

Besides news the service carries the weather report and the latest exchange rate of East to West marks.

The telephone news is exchanged five times daily at:

0515
0900
1400
1715
2230

The Voice of America

The station carries three programs of the Voice of America's German Service designed specially for Berlin and the Soviet Zone. The first, at 0645 hours daily except Sunday, is a 15-minute broadcast for the morning audience. The second program, a 30-minute broadcast, is heard at 1900 hours daily. The third program, of 15 minutes duration, is broadcast at 2245, Monday through Friday, Saturday night at 0010 and Sunday night at 0010 hours.

The popularity of these programs is shown in the heavy volume of German listener mail sent direct to the Voice's New York headquarters or forwarded through RIAS.

Special Broadcasts for the Soviet Zone

These special programs for the Soviet Zone are presented daily in various forms in 10-minute spots for segments of the radio audience and a 15-minute show broadcast at evening peak listening time for the mass audience.

These shows have been extremely useful in maintaining the morale of the people in the Soviet Zone, providing them with practical advice on how to deal with oppressive acts and decrees and unmasking Soviet agents who seek to achieve by terror what the system can never hope to accomplish by persuasion.

Following is the schedule of these special Soviet Zone shows:

0535 - 0545 For workers
0640 - 0645 Information from the Soviet Zone
0720 - 0730 For white collar workers
(Alternating daily in the above spots is a review of West German and foreign press entitled "Glance at the Free Press")

1220 - 1230 For farmers
1340 - 1350 For housewives
1945 - 2000 Main Sovzone program of universal
interest
0110 - 0120 Repeat of highlights of above
0210 - 0220 Repeat of highlights of above

(The major items of the Soviet Zone shows and other political broadcasts of the preceding night are repeated in a special transmission for rebroadcast by the Hof transmitter daily from 0845 to 1000 hours to compensate for that transmitter's being off the air during the evening.)

On Sundays the only Soviet Zone show is the half-hour broadcast, "Sunday Morning on the Farm," at 0700.

RIAS Commentaries

The regular daily news commentary is carried at 1940 hours. Staff commentators include Heinz Frentzel, specialist in foreign affairs, and Egon Bahr, RIAS's chief correspondent in Bonn.

Regular guest commentators include Helmut Meyer-Dietrich, assistant editor of "Die Morgenpost"; Anton Schöpke, Director of the Borsig works at Berlin-Tegel, who does the "Current Economics Report" every Saturday at 1350 hours; Wilhelm Gries of "Der Tag"; and Hans Herz, who frequently contributes talks on Berlin topics.

Gunter Birkenfeld's cultural-political talks are given every Saturday at 1640 hours.

Alfred Boerner's Commentaries

The weekly commentaries of Alfred Boerner, spokesman for the Office of the US High Commissioner for Germany, are broadcast Tuesday at 2001 hours.

"Zeit im Funk"

A 30-minute program of current events, broadcast daily except Sunday at 1830. It normally offers on-the-spot reports and interviews from Berlin and the Federal Republic, including material from the station's Bonn bureau. It also frequently offers first-hand reports on Soviet Sector and Soviet Zone affairs, although RIAS reporters cannot enter those areas. Ranging through politics, economics, musical and theatrical