Radio Gambia,
Bathurst,
The Republic of the Gambia.

RG/06B/Vol.II/(120)

8th April 19 71

Dear Sir,

Thank you very much for your communication of 28th Feb. 1971 enquiring about Radio Gambia. I have pleasure in confirming ~~am unable to confirm~~ that the station heard was Radio Gambia.

Radio Gambia is a Government-owned broadcasting service, and is on the air from:-

6.30 a.m. - 8 a.m.
12.00 p.m. - 2 p.m. } Mondays - Fridays
5.00 p.m. - 11 p.m.

6.30 a.m. - 9 a.m.
12.00 p.m. - 2 p.m. } Saturdays
5.00 p.m. - 11 p.m.

9.00 a.m. - 2 p.m.
5.00 p.m. - 11 p.m. } Sundays

Most of the programmes are produced and recorded locally by Radio Gambia staff, although some use is made of recorded material supplied by the BBC and other organisations. Most of our programmes are in English, Wolloff or Mandinka, the langusges most widely spoken in The Gambia; we do however, broadcast in the other African languages spoken here, namely Fula, Sarahule and Jola.

The transmission of our programmes is carried out by Cable & Wireless Ltd., who use a Marconi HS-31 transmitter with a power of 3.1 KW and a vertical incident radiator orientated so that the maximum lobe is in a East-West direction. The frequency is 4820 Kc/s in the 60 metre band.

Radio Gambia started regular broadcasting on 1st May, 1962, and the aim has been to provide a service of broadcast information, education and entertainment; there are also a religious broadcasts by the Islamic religion and by three Christian denominations.

The Gambia, which attained Independence on 18th February, 1965, and became a republic on 24th April, 1970, is the closest English-speaking tropical country to Europe. There is a population of some 316,000 people (1963 census) about 28,000 live in and around the capital city, Bathurst. The rest of the people live in rural districts. The people of The Gambia are predominantly Muslim.

A copy of our programme schedule will be sent to you in due course.

Thanking you for your interest in Radio Gambia.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION & ~~BROADCASTING~~.

To:-

Mr. Gerry L. Dexter,
Rt. 1, Maple Road,
Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, 53147
U.S.A.