

VIENNA - 30 APRIL 1946 - THIS IS RADAMAKER BRINGING YOU THE LATEST NEWS FROM THE NEWS ROOM OF THE BLUE DANUBE NETWORK STATION WOFA.

WELL, IF I SAID THAT I WAS LIVING LIKE A MILLIONAIRE BEFORE THEN I AM LIVING ON ABOUT THE LEVEL OF A BILLIONAIRE NOW. THE RADIO STATION IS ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF VIENNA ON A HILL WHICH OVER-LOOKS THE CITY. I WISH YOU COULD SEE THE PLACE, IT IS ABOUT ON A CLASS WITH HITLERS HOME AT THE BERCHTESGADEN. IT IS ABOUT THE MOST WONDERFUL SET-UP YOU COULD IMMAGINE. THERE IS A BEAUTIFUL GARDEN AND EVERYTHING IS COMPLETELY MODERN. THERE IS A RECORD LIBRARY WHICH HAS OVER TWO THOUSAND RECORDINGS - HERE THE ANNOUNCERS SPEND A GREAT DEAL OF THEIR TIME COMPOSING PROGRAMS (WE BROADCAST FROM 7:00 AM TILL 11:30 PM) THERE IS A CONTROL ROOM, MAIN BROADCASTING STUDIO, ANOTHER SMALL STUDIO, AND THE NEWS ROOM. THE LATTER IS WHERE I AM AT THE PRESENT TIME. THERE ARE ONLY THREE MEN ON THE NEWS EDITORS STAFF, INCLUDING MYSELF - ONE CIVILIAN AND TWO GI'S; THE CIVILIAN IS MY BOSS. HE WAS PUBLICITY WRITER FOR THE GOODRICH RUBBER COMPANY IN THE STATES AND SPENT FOUR YEARS IN THE ARMY WORKING FOR THE PROPAGANDA SERVICE. HIS NAME IS SASTANOVICH, HE HAS WRITTEN TWO BOOKS AND IS CONSIDERED AN EXPERT ON THE BALKANS. THE OTHER FELLOWS NAME IS WANDEL - I DON'T NO MUCH ABOUT HIM BUT HE WAS IN THE INFANTRY BEFORE HE CAME HERE. THERE ARE TWO OFFICERS, BOTH SWELL FELLOWS, THIRTEEN ENLISTED MEN, AND EIGHT CIVILIANS HERE AND IT IS JUST LIKE A FAMILY. THEY ARE REALLY A NICE BUNCH OF FELLOWS.

WE HAVE ALL THE ENTERTAINMENT WE WANT HERE FROM THE LATEST PRIVATE MOVIES TO THE CLUBS JUST A LITTLE RIDE INTO VIENNA. I AM IN A ROOM NOW WHICH HAS A BALCONY AND A BEAUTIFUL VIEW OVER LOOKING VIENNA. I THINK THAT I HAVE REACHED THE ULTIMATE IN LIVING CONDITIONS NOW; IT CAN'T GET ANY BETTER. THIS STATION BROADCASTS ALL OVER AUSTRIA AND REACHES GERMANY SWITZERLAND, AND ITALY. WE HAVE A TELETYPE BRINGING US NEWS FROM UP, INS, PARIS, AND THE ARMY INFORMATION SERVICE.



AT THE PRESENT WE ARE WORKING SEVEN DAYS A WEEKS AND HAVE FIVE NEWS CASTS A DAY TO PUT - THREE FIVE MINUTE CASTS AND TWO OF L5 MINUTES. WE ARE GOING TO ARRANGE THINGS SO THAT EACH OF US HAS A DAY OFF, SO IT IS GOING TO BE PERFECT. WE DON'T WORK TOO HARD AS IT ONLY TAKES ABOUT AN HOUR TO COMPILE A NEWS CAST AND WE HAVE PLENTY OF FREE TIME DURING THE DAY.

THE LILACS ARE ALL IN BLOOM HERE AND IT IS JUST AS THOUGH THE AIR WERE PERFUMED. THE WEATHER COULDN'T BE BETTER. WE ARE EATING NOON AND EVENING CHOW OUT DOORS ON THE VERANDA.

THE ONLY THING THAT BOTHERS ME IS THAT ALL OF YOU CAN'T BE HERE WITH ME.

THE MEALS, BY THE WAY ARE THE BEST I HAVE HAD IN THE ARMY. THE LIEUTENANT RUNS THE PLACE JUST LIKE A CIVILIAN OUTFIT AND THERE IS NO "SIRING", SALUTING, STANDING FORMATION, OR ANYTHING AND YOU CAN DRESS ANYWAY YOU LIKE, FROM A BATHING SUIT ON UP. AS YOU MAY HAVE SEEN BY THE NEWSPAPERS, GEN. MCNARNEY IS CRACKING DOWN OVER HERE ON THE DISCIPLINE AND THIS IS ABOUT THE ONLY PLACE THAT WILL NOT BE AFFECTED, BY ALL THE NEW "CHICKEN".

~~TOMMO~~ TOMORROW IS MAY DAY AND THE RUSSIANS ARE GOING TO HAVE A PARADE AND MAY DAY DEMONSTRATION IN VIENNA, SO MAYBE I WILL HAVE A NICE RIOT OR SOMETHING TO BROADCAST. THIS STATION IS ~~STRICTLY~~ STRICKLY PRO-RUSSIAN THOUGH, AND PRO-ALLIES AS AM I. I LEARNED A HELL OF A LOT WORKING IN HEADQUARTERS AND NOW I AM IN A POSITION TO COUNTERACT SOME OF THE STUPIDITY THAT I DISCOVERED IN THE MILITARY STAFF. I WISH PEOPLE IN THE STATES WOULD STOP TALKING ABOUT A WAR WITH RUSSIA, MAYBE IF THEY WERE IN A POSITION WHERE ALL THEY HAD TO DO IS SHOOT ACROSS THE STREET AT THEM THEY WOULD NOT BE SO FREE TO TALK.

WELL, I AM GETTING SERIOUS AGAIN AND THIS REALLY ISN'T A SERIOUS BUNCH OF FELLOWS AROUND HERE - HONESTLY I LAUGH SO MUCH AT THE SUPPER TABLE I CAN'T HARDLY EAT.

LOVE,

