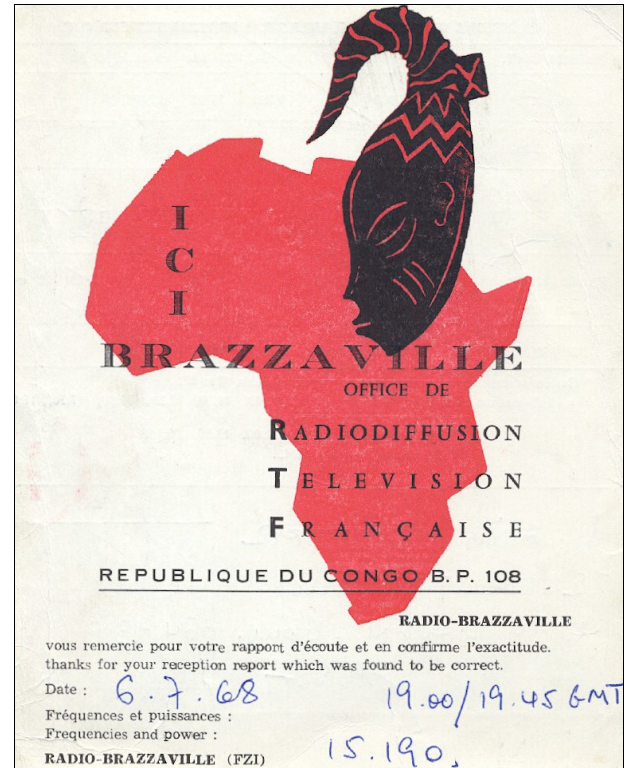


## Shortwave Sisters of French Equatorial Africa: Radio Brazzaville and Radio Club

by

Jerry Berg,  
[jsberg@rcn.com](mailto:jsberg@rcn.com)

Most people would probably take a reference to the Congo to mean the former Belgian Congo, now the Democratic Republic of the Congo (ex-Zaire). DXers, on the other hand, would know there are two Congo's, the other one being the Republic of the Congo, or Moyen Congo (Middle Congo), as it was known when it was part of French Equatorial Africa. The sister capitals, lying directly across the Congo River from each other about 300 miles up river from the Atlantic, are Kinshasa (ex-Leopoldville) and Brazzaville respectively. To avoid confusion the countries are often referred to informally as Congo-Kinshasa and Congo-Brazzaville. Brazzaville was the capital of both the Middle Congo and French Equatorial Africa.



As the locus of Joseph Conrad's famous novel, "Heart of Darkness," Congo-Kinshasa might be the better known of the two countries. But Brazzaville, home of the Free French forces during much of World War II, probably has a better claim to a place in world history. It definitely has a place in shortwave history, for it was the locus of one of the most famous shortwave broadcasters of all time—Radio Brazzaville.

The war in Europe began on September 1, 1939 with Germany's invasion of Poland. Denmark and Norway followed in April 1940, and the Benelux countries and France on May 10. An "armistice" between France and Germany was signed in June. The country was nominally governed by France's collaborationist Vichy government under Marshal Phillippe Pétain, but the north and west of the country were occupied by Germany, and the occupation was extended to the entire country in November 1942.

On June 18, 1940, in a famous broadcast over the BBC, General Charles de Gaulle appealed to the French to fight on.<sup>1</sup> De Gaulle established a government-in-exile in London, and to provide a military center of gravity for the fight against the Axis he created the Free French forces. France had a considerable colonial empire, some of whose members supported de Gaulle. But most were with Vichy, and moved over to the Free French side only as the geopolitical and military situation dictated. It was the forces in the Gaullist colonial territories—mostly African troops—that made up most of the Free French forces and that supported and worked with the Allied powers. British support of the Free French, and the potential for economic aid from those Allied countries in de Gaulle's camp, played no small part in de Gaulle's ongoing search for support from the French community worldwide.

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Free French control over French Equatorial Africa, a territory four times the size of France, was confirmed in a series of political and military events in three parts of the territory—Chad, Oubangui-Chari (now the Central African Republic), and the French Congo—during the final days of August 1940, and November in Gabon. Of great importance was the unfailing support of Félix Éboué, the French Guiana-born governor of Chad, whom de Gaulle appointed as governor-general of all of F.E.A. and without whose support things might have gone differently. Brazzaville was the F.E.A. capital, and would be home base to the Free French until 1943, when it was displaced by Algiers. As of that year, the population of Brazzaville was 47,500, including 1,439 Europeans.

It was important that de Gaulle operate from a place other than London, where he was, after all, a guest, and expected to act like one. An African headquarters would provide more freedom of action and avoidance of close Allied oversight. Had he a choice, however, he likely would have chosen French *West* Africa, with its capital of Dakar, as his center of operations. But F.W.A. was firmly in Vichy hands, as was proven in late September 1940 when a joint British-Gaullist naval task force took on Vichy units at Dakar, only to suffer a serious defeat and confirm Vichy's control over this very large piece of African territory. (Vichy diehards in F.E.A. were often "relocated" to F.W.A.).

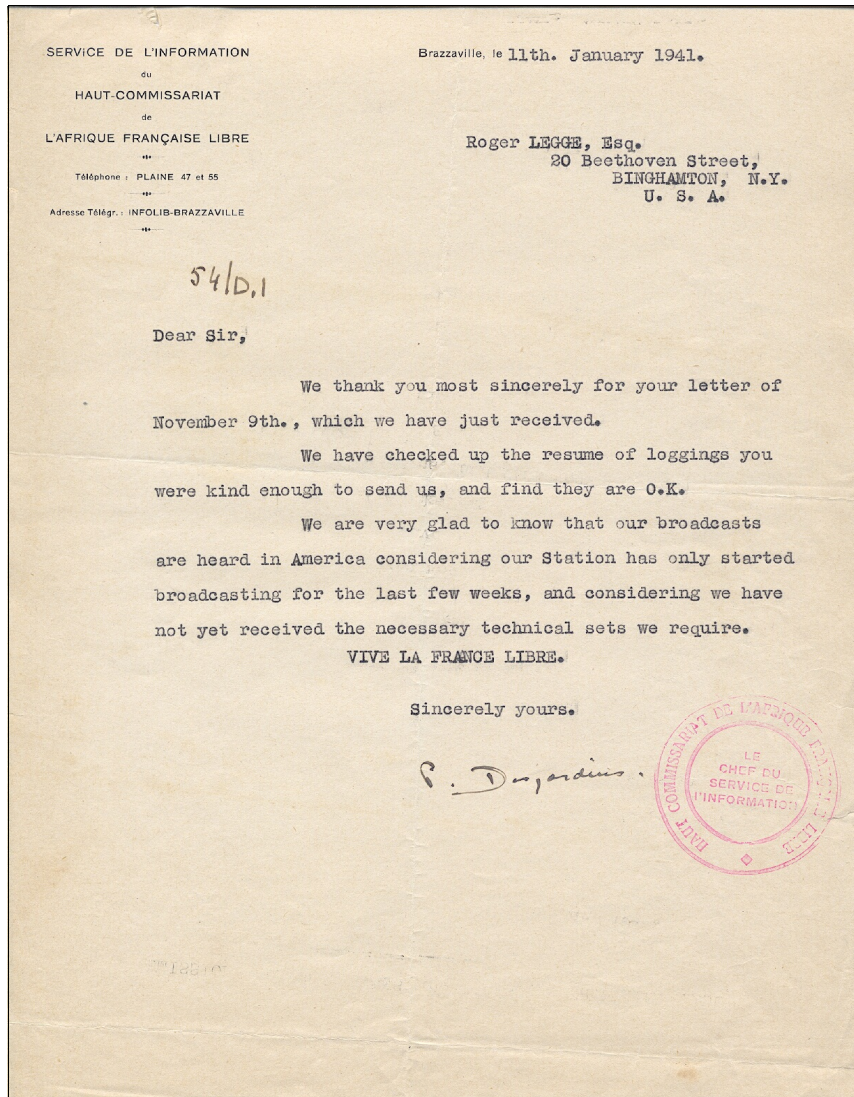
On October 27, 1940, de Gaulle cemented his attachment to Brazzaville by proclaiming from there the new Empire Defense Council, which was to be the central administrative element of the Free French. Although the Gaullists tended to romanticize the support they received from those whom they liked to think of as their African brothers and sisters, the relationship was by no means all voluntary, and there is no mistaking that Gaullist France was the colonial master—with all that implies—if a more benign one, in the eyes of Frenchmen, than some others.<sup>2</sup> In any event, Africa, and Brazzaville in particular, would have an iconic place in France's fight against the Axis powers. And in one area, the town held real primacy—it would be the home of the Free French information service, and of France's shortwave voice to the world.

Accounts as to exactly when Radio Brazzaville started broadcasting in the latter part of 1940 differ slightly. Jennings (see "Resources," p. 12) says the station opened in December, and several Radio Brazzaville QSL letters dated January 11, 1941 (see example on p. 3) say the station "only started broadcasting during the last few weeks." But the correct date appears to be October 25, which is when General de Gaulle visited Radio Brazzaville's predecessor station, Radio Club, during his first visit to Brazzaville, which

N E W --- FLASH--- "Radio Brazzaville" (11.97), 5kW, Brazzaville, Moyen Congo, French Equatorial Africa, first heard Oct. 25, now broadcasts an all-French program daily 1-1:30am and 3:30-4:15pm. Makes following identification frequently, "Ici Radio Brazzaville." Interval signal is rattling of dried African gourds and striking of wooden blocks. This station supports Free France and often mentions De Gaulle. Sometimes signs-off with "God Save the King." Volume is good but quality poor (\*\*\*\*W2IXY, Cook, Roberts, Acton, Balbi, Skyten, Morrison, Whitehouse)...

began the day before. It is also the date of the first reported loggings of Radio Brazzaville's signal that I have found. These appeared in the International DXers Alliance "Stop Press Sheet" for November 1940 (above). The frequency—one which Brazzaville would use for years—was 11970 kHz. The station was reported by eight American listeners who were

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tuning in from various locations, coast to coast.

That Radio Brazzaville was able to come on the air so quickly after de Gaulle's consolidation of power in F.E.A. was due in part to a now long-forgotten fact: at the outset it was able to learn from the experience of another station, albeit a much smaller one, that was already in existence. This was Radio Club, which had been established in 1936 by Jean Boilleau, a telecommunications engineer in F.E.A. who had been working on the telephone circuits between Brazzaville and Pointe Noire, a coastal city, and by a Messr. Cruveiller. (An effort to create a powerful station in Brazzaville in the 1920s had failed.) Boilleau was the indispensable figure in the creation and operation of Radio Brazzaville, and

seemingly its director at the beginning. It appears that Radio Club broadcasts started in November 1936 on a twice weekly basis using a 25-watt transmitter. It was strictly a local operation, but it utilized shortwave. The station's costs were paid for out of Boilleau's own pocket until March 1940, when an annual government subsidy of 10,000 francs was provided. Expenses exceeded that, however, and Boilleau continued to make up the difference personally.

The Radio Club frequency was 8219 kHz. when power increased to 50 watts in June 1938. When the war came, broadcasts became daily. Dr. Gaston G. Bizien, seemingly a well-known figure in Brazzaville, joined the effort in January 1940, and in July of that year a second transmitter was added, using 150 watts in the 25 meter band. The station adopted a more patriotic line after the June 1940 "armistice" with Germany, when Bizien took on a more prominent role. Bizien and Boilleau were strong Gaullists, and engaged in various acts of short term sabotage to deny the local Vichy authorities use of the Radio Club transmitters, risking life and limb in the process. When he visited the station on October 25, 1940, de Gaulle recognized the important roles that both men had played.

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So, in the very early days, when Radio Brazzaville was being established, Radio Club was already on the air. The exact history of the Radio Club transmitters is difficult to trace with precision, but it seems that by January 1945, when the station closed, there were five senders: two at 500 watts, one at 150 watts, one at 1 kw. and one at 2 kw. The transmitters were located at Mpila, three miles to the east. When Radio Brazzaville came to air on 11970 kHz., however, it was said to be operating with 5 kw. The provenance of this transmitter is not entirely clear. De Gaulle may have brought it in with him, or it may have been a P.T.T. transmitter (right) modified for voice use and putting out less than its rated 8 kw.



The first programs heard from Radio Brazzaville were in French, at 0600-0630 and 2030-2115 GMT. By mid-1941 the schedule looked roughly like this: 0600-0630, 1330-1400 and 1945-2000 in English for Africa and England; 2000-2130 in French for France and Africa; and 0300-0400 for the U.S. and Canada (in French, except for English at 0345-0400). "God Save the King" and "The Star-Spangled Banner" were often played at the end of programs intended for Britain or the United States.

The only mention of Radio Club that I have found in the mostly-American DX press before 1940 is a brief item in the *Globe Circler* (International DXers Alliance) for May 1938: "Brazzaville broadcasts irreg. on 12.5 mc." But once Radio Brazzaville took to the air, Radio Club started being reported as well, in French, at 1030-1200 and 1800-1930 GMT on 8500 and 12000 kHz. *France d'Abord*, a Free French newspaper published twice monthly in Brazzaville but mainly for the benefit of people outside the Congo, gave the schedule as shown at the right in the edition of November 30, 1941 (times are in GMT+1). The broadcast day consisted of a dozen transmissions of a half hour or less on the "25, 30 and 36" meter bands. In those days there was no authoritative source of information on shortwave broadcasters, such as the World Radio Handbook, so these newspaper schedules, together with whatever information might be received from the station, were the only source of schedule information. Some DXers reported receiving copies of *France d'Abord* in their correspondence with Radio Brazzaville. In the schedule at the right, note the inclusion of shortwave broadcasts from French Cameroon

**Emissions radiophoniques de l'Afrique Française Libre**

Poste d'émission du "RADIO-CLUB" sur les bandes des 25, 30 et 36 mètres.

7.00 à 7.15/20 informations  
 8.00 à 8.15/20 informations  
 9.00 à 9.15/20 informations  
 11.30 à 12.00 musique enregistrée  
 12.00 à 12.15/20 Informations  
 13.30 à 13.50 informations  
 14.30 à 14.50 informations  
 19.00 à 19.30 musique  
 19.30 à 20.00 informations et commentaires  
 21.30 à 22.00 informations et commentaires  
 22.00 à 22.30 musique  
 22.30 à 23.00 informations et commentaires

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Station de RADIO-BRAZZAVILLE longueur unique 25 m. 06.

7.00 à 7.15/20 informations  
 14.30 à 15.15 informations et musique  
 20.45 à 21.00 commentaires en anglais  
 21.00 à 21.30 musique  
 21.30 à 22.00 informations et commentaires  
 22.00 à 22.15 nouvelles des familles.  
 4.00 à 4.15 commentaires en français pour le Canada  
 4.15 à 4.45 musique  
 4.45 à 5.00 commentaires en anglais pour les Etats-Unis.

---

Station de RADIO-CAMEROUN  
 11.45 — Informations (sur 37 mètres 50)  
 19.15 — Informations (sur 37 mètres 50)

---

Station d'ACCRA (GOLD COAST)  
 Emissions de la France Libre:  
 à 12.00 et à 19.15, sur 49 mètres.

•••

Les heures ci-dessus ont indiquées en heure locale de Brazzaville.  
 (Midi, heure locale = 11 h. G. M. T.)

(a League of Nations Trust Territory) on 37.50 meters (8000 kHz.), and what was apparently a Free French program from Accra, Ghana on "49 meters" (probably 6005 kHz.).

Late in 1941, Radio Club informed well-known American DXer Roger Legge that it was not powerful enough to be heard in the U.S., but that it hoped to have a more powerful transmitter operating in about five months, probably a reference to the planned 50 kw. Radio Brazzaville transmitter, which actually came to air a year later than that projection. Late in 1942, Radio Club was reported heard with weak signals on 9945 and 12270 kHz.



Some programming, especially news, was carried by both stations simultaneously, as evidenced in the schedule shown at left, which is from the November 14, 1942 edition of *France d'Abord*. It shows the schedules of both stations, Radio Brazzaville on 11970 kHz. and Radio Club on the wavelength equivalents of 17391 and 9865 kHz. It also referred readers to the French programs of various foreign stations that were carried on Radio Congo Belge in the Belgian Congo.

**La Radiodiffusion**

## Les nouveaux horaires de Radio-Brazzaville et du Radio-Club

Par suite du changement d'heure des émissions en langue françaises de la B. B. C. et de la N. B. C., les heures des émissions de *Radio-Brazzaville* sont également changées. Les émissions *du soir* ont lieu désormais suivant l'horaire ci-après :

<b>Heure Locale</b>	
<i>Radio-Brazzaville</i> : 25 m. 06	<i>Radio-Club</i> : bande des 17 m. 25 m. 30 m. 41 m.
20.00 à 20.30 Informations et commentaires	19.00 à 20.00 Musique 20.00 à 20.30 informations et commentaires
20.30 à 20.45 nouvelles aux familles	
20.45 à 21.00 émission en Anglais	
21.00 à 21.15 émission en Espagnol	
21.15 à 22.00 Musique	
22.00 à 22.30 informations et commentaires	22.00 à 22.30 informations et commentaires

les autres émissions de *Radio-Brazzaville* et du *Radio-Club* demeurent inchangée.

\* \* \*

Le public pourra donc écouter les différentes émissions alliées en français :

20.00 à 20.30	Radio-Brazzaville et Radio-Club.
20.30 à 21.15	Emission de New-York N.B.C. en français retransmis par Radio Congo Belge.
21.00 à 21.10	Radio-Belgique (en français les jours pairs en néerlandais les jours impairs retransmis par Radio Congo Belge.)
21.10 à 21.25	Emission de la B.B.C. en français retransmis par Radio Congo Belge.
21.25 à 21.30	Honneur et Patrie sur les ondes de la B.B.C. retransmis par Radio Congo Belge.
21.30 à 22.00	Les Français parlent aux Français (B.B.C.)
22.00 à 22.30	Radio-Brazzaville et le Radio-Club.

Early references to Radio Brazzaville in the short-wave press often mentioned the station's call letters as FZI. Pickier DXers sometimes noted the absence of anything concrete to support the authenticity of those call letters. The *World Radio Handbook* showed the FZI call letters from 1947 (the first issue) through 1950-51, but not

## RADIO BRAZZAVILLE AND RADIO CLUB



thereafter. Conversely, early QSLs from Radio Brazzaville did not show any call letters, but during the late 1950s and the 1960s some did show the call letters FZI. If Radio Brazzaville was in fact using a P.T.T. transmitter during the early days of its operation, FZI may have been the call assigned to the P.T.T. operation, and Radio Brazzaville may have just adopted it on an informal basis.

Radio Brazzaville's success was largely attributable to the efforts of two French newspapermen, Capt. François Desjardins and his younger brother, Lt. Pierre Desjardins, both of whom left London on August 31 with other Free French adherents, headed for Dakar. Events took them instead to Sierra Leone and Douala, and eventually to Brazzaville, where they arrived soon after de Gaulle to set up a Free French information service, the

heart of which was Radio Brazzaville. De Gaulle appointed Pierre head of the service, a position in which he served until 1943. However, even as Radio Brazzaville grew during this period, and as late as January 1945, Radio Club continued to operate as a sister station.

Another important figure in the station's history was a man named Defroyenne, described as

a mild little engineer . . . a sort of Gallic Thomas Edison, able to work all kinds of miracles with meager equipment. The Desjardins would tell him about some impossibly intricate piece of apparatus they needed. As they talked, Defroyenne would stare dreamily out the window, apparently not hearing a word. Then he'd wander off, still in a dream. Then in a couple of days he'd be back, smiling shyly, with exactly what they asked for. Maybe it was made of bits from an old tractor and a sewing machine. Maybe it looked funny. But it worked. (Gaskill, p. 35)

Radio Brazzaville increased power to 50 kw. in late May 1943, with formal inauguration taking place on June 18, exactly three years from the date of General de Gaulle's famous London call to arms. The new RCA transmitter, still using 11970 kHz., plus new 9780, was one of about two dozen newly-designed RCA "50 SW" units that were already in service or being planned for use in Allied broadcasting efforts in places like Rio de Janeiro, Leopoldville, Australia, Canada, the Soviet Union, and the CBS and NBC

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shortwave installations in the United States. The 50 SW transmitter is described in detail, with photographs, in an article, "The 50 SW," in [\[RCA\] Broadcast News](#), No. 38, January 1944 (pgs. 24-27). Manufacture was slow due to other wartime priorities. Transport was dangerous and often delayed, and enemy naval action sent some Radio Brazzaville equipment to the bottom. Early announcements from Brazzaville over the new transmitter requested reports to the Fighting French Delegation, 626 Fifth Avenue, New York.

The Radio Brazzaville entry in the World Radio Handbook for the years 1947 through the 1950s always showed the 50 kw. transmitter, plus a 7 kw. transmitter, and sometimes a 1.5 kw. transmitter. In general, Radio Brazzaville QSLs showed the same, except that 1.5 was sometimes shown as 2 or 3 kw.

Radio Brazzaville was well heard after it went to 50 kw., but it was a regular logging even before that. During the war years it suffered some half-hearted competition from an Axis-run station called Brazzaville II, said to be located in Bourges, France, but the station's impact was limited. In terms of audience, Radio Dakar provided an alternative voice, but Brazzaville had the better signal.



The 50 kw. upgrade was supervised by RCA field engineer Paul C. Brown, working around the clock with a team of seven French technicians. From the French side, planning and procurement was under the direction of Captain S. Kagan, Chief Signal Officer for the Free French. Brown arrived in Africa in November 1942, and notwithstanding the heat, humidity, malaria, power limitations and other problems ("Everything that crawls, creeps or wriggles lives at Brazzaville"—Fellows, p. 41), construction was completed two months after the transmitter arrived, which was a month sooner than expected. In addition to the transmitter, the installation included modern studios, recording equipment, test and measuring gear, two triple diversity receivers, and rhombic antennas for both receiving and transmitting, including six directional transmitting antennas. There were 24 antenna towers, 40 feet high, which now permitted broadcasts to be beamed to France, the rest of Europe and North Africa; French-speaking areas like Syria, Indochina, and Madagascar; and North and South America. At one point some 500 radio receivers were purchased as well, half distributed to civilian and military administrators, the rest to individuals.

With the new equipment came a move from the station's warehouse location to a spacious new building, 500 feet long and 50 feet wide, all on one floor. This permitted the consolidation of various parts of the operation and the addition of needed services, including a restaurant that served at all hours. Some residential houses were built anew, and other buildings were improved. Virtually everything, including all construction

## RADIO BRAZZAVILLE AND RADIO CLUB

materials down to the screws and door knobs, had to be brought in from America, which was no small feat in wartime. All of this proved very good for morale, although the expanded administrative structure did not sit well with those who preferred the station's traditional, more avant-garde—some would say chaotic—style of operation.

By late 1942, staff numbered 25. Two years later it was 50, and ten years after that the station would employ 56 Europeans and 100 Africans. Programming was in French and English at first, expanding to include Spanish, Italian and Portuguese, with some Swedish, Dutch and Danish as well. Recruitment was the biggest problem, for the specialized personnel needed to run a major information center—journalists, editors, secretaries, engineers and many others—were in short supply in central Africa. And the demands of the jobs were high—10 to 12 hour workdays, an unhealthy climate, and little relief. The staff was an eclectic mix—"[a] professor, a collector of antiques, a former financial writer on a French daily and a dreamy, mild-mannered engineer . . . a Parisian bank clerk, a man who had taught law at Singapore, an American girl reporter who had thrown up her job on a Washington newspaper, a French girl from South Africa and a girl stenographer who had escaped from Alsace" (Fellows, p. 43). It was a high-energy environment, with local messengers moving around on roller skates, and, at least at the outset, everyone doing a little bit of everything.



The broader information service, of which Radio Brazzaville was a part, also produced printed materials, some of its own authorship, others created by the Allies. It also had a photographic service.

News was the most important part of the station's output, especially at the beginning. Radio Brazzaville was able to follow news agency dispatches from both Allied



and Axis sources around the world. It did a good deal of monitoring of the open airwaves, and could record transmissions of particular interest. (It is claimed that local people who could neither read nor write were trained to copy the Morse code news transmissions of the major news agencies and transform them into typewritten text at the level of some 60,000 words per day.) Homemade commentary directed to particular audiences was added to many news items. It was always stridently Free French and unfailingly supportive of de Gaulle. But truth was important, for the Desjardins knew that the suppression of unfavorable news at home, and the resulting “Maginot complex,” had fueled an unwarranted French belief in their country’s safety. (Interestingly, the Free French military were, for the first few years, one of the station’s least productive news sources.)

By 1944 the broadcast day was 19 hours and the news desk was manned 24 hours. English was handled by an American, Helen Scott, and a woman from the U.K., Jean Hughes. Scott was the English program editor. She said that honest news was the station’s top priority, but programming was leavened with other things as well, from funny skits to messages from London intended for the French underground. There were programs intended to bolster French morale and maintain the resistance, programs to boost the spirits of French prisoners of war, and messages from Free French soldiers to relatives back home (Fellows, p. 43). Within a few years the station had 6,000 records, obtained mostly from the U.K. The collection would eventually quadruple in size.

“ HONNEUR ET PATRIE ”

*Horaires des Émissions de la “ France Libre ”*  
à BRAZZAVILLE

**STATION DE “ RADIO-BRAZZAVILLE ”**  
longueur d’onde : 25<sup>m</sup> 06  
HEURES G. M. T.

6 h. à 6 h. 15/20 : Informations N° 1.

13 h. 30 à 14 h. 15 : Informations N° 2 <sup>bis</sup> et musique.

19 h. 45 à 20 h. : Commentaires en anglais.

20 h. à 20 h. 30 : Musique.

20 h. 30 à 21 h. : Informations N° 3 <sup>bis</sup> et commentaires.

21 h. à 21 h. 15 : Nouvelles des familles.

3 h. à 3 h. 15 : Commentaires en français  
pour le Canada.

3 h. 15 à 3 h. 45 : Musique.

3 h. 45 à 4 h. : Commentaires en anglais  
pour les Etats-Unis.

Brazzaville also picked up programs from other stations and rebroadcast them. WRUL, Voice of America, the Armed Forces Radio Service and the BBC were all part of the mix. In turn, some stations, including the BBC, rebroadcast programs from Brazzaville, and it was not unusual for news from the Brazzaville information service to be quoted in the world press. A little-known Brazzaville initiative was the transmittal of news in Morse for the benefit of newspapers and radio stations in other African countries.

Although Radio Brazzaville never gained as great a popularity among DXers as its neighbor in Kinshasa, OTC, which was decidedly DX friendly, DXers enjoyed tuning

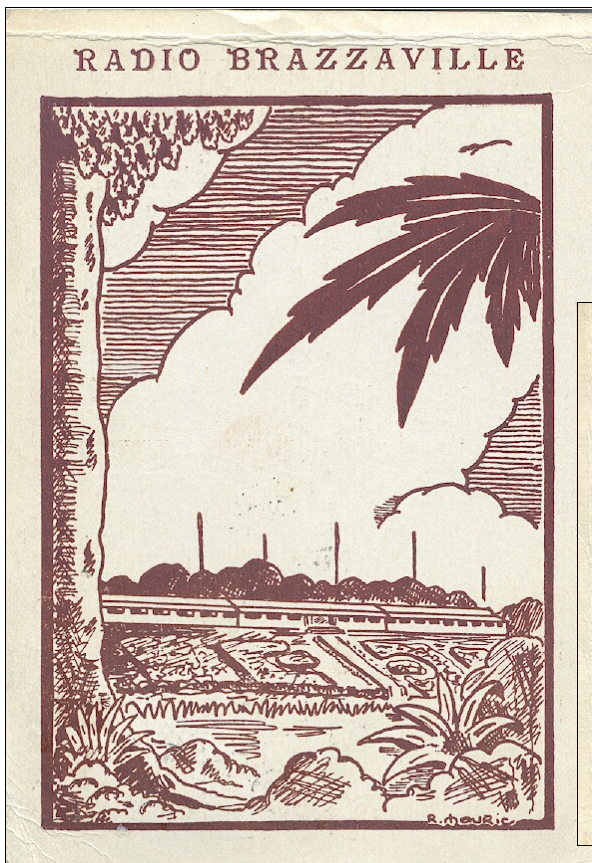
RADIO BRAZZAVILLE AND RADIO CLUB

to Radio Brazzaville, which included English in its lineup. And it was a reliable verifier. Jennings notes (p. 54): “Feedback from listeners proved to be generally positive, be it from metropolitan France, the U.S.A., and Canada, or even Invercargill in New Zealand, where one listener congratulated Radio Brazzaville for having reached the world’s southernmost city.” Now who might that have been?

It appears that the Radio Club broadcasts came to an end in January 1945, when its transmitters were handed over to the government. The August 1, 1945 edition of Broadcasting Stations of the World (believed to be the first issue), published by the U.S. Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Service (later the Foreign Broadcast Information Service), showed Radio Club still active on four frequencies—5858, 7035, 8500, and 9980 kHz. This information was probably outdated, but those were most likely the frequencies used by the station when it closed. Radio Brazzaville was shown on three channels—9440, 11970 and 15595 kHz.

Boilleau returned to France after the war and became involved in French overseas broadcasting. He returned to Gabon in 1949, and Brazzaville in 1950, eventually retiring to France. Radio Brazzaville was taken over by Radiodiffusion Française in 1946, which brought with it French government financial support. It remained a popular voice on shortwave. In 1960, the year when the constituent parts of F.E.A. gained full independence, Thompson and Adloff, in their book about F.E.A., observed that Radio Brazzaville was the main reason that Radiodiffusion Française “held fourth place among the world’s short-wave broadcasting services” (p. 316). A longstanding complaint among F.E.A. Africans was that they should have more say in Radio Brazzaville’s policies and that there should be more coverage of doings in F.E.A. This problem was dealt with somewhat by the enhancement of the by-then local Brazzaville station, Radio AEF (later Radio Inter-Equatorial).

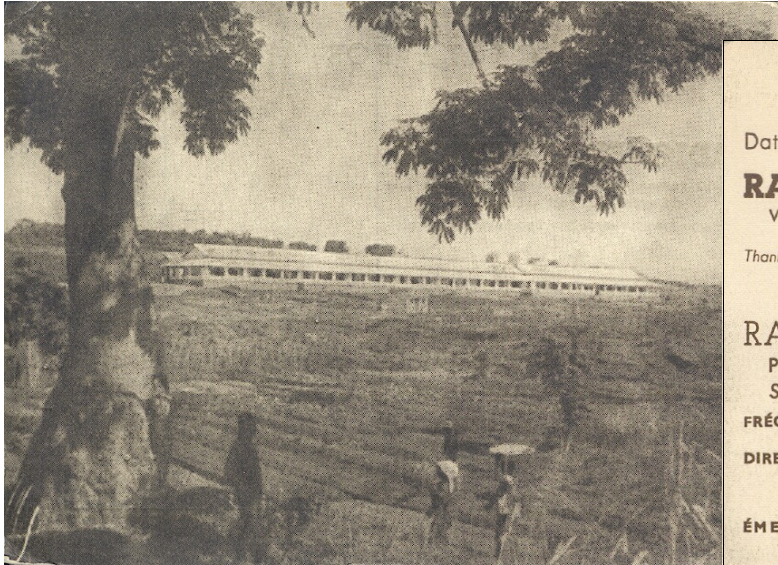
Radio Brazzaville continued under French control long after the French Congo’s independence in 1960. The foreign service was



**RADIO BRAZZAVILLE AND RADIO CLUB**

gradually phased out, and eliminated altogether in 1973 when the station passed to Congolese government control as Radiodiffusion-Télévision Congolaise. Brazzaville is still on shortwave today by way of Radio Congo.

Look on pg. 14 below for recordings of Radio Brazzaville.





## END NOTES

1. For a selection of first day covers commemorating the speech, go [here](#) and [here](#).
2. Two fairly well known “propaganda” movies of their time, *L’Amitie Noire* (1946, 17 min.) and *Autor de Brazzaville* (1943, 22 min.), dealt with native peoples in the colonial world of French Equatorial Africa. I have not found these films online, and so I have been unable to view the footage of Radio Brazzaville with which *L’Amitie Noire* is said to open. The films are described in depth in the Kim Sichel article (see below).

## RESOURCES

### BOOKS

Julien Herpers, *Charles de Gaulle and the “Forever Abandoned”: Conceptualizations of Empire and French Identity*, Dickinson College Honors Theses, 2019 (History). Paper 318.

Eric T. Jennings, *Free French Africa in World War II – The African Resistance* (Cambridge, U.K.: Cambridge University Press, 2015). In the course of his authorship,

## RADIO BRAZZAVILLE AND RADIO CLUB

Jennings traveled to both Brazzaville and Yaounde, and had extensive access to various French-language archives. A deeper history of Radio Brazzaville surely lies in these French-language resources.

Phyllis M. Martin, *Leisure and Society in Colonial Brazzaville* (Cambridge, U.K.: Cambridge University Press, 1995).

Virginia Thompson and Richard Adloff, *The Emerging States of French Equatorial Africa* (Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 1960), pp. 315-318.

Susan Travers, *Tomorrow to Be Brave* (New York, NY: The Free Press, 2000), pp. 48-60.

### ARTICLES

Betty Fellows, "From Jungle Drum to 50 KW," [\[RCA\] Broadcast News](#), No. 39, August 1944, pgs. 41.

Gordon Gaskill, "Voice of Victory," *The American Magazine*, December 1942, p. 35. Gaskill was an NBC war correspondent in Brazzaville.

Adrian M. Peterson, "Focus on Africa: BBC West Africa Relay Station in the Twin Congos," [Wavescan, No. N202](#), January 6, 2013.

Kim Sichel, "Germaine Krull and *L'Amitié Noire*—World War II and French Colonialist Film," in Eleanor M. Hight and Gary D. Sampson, *Colonialist Photography—Imagining Race and Place* (New York, NY: Routledge, 2002), pp. 257-280.

W. Norman Stevens, "[These You Can Hear](#)" (London, U.K.: Amalgamated Short Wave Press Ltd, undated [probably late 1940s]).

"Le Nouveau Poste de Radio-Brazzaville," *Les Cahiers Française* (Société des Éditions de la France Libre, London), No. 47, August 1943, pgs. 46-51.

"[Les Origines de Radio-Brazzaville](#)," interview of Pierre Bernard by Bruno Leroux & Oliver Delorme, *Espoir* (official publication of the Foundation and Institute Charles de Gaulle), No. 54, March 1986.

"The 50 SW," [\[RCA\] Broadcast News](#), No. 38, January 1944, pgs. 24-27.

### ONLINE

"RCA's Amazing AR-88 Series of Receivers—Part 2, The Triple Diversity Receivers," Radio Boulevard—Western Historic Radio Museum, <https://www.radioblvd.com/AR88part2.htm> (see also [Part 1](#))

Bibliothèque Nationale de France, <https://www.bnf.fr/fr>, France d'Abord-Brazzaville, <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/cb327775549/date.item>

## RADIO BRAZZAVILLE AND RADIO CLUB

Jean Boilleau, le général de Gaulle et Radio-Brazza,  
<http://www.souvenirfrancais-issy.com/2019/01/jean-boilleau-le-general-de-gaulle-et-radio-brazza.html>

Journal of Free France (excerpt), No. 44, January 1952: Géraud Jouve, Radio-Brazzaville I (Pg. 1–The Original Achievements of Free France/Sources; Pg. 2–Editorial/The Broadcast/The Show), February 17, 2019, Fondation de la France Libre, <https://www.france-libre.net/radio-brazzaville/>.

Journal of Free France (excerpt), No. 202, August-October 1973: Géraud Jouve, Radio-Brazzaville, May 20, 2019, Fondation de la France Libre, <https://www.france-libre.net/radio-brazzaville-2/>,

### RECORDINGS

Radio Brazzaville, 1940s or 1950s (Sweden Calling DXers recordings)  
[http://ontheshortwaves.com/Arne\\_Skoog/AFR/4-20\\_R\\_Brazzaville.mp3](http://ontheshortwaves.com/Arne_Skoog/AFR/4-20_R_Brazzaville.mp3)

Radio Brazzaville, 1958 (Mike Csontos)  
[http://ontheshortwaves.com/Recordings/R\\_Brazzaville-I-1958.mp3](http://ontheshortwaves.com/Recordings/R_Brazzaville-I-1958.mp3)

Radio Brazzaville, 1962 (Mike Csontos)  
[http://ontheshortwaves.com/Recordings/R\\_Brazzaville-II-1962.mp3](http://ontheshortwaves.com/Recordings/R_Brazzaville-II-1962.mp3)



Left: In 1944, de Gaulle convened the Brazzaville Conference on the future of French territories worldwide.

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