

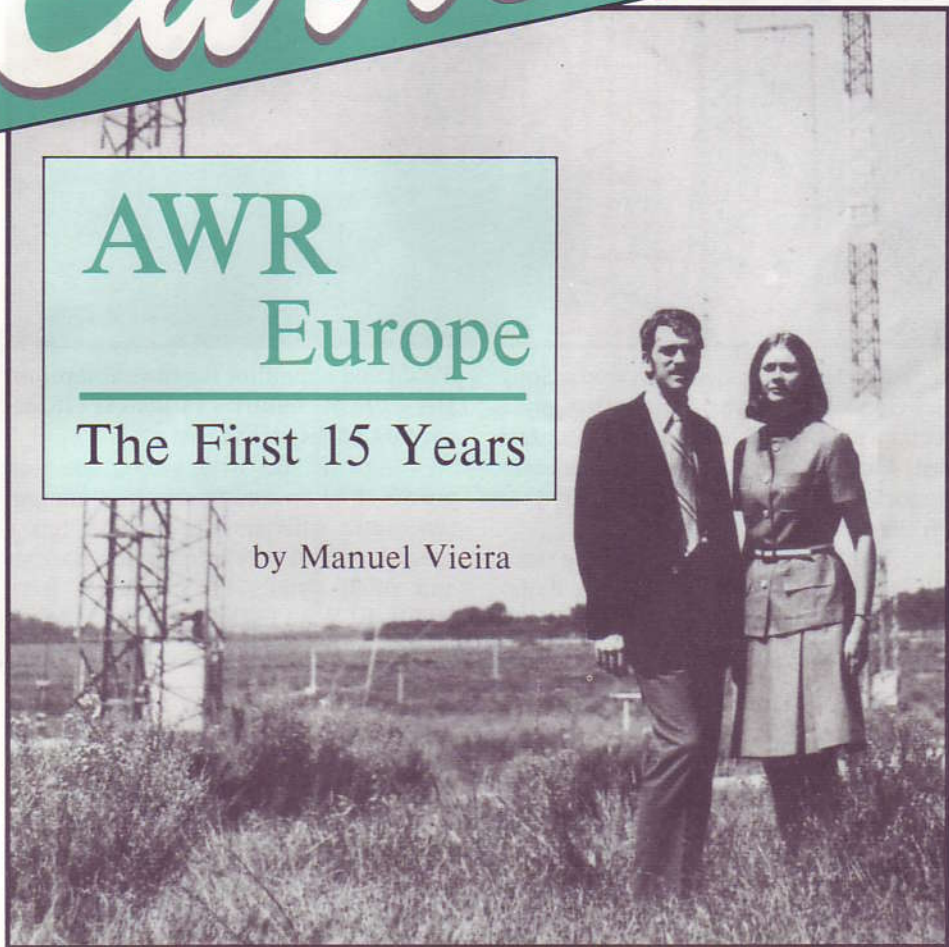
AWR

Current

AWR Europe

The First 15 Years

by Manuel Vieira



Allen and Andrea Steele pioneered AWR in 1971

When did you hear your first AWR broadcast? From what station? In the last 15 years Adventist World Radio-Europe has paired up with several stations: Radio Mediterranean, Radio Trans Europe, Radio Andorra International, Radio Luxemborg, and Radio Prague (just

kidding). And of course now we're heard everyday from our own transmitting site in Italy. But AWR has one partnership that was the birthplace of AWR-Europe and continues to endure to this day -- AWR over Radio Trans Europe, Portugal.

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October 1, 1971 marks the beginning of the international shortwave service to Europe from Adventist World Radio. With RTE's 250 km transmitters in Sines, Portugal, AWR started sharing with European listeners the hope of a Christ who cares in a real and personal way.

AWR quickly conquered the sympathy of listeners (DX'ers included) which "forced" the organization to add more languages and services.

Allen and Andrea Steele came from the United States to serve, respectively, as manager and secretary. Under Steele's management AWR, the idea, became AWR, the reality. He initiated services like the "World DX-News", which is still heard every Sunday. This was developed with the cooperation of some European DX Clubs, Radio Monitors International Asia, and numerous DX'ers. And we can't forget the help of Roy Baker, Gordon Darling, Clive Jenkins, Mike Barraclough, Barry Davis, and most recently, the superlative Finn Krone.

Working out of an office in Lisbon, the Steeles handled the many duties of operating the AWR organization. A large slice of the work went into processing the many tapes from the various production centers. The programs had to be timed to the second, announcements added and delivered to the relay station in Sesimbra (between Lisbon and Sines). While this may sound like bald tedium, it was not without its surprises. Once Allen left the tapes in his car during a Christmas holiday. But when he returned, the car was gone, and so were the tapes. (some Portugese car thief got the extra bonus of religious radio programs!) Steele had to spend Christmas Eve preparing new programs to replace the stolen ones.

With an increasing work load the



Ron Myers

Manager decided to hire an extra worker. Eventually Manuel Vieira was chosen. He came to AWR in 1975 with previous experience in journalism and military TV.

In that same year AWR became more European. Through the facilities of Radio Mediterranean in Cyclops-La Valletta, Malta AWR began broadcasts over the three 250 kw transmitters, adding more programs and raising to 20 the number of languages.

After five years with AWR the Steeles returned to the United States. Now they are again pioneers. Currently on the island of Guam they are overseeing the construction of the most powerful station AWR has ever owned. When AWR-Asia goes on the air this fall the Steeles will stay on and continue to nurture the new station in much the same way as in Lisbon.



Winnie Almeida

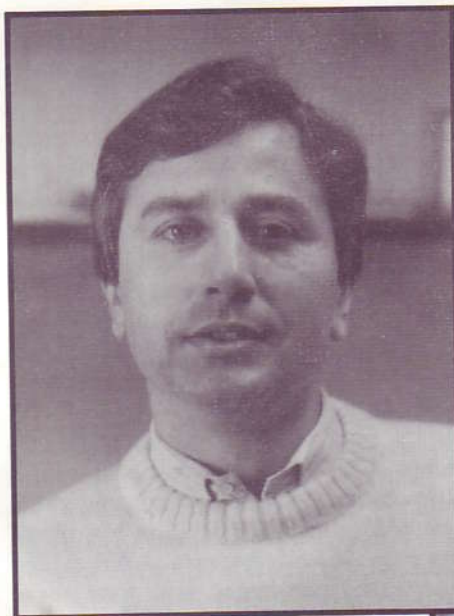
After the Steeles came Ron Myers, a man with radio in his blood. (He used to sleep with earphones on). When Ron arrived he sparked a small revolution by helping producers to build new production studios, and gave assistance in constructing local radio stations. At the time Italy, France and Scandinavia had opened their doors to private local radio. The DX program was caught up in this revolution too. A weekly phone call was added so listeners could have the latest news of the DX world.

It was a time of bursting growth. After studying dozens of possibilities Ron contacted Radio Andorra which resulted in another exciting shortwave marriage. From Andorra AWR added more new languages and four more broadcast hours daily.

Thus the AWR-Europe network was formed by Radio Trans Europe, Portugal; Radio Mediterranean, Malta; and Radio Andorra International. For limited periods of transmission time AWR was also heard over Radio Luxembourg.

To help carry the mounting workload, AWR began recruiting "student missionaries" (Seventh-day Adventist young people who volunteer for one year). Victor Hulbert, the first SM, was stationed at Lisbon and there took his first steps in the radio business. There he produced a one-hour program daily for broadcast over Radio Andorra. This experience has apparently proved addictive for Victor as he seems unable to bring himself to stop. His voice is still heard on programs broadcast weekly from AWR facilities in Sines, Portugal and Forli, Italy.

After Victor, AWR has seen a new SM every year: sister and brother Alison and Bernie Holford, Ray Allen and Craig Papaioanou. (Russell Bryan and Andy



Manuel Vieira

Demsky have served in Forlì).

By this time Winnie Almeida was invited to cooperate with and in the weekly DX-program. Winnie joined AWR with an extensive radio association with Radio Portugal, where she continues to produce DX and other programs. Winnie is a familiar and popular voice, heard weekly on AWR's World DX-News at 0800-0830 hours UTC on 9670 kHz.

After four years Ron Myers left AWR-Europe to go into private business. Now he's operating two FM stations, one in France, the other in Italy. He is interim manager for an FM station also in Italy, radio KJOI in Rome, and there have been rumors about a TV station in the Italian Riviera. The man never stops.

Mike Wiist arrived in Lisbon as the new manager, with almost ten years of experience in radio. Considering Lisbon too far from the production centers, Mike moved the AWR-Europe headquarters to Darmstadt, West Germany.

In Lisbon, Manuel Vieira stayed

on to run the office and to serve as a contact between the station, the manager and producers.

Because of technical and political problems AWR became disassociated with Radio Mediterranean and Radio Andorra, thus reducing AWR-Europe to the original RTE partnership. These cuts were the beginning of the AWR site in



Rui Dias

Forlì. After months of searching, a site overlooking Forlì was selected. It sits on a hill half way between Bologna and the Republic of San Marino.

To assist in the construction Manuel Vieira and family moved to Forlì, leaving Rui Dias with the responsibilities in Lisbon (and Winnie with the DX-program).

In August, 1985 Mike Wiist was replaced by Greg Hodgson who transferred the headquarters from Darmstadt to Forlì to be nearer AWR-Europe's first owned transmitter site.

After many years, many different people, many good experiences (and some not so good) AWR continues its work over Radio Trans Europe in Portugal. Many things over time have changed, but one thing remains the same: We continue to offer Europe the hope and the love of this world's greatest Teacher and Friend, Jesus Christ.

June
July

schedule

UTC	Language	Frequency	Meter	IP*	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
03,00 - 03,30	Russian	6215	49	I	X						X
03,30 - 04,00	Hungarian	6215	49	I	X						X
04,00 - 04,30	Rumanian	6215	49	I	X						X
04,30 - 04,45	French	6215	49	I	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
04,45 - 05,00	Arabic	6215	49	I	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
05,00 - 06,00	German	6215	49	I	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
05,00 - 05,30	Russian	9670	31	P	X						
05,30 - 06,00	Ukrainian	9670	31	P	X						
06,00 - 06,30	Polish	9670	31	P	X						
06,00 - 06,30	English	6215	49	I	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
06,30 - 07,00	Rumanian	9670	31	P	X						
06,30 - 07,00	Serbian	6215	49	I							X
06,30 - 07,00	Russian	6215	49	I						X	
06,30 - 07,00	Hungarian	6215	49	I				X			
06,30 - 07,00	Rumanian	6215	49	I			X				
06,30 - 06,45	Macedonian	6215	49	I		X	X				
06,45 - 07,00	Albanian	6215	49	I		X	X				
06,30 - 06,45	Macedonian	6215	49	I	X						
06,45 - 07,00	Albanian	6215	49	I	X						
07,00 - 07,30	Polish	6215	49	I	X						X
07,00 - 07,30	Hungarian	9670	31	P	X						
07,00 - 07,30	Slovenian	9605	31	P	X						
07,30 - 08,00	Slovenian	6215	49	I	X						X
07,30 - 08,00	German	9670	31	P	X						
07,30 - 08,00	Serbian	9605	31	P	X						
08,00 - 08,30	Croatian	9605	31	P	X						
08,00 - 08,30	Croatian	6215	49	I	X						X
08,00 - 08,30	English-DX	9670	31	P	X						
08,30 - 09,00	English	9670	31	P	X						
08,30 - 09,00	Arabic	9605	31	P	X						
08,30 - 08,45	French	6215	49	I	X						X
08,45 - 09,00	Arabic	6215	49	I	X						X
09,00 - 09,30	Polish	6215	49	I	X						X
09,00 - 09,30	English	9670	31	P	X						
09,00 - 09,15	Macedonian	9605	31	P	X						
09,15 - 09,30	Albanian	9605	31	P	X						
09,30 - 10,00	Arabic	9670	31	P	X						
15,00 - 15,30	Russian	6215	49	I	X						
15,30 - 16,00	Hungarian	6215	49	I	X						
16,00 - 16,30	Rumanian	6215	49	I	X						
16,15 - 16,45	Ukrainian	9670	31	P		X					
16,15 - 16,45	Russian	9670	31	P			X				
16,15 - 16,45	Polish	9670	31	P						X	
16,30 - 16,45	French	6215	49	I	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
16,45 - 17,00	Arabic	6215	49	I	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
17,00 - 18,00	German	6215	49	I	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
18,00 - 18,30	English	6215	49	I	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
18,30 - 19,00	Rumanian	6215	49	I	X			X			
18,30 - 19,45	Macedonian	6215	49	I		X	X				
18,45 - 19,00	Albanian	6215	49	I		X	X				
18,30 - 19,00	Hungarian	6214	49	I					X		
18,30 - 19,00	Russian	6215	49	I						X	
18,30 - 19,00	Ukrainian	6215	49	I							X
19,00 - 19,30	Italian	6215	49	I	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

* Broadcast from Italy or Portugal

Frequency 7300 kHz will be used as an alternate should the frequency 6215 kHz become unusable.