April 1, 1944 (7 hours 55 minutes for EARB and 2 hours for Radio Tokyo): 0600-0750, 0800-0850 (Radio Tokyo, English to Eastern North America), 1145-1300, 1700-1730, 1800-2220, 2230-2340 (Radio Tokyo, Japanese/French/Burmese/Thai to South East Asia).

### III. Chronology

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| May 1940          | Commencement of construction work      |
| February 20, 1941 | Permission granted for Parao Hosokyoku |
| May 1941          | Construction completed                 |
| June 1941         | Test transmission                      |

- September 24, 1941 Official inauguration. The first transmission was made at 1100-1130 with an inauguration ceremony. Another inauguration program was carried at 1940-2000, which was relayed in Japan.
- July 25-27, 1944 Bombing destroyed the transmitting facilities and the broadcast was stopped.
- August 1, 1944 Officially closed.

#### **IV. Related websites**

1. [NHK Broadcasting Culture Research Institute](#)

- Second photo: a folder (case) of postcards, commemorating the inauguration of JRAK
- Third photo: a building of ITC, in which JRAK office/studios were accommodated.

2. [A philatelist](#)

- Special postmark commemorating the inauguration of JRAK on Sept. 24 1941.

As to the postcard on your paper, it shows a wireless station located at Koror, thus no relation with JRAK. The building was later modified and used as National Congress Building until 2006, when the capital was moved to Melekelok.