

American Forces Network

**American Forces Network** (or **AFN** ) is the brand name used by the United States Armed Forces Radio and Television Service (AFRTS) for its entertainment and command internal information networks worldwide.

### **Organization**

American Forces Network (AFN) is the operational arm of the Armed Forces Radio and Television Service (AFRTS), an agency of the American Forces Information Service (AFIS), and is under the operational control of the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs (OASD-PA). Editorial control is by the Department of Defense, whereas the British Forces Broadcasting Service (BFBS) for example is independent of the Ministry of Defence and the British armed forces.

This broadcasting service employs primarily military broadcasters, but there are some civilians employed as engineers or operations personnel. Service personnel hold a broadcasting occupational specialties for their military branch. Since 1991, all of AFN's military personnel receive primary training at the Defense Information School (DINFOS) at Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. Prior to 1991, DINFOS was located at Fort Benjamin Harrison in Indianapolis, Indiana. In 1991, Fort Benjamin Harrison was largely closed as a function of the 1991 Base Closure and Realignment Commission. Additional/Advanced training is also available at Fort George G. Meade. Some of AFN's broadcasters have previous commercial broadcasting experience prior to enlisting in the military, but it is not a prerequisite for enlistment in the military as a broadcaster. During their training, the broadcasters are taught to use state-of-the-art audio and visual editing equipment similar to their civilian counterparts.

The current head of AFN is Allison Barber.

### **History of Armed Forces Network**

The Armed Forces Network can trace its origins back to 1942, when the War Department established the Armed Forces Radio Service (AFRS). A television service was first introduced in 1954 with a "pilot" station at Limestone AFB, Maine and AFRS became the Armed Forces Radio and Television Service (AFRTS). All of the Armed Forces broadcasting affiliates worldwide merged under the AFN banner on 1 January 1998.

## **The Origins of AFN**

In the years just preceding World War II there were several radio stations based in American military bases, but none were officially recognized until 1942. The success of these individual radio stations helped pave the way for the AFN. As such, there was no single station that could be called the "first" to sign on as an AFN station. About two months before formal establishment of AFN, however, a station called "PCAN" began regular broadcast information service in the Panama Canal Zone, primarily for troops on jungle bivouac. The station, located at Fort Clayton, was later to become part of AFRS, first simply as "Armed Forces Network" located at Albrook Field.

## **World War II**

The U.S. Army began broadcasting from London during World War II, using equipment and studio facilities borrowed from the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC).

The first transmission to U.S. troops began at 5:45 p.m. on July 4, 1943 and included less than five hours of recorded shows, a BBC news and sports broadcast. That day, Corporal Syl Binkin became the first U.S. Military broadcaster heard over the air. The signal was sent from London via telephone lines to five regional transmitters to reach U.S. troops in the United Kingdom as they made preparations for the inevitable invasion of Nazi-occupied Europe.

Fearing competition for civilian audiences the BBC initially tried to impose restrictions on AFN broadcasts within Britain (transmissions were only allowed from American Bases outside London and were limited to 50 watts of transmission power) and a minimum quota of British produced programming had to be carried. Nevertheless AFN programmes were widely enjoyed by the British civilian listeners who could receive them and once AFN operations transferred to continental Europe (shortly after D-day) AFN were able to broadcast

with little restriction with programmes available to civilian audiences across most of Europe (including Britain) after dark.

As D-Day approached, the network joined with the BBC and the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation to develop programs especially for the Allied Expeditionary Forces. Mobile stations, complete with personnel, broadcasting equipment, and a record library were deployed to broadcast music and news to troops in the field. The mobile stations reported on front line activities and fed the news reports back to studio locations in London.

Although the network's administrative headquarters remained in London, its operational headquarters soon moved to AFN Paris.

As Allied forces continued to push German soldiers back into their homeland, AFN moved east as well. The liberation of most of Western Europe saw AFN stations serving the forces liberating Biarritz, Cannes, Le Havre, Marseille, Nice, Paris, and Reims.

### **Post war contraction and expansion**

On December 31, 1945, AFN London signed off the air, and in 1948 AFN closed all its stations in France. This started the cycle of AFN stations where they would be built up during wartime then torn down or moved after the war was over. Of the 300 stations in operation worldwide in 1945, only 60 remained in 1949.

### **After World War II**

AFN continued its mission of connecting troops with home and boosting morale in both the Vietnam and Korean conflicts.

### **Europe**

A large number of AFN stations continued broadcasting from American bases in Europe (particularly Germany) after World War II. (Eight remain on-air today. See [American\\_Forces\\_Network#Frequenzen\\_in\\_Deutschland\\_und\\_Benelu](#) x AFN Europe Frequencies). During the 1950s and 60's civilian audiences in Europe widely listened to AFN, as American music was very popular but rarely played on most European broadcasting stations (which at the time were largely state operated). This was particularly the case in Communist bloc countries, where (despite the language barrier) it was seen as an alternative way of maintaining

contact with the west, and had the added bonus of not being subjected to radio jamming unlike such stations as Radio Free Europe which carried News in Eastern European languages.

## **Korean War**

When war broke out in Korea, Army broadcasters set up in Seoul, in the Banto Hotel (the old American Embassy Hotel). When the Chinese entered Seoul in December, 1950, the crew moved to a mobile unit that was just completed and retreated to Daegu, South Korea. Due to the large number of American troops in Korea, a number of stations were also started. Mobile units followed combat units to provide news and entertainment on the radio. By the time the 1953 armistice was signed, these mobile units became buildings with transmitters, and a network, American Forces Korea Network, was born.

Canadian and American television personality Jim Perry began his broadcasting career fresh out of high school with the Armed Forces Korea Network, under his birthname of Jim Dooley, spending one year in Korea before moving on to the University of Pennsylvania to advance his education.

## **Iran**

An AFRTS radio station, and later a television station, became operational in Tehran in the late 1950s. The office and the equipment were stationed in Saltanat-abad area of Tehran. Its listeners (and viewers) were American military personnel stationed in Iran as part of ARMISH and MAAG programs, as well as non-military Iranians and foreigners residing in Iran. The AFRTS ceased to operate on the eve of the Iran Revolution of 1979.

## **Vietnam War**

As the American military presence in Vietnam increased, AFRTS opened radio and later television stations there. During the Vietnam War, the first broadcasts were beamed to the ground from fully equipped flying studios operated by the United States Navy.

AFRTS stations in Vietnam were initially known by the name "AFRS" (Armed Forces Radio Saigon), but as the number of stations quickly expanded throughout South Vietnam became known as "AFVN" (American Forces Vietnam Network) and had several stations

including Nha Trang, Pleiku, Da Nang, with the headquarters station in Saigon.

In Vietnam, AFVN had a number of war related casualties. The station staff at Hue had been captured and spent time as prisoners of war. At the height of American involvement in the war, Armed Forces Vietnam Network served over 500,000 fighting men and women at one time. AFVN developed a program along the lines of "G.I. Jive" from World War II. A number of local disc jockeys helped make hour-long music programs for broadcast. Perhaps the best known program became the morning "Dawn Buster" program, (the brainchild of Chief Petty Officer Bryant Arbuckle in 1962) thanks to the popularity of the sign-on slogan "Gooooood Morning, Vietnam" (which was initiated by Adrian Cronauer and later became the basis for the film *Good Morning Vietnam* starring Robin Williams). Among the notable people who were AFVN disc jockeys were Cronauer and Pat Sajak. Beginning in 1971 AFVN began to close some stations in Vietnam. The last station to close was in Saigon in 1973.

In Thailand, the Department of Defense began the planning for the Armed Forces Thailand Network in 1964 with Project Lamplighter. By late 1966, implementation of the network began by the US Air Force with stations on the air at Korat, U-Tapao, Ubon, Udon, Tahkli, and Nakhon Phanom (NKP). In addition, there were more than 20 satellite stations that rebroadcast one or more of the primary stations and that included one or more clandestine locations in Laos.

In April, 1970, a battle-damaged F-4 fighter-bomber, returning from a reconnaissance mission to survey a road being built by the Chinese toward Burma in northwest Laos, crashed into the AFTN station, killing nine of the Air Force broadcasters. This incident was the single worst catastrophe in the history of military broadcasting.

AFTN became the American Forces Thailand Network in the summer of 1969, and continued operations until the spring of 1976 when the remaining US troops in Thailand were withdrawn at the request of the Thai government. More than 600 broadcasters from the Air Force, Navy, and Army had served during the ten years that AFTN operated.

The history of AFTN can be found at the [www.aftn.net](http://www.aftn.net) web site along with a memorial to the nine broadcasters who gave their lives in the service of their country.

## **Central America**

Radio, and later television, to U.S. troops stationed in the Panama Canal Zone was provided initially by Armed Forces Radio (AFN) at Albrook Field and later as the Caribbean Forces Network at Fort Clayton with translators located on the Atlantic side of the Canal Zone. In the early 1960s with reorganization of the command located in the Canal Zone, CFN became the Southern Command Network (SCN). SCN also broadcasted to U.S. troops stationed in Honduras starting in 1987. SCN discontinued broadcasting in 1999 just before the turnover of the Canal Zone to the Republic of Panama when U.S. troops were removed from that country pursuant to the Torrijos-Carter Treaties.

### **Shortwave Radio**

AFRTS has shifted its emphasis to relaying its broadcasts by satellite; however, there are still a number of single sideband shortwave radio relay sites around the world to provide service to ships, including Diego Garcia, Guam, Sigonella in Italy, Puerto Rico, Hawaii, and others.

### **AFN Television Services**

#### **European operations**

Until the early 1970s, U.S. military television service was provided in Central Europe by Air Force Television at Ramstein Air Base, Germany. In the early 1970s, AFN assumed this responsibility for the Armed Forces Radio and Television Service (AFRTS). On October 28, 1976, AFN television moved from AFTV's old black and white studios at Ramstein to the network's new color television studios in Frankfurt. In the 1980s the network added affiliates with studio capabilities in Würzburg, Germany, and Soesterberg, the Netherlands. In 2004, AFN Europe headquarters relocated to Coleman Barracks in Mannheim, Germany.

#### **Pacific operations**

Over-the-air TV for U.S. Forces in the Pacific is currently provided by AFN-Korea, AFN-Japan and AFN-Kwajalein. All local operations merged under the AFN banner effective January 1, 1998.

#### **Korea**

AFN-Korea, formerly American Forces Korea Network (AFKN), is the largest of AFN's Pacific TV operations. AFKN began TV operations on September 15, 1957, and consists of an originating studio at Yongsan Garrison, Seoul and six relay transmitters throughout the peninsula. AFKN's first live television newscast aired on January 4, 1959. Until December 2007, the channel was widely available to non-military audiences on cable television, but following complaints from US companies trying to sell programs in South Korea, USFK requested that the Korean Broadcasting Commission direct the removal of Pacific Prime from the Korean cable lineups. ■

## **Japan**

AFN-Japan, formerly the Far East Network (FEN), has one full-power VHF terrestrial TV outlet. Located on Okinawa atop the Rycom Plaza Housing area in the central part of the island, AFN-Okinawa's (U.S. channel 8) TV signal serves Marines, Airmen, Sailors, Soldiers, and their families stationed on-island. AFN-Japan also operates three low-power UHF terrestrial transmitters at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Commander U.S Fleet Activities Sasebo, and Misawa Air Base. TV viewers on military bases in the Tokyo and Kanto Plain area of Japan can view AFN via contractor-operated base cable TV services, or through AFN Direct-To-Home (DTH) dishes if they reside off-base.

AFN-Japan's radio services consist of AM and FM stereo operations at Yokota Air Base (810 AM & cable FM), MCAS Iwakuni (1575 AM), FLTACTS Sasebo (1575 AM), Okinawa (89.1 FM & 648 AM) and Misawa Air Base (1575 AM).

## **Kwajalein Atoll**

AFN-Kwajalein at the Reagan Missile Test Range on Kwajalein Atoll is the only civilian-run affiliate in AFN, broadcasting on U.S. channel 13 for military personnel and civilian contractor employees and their families. AFN-Kwajalein's signal is beamed by microwave to the nearby atoll of Roi Namur and rebroadcast on channel 8.

With the availability of AFN's DTH service, terrestrial over-the-air TV broadcasts at all AFN outlets are slated for deactivation in the near future.

## **Gulf War**

In January 1991, the network dispatched news teams and technicians to Kuwait and Saudi Arabia for Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. These broadcasters reported to families of soldiers deployed from Europe, and staffed a number of the U.S. radio stations making up the Armed Forces Desert Network. The first song on the air was Rock the Casbah by The Clash.

### **Operation Iraqi Freedom**

Broadcasting *"from a secret location"* in Iraq, radio's *"most heavily armed staff"* continues the AFN tradition of going where the troops go with AFN-Iraq, Freedom Radio. AFN-Iraq began broadcasting in December of 2003 on the FM band shortly after the fall of Saddam. The first song on the air was *Freedom* by Paul McCartney. Within a short period of time, Freedom Radio was broadcasting on multiple FM channels from as far south as Basra to as far north as Mosul.

AFN-Iraq, Freedom Radio began as a joint effort between the Air Force, the Marines, and the Army. The very first unit to operate the station was the 222nd Broadcast Operations Detachment, an Army Reserve unit out of Southern California. *"Always There and On The Air"* was the phrase that started it all, even though there were only 8 hours of live radio to kick things off.

After an introduction from Lt. Gen. Ricardo Sanchez, the Commander of Coalition Ground Forces in Iraq, Air Force Master Sergeant Erik Brazones was the first DJ on the air. When the 222nd BOD took the reins of the radio operations, the first two regular radio shows were "Niki Cage in the morning" and "Abbey in the Afternoon".

### **Operation Enduring Freedom**

AFN Afghanistan operates out of a building on Bagram Air Base. Its radio frequency throughout Afghanistan is 94.1 and 91.5 in Manas and is called Freedom Radio. Its first radio transmission was at 0630 on Friday, 21 July 2006. Beyond radio AFN Afghanistan also does television news. It produces a daily 5 minute newscast which is called Freedom Watch Afghanistan and airs on the Pentagon Channel. All of its products can be seen on its website which launched on June 4th 2008.

The station is typically staffed with Air Force broadcasters but also slots Army and Marine broadcasters as well. The print Magazine, called Freedom Watch Magazine, are on the same floor as the



broadcast operations. For support there is usually a 4 man team of engineers to handle all transmission, decoder, and satellite issues.

### **Operations in Western Europe**

AFN in Germany and SEB (Southern European Broadcasting) in Italy provided broadcasting to U.S. troops in Western Europe throughout the Cold War. The U.S. defense drawdown began in earnest after the Gulf War, and impacted AFN stations across Europe, as many stations were consolidated or deactivated with the closing of bases. In Europe, AFN is still on the air from Tuzla, Bosnia and Taszár, Hungary to inform and entertain U.S. forces.

AFN went on the air May 29 with service at the Tirana airport in Albania with satellite decoders and large screen televisions placed in high traffic areas. At the same time, the AFN also advanced into the Yugoslav province of Kosovo along with NATO.

AFN viewers abroad witnessed live television coverage of the terrorist attacks on The Pentagon and World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.

During military operations in Afghanistan and AFN-Iraq provided non-stop coverage of the campaigns. AFN broadcast personnel from Europe deployed with the troops to cover events. Today AFN has a staffed affiliate in Iraq, AFN- Baghdad (launched 2003).

Wherever large numbers of US troops are deployed, the AFN sets up operation, providing news and entertainment from home. Today AFN has several satellites and uses advanced digital compression technology to broadcast TV and radio to 177 countries and territories, as well as on board U.S. Navy vessels.

### **Media Services**

AFN's television service is broadcast in standard North American NTSC format of 525 lines. All programming delivered by satellite is PowerVu encrypted DVB. While programming is provided to AFN by major American TV networks and program syndicators at little to no-cost, for copyright and licensing reasons it is intended solely for U.S. Forces personnel, authorized Department of Defense civilian employees, State Department diplomatic personnel, and their families overseas.

AFN-TV is available to authorized viewers by " Direct-To-Home" (DTH) service; with set-top decoders purchased or leased through military exchanges (similar to a membership store), licensed/contracted commercial cable operators, purchased used from other military members (the cheapest option) or terrestrial signal. With the advent of DTH service, AFN plans on phasing-out terrestrial TV broadcasts over the next few years.

### **AFN programming**

While the audience tunes-in to AFN to watch their favorite shows or listen to the latest Stateside hits, entertainment is the "candy coating" used to attract the military viewer/listener; as AFN's primary mission is to provide access for local command information (CI) programs. Spots run in the place of commercials in breaks run the gamut from reminding servicemembers to register to vote, promotions of local command-sponsored recreation events, off-duty educational programs, health and wellness tips, and what's playing at local base movie theaters.

AFN inserts public service announcements, educational featurettes (as in presenting an American state capital), and localized messages from senior leadership in place of normal commercials. Many service members welcome this approach, while others find it troublesome, especially during the airing of the Super Bowl.

The network is allowed to broadcast commercial movie promotion trailers provided by the Army & Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) and the Navy Motion Picture Service (NMPS) to promote the latest film releases in base theaters worldwide. They are the only true "commercials" authorized for broadcast.

### **Radio**

AFN also offers a variety of heavily censored radio programming over its various frequencies throughout the world. Not only is there local programming (with sailors and soldiers as disc jockeys), but there is satellite programming, as well. Music programming spans Rock, Oldies, R&B and country music. Ryan Seacrest *AT 40* and the *American Country Countdown* with Kix Brooks are broadcast weekly over AFN Radio. In addition to music, AFN broadcasts syndicated talk radio programs such as *Car Talk*, *Kim Komando*, Rush Limbaugh, *The Tom Joyner Morning Show*, *The Motley Fool Radio Show*, *A Prairie Home Companion*, *Dr. Laura*, *Sports Overnight America*, and other

programs from National Public Radio and other sources. Letters From War by Mark Schultz was the #1 song on AFN in 2004.

On December 5, 2005, liberal/progressive Ed Schultz from Jones Radio Network and conservative talk show host Sean Hannity were added to the radio programs provided by the AFN Broadcast Center to its affiliate stations.

On April 24, 2006, AFN Europe launched AFN The Eagle, a virtually 24-hour-a-day radio service format initially modeled after "Jack FM" but most recently a "Hot AC" format. This replaced ZFM, which had more of a CHR flavor. When the Eagle was launched AFN Europe took control of what local DJs could play. The Eagle was launched because an army spouse was offended by the Green Day song "American Idiot".

Altogether, AFN produces 10 general-use streams for AFN stations to use. Of these, seven are music-based, two are sports-based, and one is a general channel (which is also the one heard on shortwave, if the shortwave radio has Single sideband (also known as SSB) installed). How these stations use these formats is up to them. These formats are:

- **Oldies Radio** (50's, 60's, and 70's)
- **Hot AC** (young adult alternative/80's and 90's)
- **Z Rock** (alternative rock)
- **Bright AC** (adult contemporary hit radio)
- **Country** (country/western)
- **the Touch** (urban adult contemporary)
- **Adult Rock and Roll** (classic rock)
- **Interruptible Voice Channel** (mainly NPR programming and sports programming from FOX, ESPN, and the Sporting News; this channel also broadcasts many talk shows, such as Rush Limbaugh and Ed Schultz; it's called "Interruptible" because the channel can be "interrupted" by sports programming)
- **ESPN Plus** (sports programming from ESPN and the Sporting News)
- **FOX Sports Plus** (sports programming from FOX)

## Television

Like its radio counterpart, AFN TV tries to air programming from a variety of sources to replicate programming on a typical U.S. TV channel; sourcing from U.S. commercial networks (including PBS),

and program syndicators at little to no-cost since AFN does not air commercials and in that regards cannot profit from airing shows like stations in the U.S. can. In their place, AFN inserts public service announcements on various subjects; these can be civilian "agency spots" created by The Ad Council, nationally-recognized religious and public health charities, AFN's own Radio-Television Production Office (RTPO), or announcements by a regional/local AFN affiliate. The most common PSAs shown deal with sexual harassment, public health and safety, force protection/anti-terrorism, pride in service, and messages to the troops.

AFN uses the NTSC television systems standard to broadcast its programming.

There are 8 TV streams that are produced by AFN. All of them can be picked up via satellite by military audiences. These streams are:

- **AFN Prime** . Formerly AFN Atlantic and AFN Pacific. The standard AFN feed airs current sitcoms, dramas, syndicated "judge" shows, talk shows, game shows, and reality shows popular in the United States, with a time delay from 24 hours to a week behind the United States airdates. In addition, popular US soap operas such as *Guiding Light*, *General Hospital* and *Passions* are aired by AFN on a one-week tape delay. This stream is divided into three feeds ( **AFN Prime Atlantic**, **AFN Prime Freedom** (Middle East), and **AFN Prime Pacific** ); the difference between the three is that they are time-shifted so that programs air later on AFN Prime Pacific then they are on AFN Prime Atlantic, with AFN Freedom in between. Many regional feeds (such as AFN-Europe, AFN-Iraq, and AFN-Korea) are based on AFN Prime and add local programming to it; thus, in a way, AFN Prime mimics the regular network TV concept. AFN Prime Pacific footage of the Late Show with David Letterman and of The Oprah Winfrey Show are used by Brazilian cable channel GNT for rebroadcasting of the programs in the country, usually with a one-week delay behind the original U.S. air date.
- **AFN Spectrum** . AFN Spectrum is more of a conservative culture-oriented channel with programming from cable networks and classic TV series. In a way, it mimics the "superstation" concept from cablecasters Turner Broadcasting System (TBS) and WGN-Chicago. However their lineup has begun to add more conventional programming to the schedule, like American Idol, *Everybody Hates Chris*, *Men In Trees*, *The Simple Life* and *Ugly*

*Betty*, as some of the public television and classic fare that made up Spectrum is being reduced but remain the primary constant on the channel.

- **AFN Xtra** . A young-adult oriented channel, with non-offensive shows from Comedy Central, MTV, and more. It is AFN's exclusive home for UFC and WWE programming, including all Pay-Per-View events. AFN Xtra also shows sports programming on the weekends and for eight hours a day on the weekdays.
- **AFN News** . AFN News is a rolling-news channel providing news from all major news outlets. Newscasts, such as the *NBC Nightly News*, *Fox News*, *ABC World News Tonight*, and *CBS Evening News*, were all scheduled to air in the mornings so viewers could watch the headlines live, but now they air on a tape delay in the regular early evening slot, back to back.
- **AFN Family** . AFN Family is a general entertainment channel providing programming for families.
- **AFN Movie** . AFN Movie is a channel showcasing movies as well as film-oriented programming.
- **AFN Sports** . AFN Sports is a rolling-sports channel, providing sports news and programming, including ESPN's *SportsCenter*.
- **Pentagon Channel**. This is the only AFN channel that is available in the USA to the general public. It airs military news and information programming 24 hours a day.

## Frequencies and transmitters

### Germany

Table of AFN-transmitters in Germany. Table may be incorrect and incomplete. Please correct and expand if necessary.

#### AM

Frequency	Power	Location	Description of transmitter site	geographical location	Remarks
873 kHz	150 kW	Weisskirchen	3 guyed lattice steel masts	50°10'59"N 8°36'45"E	

			insulated against ground, height: 86 m, Directional Antenna Mode		
1107 kHz	10 kW	Grafenwöhr	66 m tall guyed tubular steel masts insulated against ground	11°54'42"N 49°42'47"E	
1107 kHz	10 kW	Berlin-Dahlem	126 m tall guyed lattice steel masts insulated against ground		demolished on December 14th, 1996
1107 kHz	10 kW	Otterbach	136 m tall guyed lattice steel masts insulated against ground	49°29'27"N 7°43'3"E	
1107 kHz	40 kW	Ismaning	2 94 m tall guyed lattice steel masts insulated against ground	48°14'40"N 11°44'42"E	

1143 kHz	1 kW	Bitburg			
1143 kHz	5 kW	Bremerhaven			shut down
1143 kHz	10 kW	Hirschlanden	40 m guyed lattice steel masts insulated against ground	48°49'43"N 9°2'11"E	Telekom transmitter
1143 kHz	1 kW	Heidelberg	65 m guyed tubular steel masts insulated against ground	49°25'58"N 8°38'42"E	
1143 kHz	1 kW	Hof			shut down
1143 kHz	1 kW	Karlsruhe			shut down
1143 kHz	1 kW	Mönchengladbach	guyed lattice steel masts insulated against ground	51°10'2"N 6°23'56"E	
1143 kHz	300 W	Göppingen			shut down
1143 kHz	300 W	Würzburg	guyed lattice steel masts insulated against ground	49°47'26"N 9°58'54"E	

1143 kHz	300 W	Bamberg	guyed lattice steel masts insulated against ground	49°53'17"N 10°55'24"E	
1143 kHz	300 W	Schweinfurt			
1143 kHz	300 W	Bad Kissingen			
1143 kHz	300 W	Wildflecken			
1143 kHz	300 W	Fulda			shut down
1143 kHz	300 W	Bad Hersfeld			shut down
1143 kHz	300 W	Giessen			shut down
1485 kHz	1 kW	Augsburg	guyed lattice steel masts insulated against ground	48°21'8"N 10°51'19"E	shut down
1485 kHz	300 W	Hohenfels			
1485 kHz	300 W	Ansbach	guyed tubular steel masts insulated against ground	49°19'17"N 10°35'44"E	
1485 kHz	300	Regensburg	Long wire		shut down



	W		antenna on wooden tower		
1485 kHz	300 W	Garmisch-Partenkirchen			shut down
1485 kHz	300 W	Berchtesgarden			shut down

## FM

Frequency	Power	Location	Description of transmitter site	geographical location	Remarks
87,9 MHz	1 kW	Berlin			now used by Star FM Maximum Rock
89,4 MHz		Hohenfels			
90 MHz	0,245 kW	Amberg			
90,3 MHz		Garmisch-Partenkirchen			
90,3 MHz	0,02 kW	Prien			
93,5 MHz	1 kW	Sögel			
97,7 MHz	0,1 kW	Bad Aibling			
98,7 MHz	60 kW	Grosser Feldberg			
100 MHz	15 kW	Augsburg			

100,2 MHz	1 kW	Kaiserslautern-Dansenberg			
102,3 MHz	100 kW	Stuttgart	193 m tall concrete tower	48°45'49"N 9°12'20"E	Telekom transmitter
103 MHz		Pirmasens			
104,1 MHz		Grafenwöhr			
104,6 MHz	0,375 kW	Heidelberg	Aerial on AM broadcasting mast	49°25'58"N 8°38'42"E	
104,9 MHz		Illesheim			
104,9 MHz	0,16 kW	Würzburg	Aerial on AM broadcasting mast	49°47'26"N 9°58'54"E	
105,1 MHz		Spangdahlem			
106,1 MHz		Kalkar			
107,3 MHz	0,05 kW	Heidelberg			
107,3 MHz	1 kW	Ansbach			
107,3 MHz		Mannheim-Käfertal			
107,4 MHz	0,3 kW	Fürth			
107,6 MHz		Vilseck			
107,6 MHz		Bad Godesberg			

107,9 MHz		Bremerhaven		
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The AFN transmitters in Germany are operated by different authorities but most are operated directly by the U.S. military. Some are the property of Deutsche Telekom, while others are controlled by German public broadcasting corporations.

## Spain

**Radio:** AFN Rota Radio - The Eagle

- 102.5 FM: Naval Station Rota (5.0 W)

## SHAPE (Belgium)

**Television:** AFN Prime Atlantic/AFN Benelux (NTSC)

- 33H: Evere (2 kW)
- 34V: SHAPE, Casteau (4.5 kW)
- 34V: Florennes (10 W)

**Radio:** AFN Benelux

- 101.7 FM: Everberg, Kortenberg (900 W)
- 106.2 FM: Kleine Brogel, Peer (200 W)
- 104.2 FM: SHAPE, Casteau (4 kW)
- 107.7 FM: Florennes (100 W)

AFN Benelux - The Eagle

- 107.9 FM: Chièvres (100 W)
- 106.5 FM: SHAPE, Casteau (200 W)

## Italy

- 106.000 FM
  - AFN Livorno (The Eagle) Livorno/ Pisa
  - AFN Livorno-Power 107 Livorno
  - AFN Naples-The Eagle Napoli-Camaldoli
  - AFN Vicenza-The Eagle Rimini
  - AFN Vicenza-The Eagle Aviano
  - AFN Vicenza-The Eagle Piancavallo

- AFN The Eagle San Vito
- AFN The Eagle Decimomannu
- AFN Sigonella-The Eagle Sigonella
- AFN Vicenza-The Eagle Monte Rubbio
- AFN Vicenza-The Eagle Verona
- 106.100 FM
  - AFN Livorno-Power 107 La Maddalena 106.0?
- 107.000 FM
  - Power Network (AFN) Sigonella
  - AFN Naples Power 107 Napoli-Camaldoli
  - AFN Vicenza Power 107 Piancavallo
  - AFN Vicenza Power 107 Aviano
  - AFN Vicenza Power 107 Ghedi
  - AFN Power 107 San Vito
  - AFN Power 107 San Vito
  - AFN Livorno Power 107 Livorno-Castellaccio
  - AFN Vicenza Power 107 Monte Rubbio
  - AFN Vicenza Power 107 Verona
- 107.100 FM
  - AFN Livorno-The Beach (The Eagle) La Maddalena

## Japan

- 648 kHz AM
  - Camp Kinser: Urasoe, Okinawa. 10 kilowatts(kW).
- 810 kHz AM
  - Yokota Air Base: Western Tokyo. 50 kW transmitted from Wakō, Saitama. Serves the Greater Tokyo Area.
- 1575 kHz AM
  - Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni: Iwakuni, Yamaguchi. 1 kW.
  - Misawa Air Base: Misawa, Aomori. 600W.
  - United States Fleet Activities Sasebo: Sasebo, Nagasaki. 250W.
- 89.1 MHz FM
  - Kadena Air Base: Kadena, Okinawa. 20 kW.
- US Television channel 11
  - Camp Foster: Tokyo.

Source:

## Korea

See also

- Pentagon Channel
- British Forces Broadcasting Service
- Canadian Forces Radio and Television
- Israel Army Radio

## Literature

- Patrick Morley: *'This Is the American Forces Network': The Anglo-American Battle of the Air Waves in World War II* . Praeger Publishing (2001).
- Trent Christman: *Brass Button Broadcasters: A Lighthearted Look at Fifty Years of Military Broadcasting* . Turner Publishing (1992).
- *History of AFRTS: The first 50 years* . U.S. Government Printing Office (1993).

## Footnotes

## External links

- Armed Forces Network
- American Forces Radio and Television Service
- AFN Korea
- AFN Afghanistan
- AFN Europe
- AFN Tokyo
- AFN Sasebo
- AFN Iwakuni
- British Army Garrison Radio (GR)
- Armed Forces Radio Service collection of broadcast recordings, at the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts
- Southern Command Network Panama