

spring 2012

From This  
**Tiny Island...**

# TRANSMISSIONS

News from  
Adventist  
World Radio





# Billions Must Hear: *Let's Turn Up the Volume!*

**A**bove all the technologies of mass communication that have been developed over the years, and despite the power of the Internet in modern times, there is one traditional technology that continues to have significant relevance to the spreading of the gospel around the world: shortwave radio.

## **Why shortwave**

Shortwave? Aren't many of the large broadcasters around the world cutting back, if not eliminating completely, their shortwave programs? Yes, the BBC, Voice of America, Radio Netherlands, and others have – or plan to – cut back on their shortwave broadcasts.

Then why does Adventist World Radio continue using shortwave?

**1. AWR's agenda is not like the large broadcast corporations mentioned.** With the shifting political arenas in the world, government-sponsored broadcasts that were once aimed at totalitarian regimes (such as communism, etc.), coupled with tightening financial economies, are being curtailed. However, the Seventh-day Adventist Church has a timeless, apocalyptic, end-time message that will never change, because it is the core of our mission in this world.

**2. Due to its uniqueness, shortwave is the most cost-effective way of reaching the hardest-to-reach people groups around the world.** Shortwave uses high-frequency radio bands to take a signal thousands of miles into areas that have severe religious and political restrictions. It is estimated that at least 40 to 50 percent of the seven billion people in the world suffer from some form of these restrictions. The great advantage of shortwave is that it cannot be controlled by these governments.

## **Reaching half of the world from the tiny island of Guam**

For the last 25 years, AWR has broadcast programs from the tiny island of Guam, in the Pacific Ocean, to the countries of the

Pacific Rim and the rest of Asia, such as Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, North and South Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar (Burma), Nepal, Russian Siberia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam. Our broadcasts even reach into some Central Asian countries, such as Kazakhstan and its other “stan” neighbors.

## Let's turn up the volume!

Of major significance is the People's Republic of China. China is a communist state and has the largest population in the world, with more than 1.3 billion people. It is followed by India, which has nearly 1.2 billion people. Although a formidable financial powerhouse today, China remains one of the most controlling countries when it comes to the preaching of the gospel.

From our facility on Guam, AWR sends the good news of salvation into China for 20 to 22 hours each day in the Mandarin language, with 2 hours of Cantonese on Sundays. With the spread of the Internet, people in China who have access to the web can also listen live online or download our programs on their computers or cell phones, then listen to them over and over.

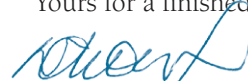
To more effectively reach China – a country that is so huge but has only one time zone – we are upgrading and adding to our 25-year-old Guam shortwave station. These changes will allow AWR to more effectively reach all of China, while enabling us to reach countries such as North Korea and Vietnam at the same time.

As Seventh-day Adventists, we firmly believe in the soon coming of Jesus Christ to this earth. As stewards of God's word and co-laborers with Him, we must share this message now, while there is still a little window of time left.

Partners and supporters like you make it possible for AWR to spread the message of hope in Jesus every day in around 90 languages on shortwave and more than 100 languages as podcasts (visit [www.awr.org](http://www.awr.org) for more information).

Please join us to save lives for eternity by supporting the Guam project – enabling AWR to blanket the billions of individuals who live within the reach of our high-frequency radio signals from this tiny island. God will richly repay you, and thousands will trace their first – and maybe their only – knowledge of Him to your generous gifts of love.

Yours for a finished task,



**Dowell Chow**  
President





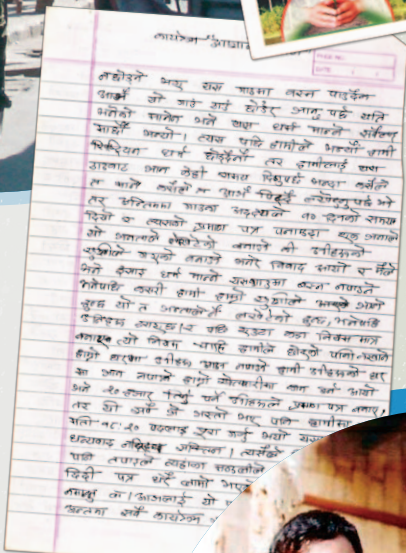
# Bringing Hope to Asia

**I**n 1987, the first programs from AWR's shortwave station on the tiny island of Guam traveled over the airwaves to Asia. Today, Guam's broadcasts have grown from 11 languages to 34, and even more languages are being developed right now. We call these "heart languages," since it is clear that listeners are deeply impacted by hearing programs in their mother tongues.

During these 25 years of daily broadcasts, millions of people have heard the name of Jesus for the very first time through AWR. Today, we are moving ahead to upgrade our Guam facility and expand our coverage of Asia. The following testimonies are a tiny fraction of the heartfelt responses that AWR has received from this life-saving ministry.

**CHINA/KOREA:** "I'm a Chinese citizen working in South Korea. At the age of 40, leaving family members behind, I feel lonely. One day five months ago, I tuned in to *Voice of Hope* and was enchanted by the richness of your programs. I kept on listening to *Voice of Hope* day after day. I learnt about Jesus and His love. I want to become a Christian. I can't find a Chinese Bible here. Could you please send a copy to me? I have written a letter to my family in China, telling them about your station. I hope they will soon share the joy of finding Jesus with me. God bless you!"



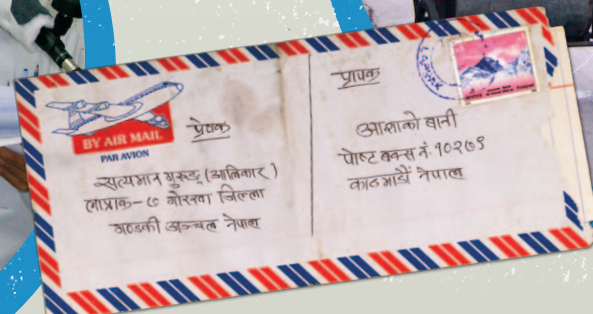


**NEPAL:** "What would I be, if I did not have the opportunity to listen to your Christian program. It has changed my life totally. You have made known Jesus to my life, and He has become very, very real. He has changed my life upside down; He has blessed me in many ways since then. Because of inspiring illustrations, your Bible sermons have become very interesting, as have your other relevant topics on health and family. They are welcomed by all. Thank you for helping us learn about the true God. All Nepali must learn about Jesus."

**INDIA:** "I was born into a nominal Christian family. I am 25 years old. Just as other youngsters, I was in the worldly life and enjoyed all the filth that this world can offer. But one day I heard your message in Tamil through AWR, and my sense came back to me. I realized that I went away from God, and He gave me a warning through this broadcast. Therefore, now I came back to God."



**CHINA:** "Three years ago, I was diagnosed with Hepatitis B during a physical examination in preparation for college entrance. I was denied the chance to have a higher education because of this result. It was a big blow to me and my family. We bore tremendous mental and financial stresses. I wept. I cried, 'Life is not fair.' One day, I turned on my shortwave radio and found *Voice of Hope*. From that moment, my life was changed. Your messages of love brought great comfort to me. I fell in love with our Savior. I began to have hope for my future. I promise that I'll walk out of the shadow of life with courage and faith."



## INDIA/CALIFORNIA:

"I had the great pleasure of tuning the inspirational programs of Adventist World Radio originating in India and transmitted from Guam. Congratulations on your fine programming in English and for your mission of bringing the gospel to so many people in so many different languages of the world. I like your approach of sticking with the Bible and not engaging in political polemics. We live close to the Adventist community of Loma Linda [California], and our dear neighbors across the street are Adventists. Although not of this faith myself, I have the utmost respect for your far-reaching mission in the world."



**MYANMAR:** "Thank you very much for the radio you sent. I listen to the messages from AWR's Chin program. There is a tremendous spiritual healing poured upon my sister Cing Lam Cinn, who suffers from breast cancer. One side is paralyzed, and she is not able to move, rise, or walk. When she heard the message from

the radio, she felt much recovered and was able to move better that day after your sermon. We still require your continuing prayer for my sister. Thank you for the special prayer program for the sick on AWR.

Now we can hear your voice every night. May the Lord bless you all."





**CHINA:** "I'm a lay minister at a rural church. Due to the limitations of my geographical location, Christian resources are hard to find. For many years, I struggled to preach from the Bible behind the pulpit. Then, two years ago, I found *Voice of Hope*. Your programs turned out to be a gold mine for me and other lay ministers. We take notes carefully by following your broadcast. Then we share the messages with the congregation. The whole church has been blessed by your good work. Our church is made up of poor, lowly-educated farmers. We have the passion for Christ, but we don't have the spiritual equipment for His work. Please send some Christian books to us."



**INDIA/EGYPT:**

"I am a prisoner for the past 18 years, held in a prison cell at Egypt. I heard your AWR broadcast in Tamil announcing that there is forgiveness for sin and deliverance from sin, which brought a great peace in me. Please pray for me."





**VIETNAM:** "I believe that your name is well known all over the country, including the highland area. We think that your sermons have been anointed. I am using this opportunity to tell you about the native people who live here. Each building shelters five families of about five members each. So each building houses about 25 to 30 persons. They live very simply and lack everything. If they have a radio, then at night they gather around a fire and listen to your broadcast. We need more radio sets to help them learn Vietnamese while they listen to our broadcast in Vietnamese. Also, many Vietnamese in the area voluntarily came to us to profess their faith after listening to your radio broadcast. Please send me Bibles in the Vietnamese language. We need a lot of them."



A group of Chin people from Myanmar who live in Norway are listening regularly to AWR's Chin program online, as the shortwave radio program comes on at a difficult time for them.



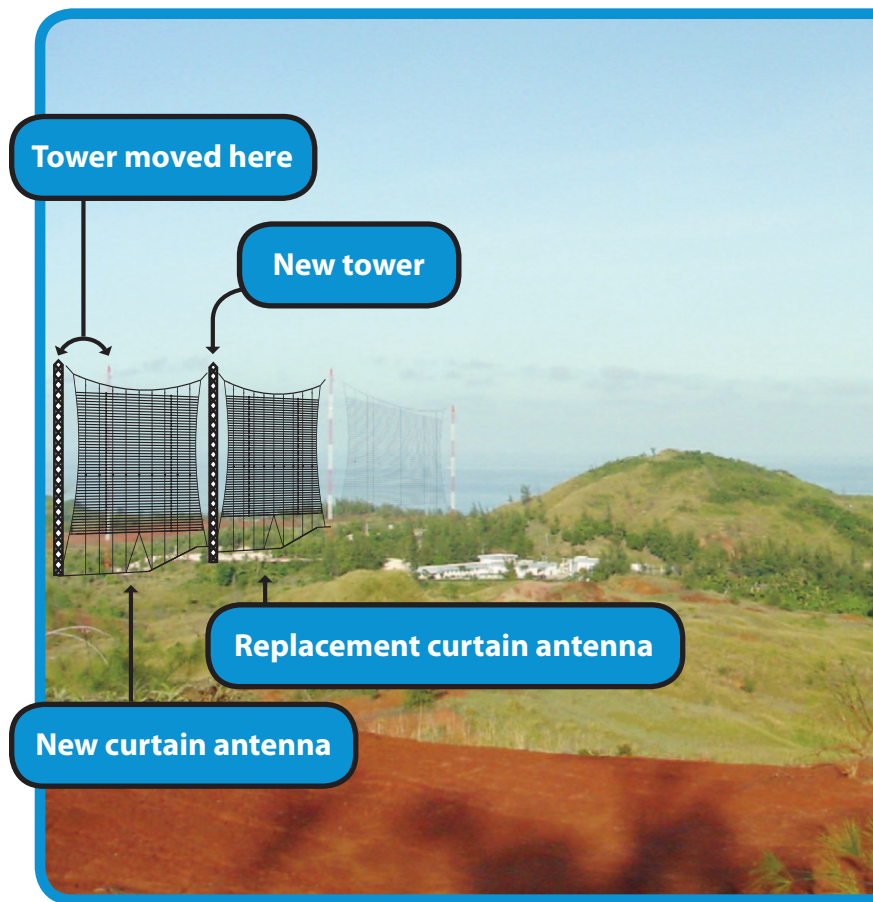
For these listeners and thousands more, a tiny shortwave radio is the only way for them to hear the message of salvation and find comfort and hope for their lives. Thank you many times over for your ongoing support of Adventist World Radio.

# From This Tiny Island

For 25 years, AWR's shortwave towers on the tiny Pacific island of Guam have been broadcasting messages of hope to countless listeners across Asia. People are hearing the gospel for the very first time in:

- densely-populated countries such as China (1.3 billion people) and India (nearly 1.2 billion people)
- closed or communist countries such as North Korea, Vietnam, and Myanmar
- heavily-Muslim countries such as Indonesia, Malaysia, and Bangladesh
- countries with rugged, mountainous terrain such as Nepal
- and many more

From this island alone, programs can currently be heard in 34 languages, for 287 hours/week. In the preceding pages, you have read testimony after testimony of how listeners' lives





Average tower height:  
**256 feet**

Average size of  
curtain antennas:  
**236 x 260 feet**



have been forever transformed by the message of salvation.

But to be effective, this facility needs a crucial upgrade. AWR's board of directors has stepped out in faith and approved a \$2.9 million project to make the necessary changes, as you can see in the photo. This picture doesn't do justice, however, to the immense size and power of the towers and antennas. To put it in perspective, each curtain antenna is approximately the size of two football fields!

When the upgrade and additions are completed, AWR's ministry to Asia will be improved in the following ways:

- 1 Listeners across *all* of China will enjoy a strong, clear signal and hear programs during their prime listening hours. Incredibly, this vast geographical area has only one time zone.
- 2 Presently, AWR must simulcast from several antennas just to deliver one program across China, which "robs" other countries from broadcasts during that time period. With the new antennas, simultaneous broadcasts can take place and listeners in countries such as North Korea, Myanmar, and Vietnam will be able to receive AWR programs during *their* peak times.
- 3 Listeners in key countries will receive better-quality signals, since AWR will be able to choose from a better selection of frequencies.

Shortwave radio is penetrating borders and changing lives for eternity. Right now, AWR's coverage is being limited by our current 25-year-old antenna system. With your financial support, AWR will be able to turn up the volume in Asia, and many more listeners will have the opportunity to discover God and His matchless love.

BY **Shelley Nolan Freesland**

*Communication Director*

# A Leap of Faith

I am retired and work part-time for Adventist World Radio. Last fall, I had the privilege of visiting the AWR Guam shortwave station and speaking in island churches about the work of AWR.

Brook Powers, the chief AWR engineer, generously gave me a tour of the entire complex. We walked over the hills, examining the large field where four antennas powerfully broadcast the three angels' message in dozens of languages. He also showed me where the new, fifth antenna will be located. It was awesome to look out across the broad Pacific Ocean from our property and realize that unseen radio waves travel thousands of miles across that vast expanse to bring the gospel of Jesus Christ to many of the most gospel-needy countries of the world.

These target populations include China's 1.3 billion non-Christians, Southeast Asia's hundreds of millions of Muslims, and the isolated inhabitants of communist countries such as Vietnam and North Korea.

While on Guam, I met Adventist businessman Steve Kasperbauer. Steve is president of the Alupang Beach Club, Inc. (ABC). Located in the heart of beautiful East Agaña Bay, ABC is Guam's foremost marine sports company, catering to Japanese, European, and American tourists. With more than 21 years of experience, ABC has grown from humble beginnings into a world-class sports facility. Its facility operates the largest fleet of jet skis on Guam.

During the recession that followed 9/11, and two devastating typhoons in 2003,

tourism declined and Steve's business floundered. At the same time, Steve was attending evangelistic meetings, and he decided to be baptized and join the Seventh-day Adventist Church. But he had a major challenge: his busiest day for







tourism was Sabbath. Taking a leap of faith, Steve closed his business on Sabbath. To everyone's surprise – especially his competitors – his business flourished.

When I presented the Guam antenna project to Steve in his office one day, he pledged a major leadership gift to be given before year's end. Faithful to his word, his cash gift arrived at AWR headquarters on December 30.

AWR is able to reach people in the gospel-needy areas of the world because of you, our partners in mission. Every gift is important. Many of our partners have given consistent monthly, quarterly, or annual gifts over several years. Others, like Steve, give important lead gifts. All of these gifts keep the mission going. In addition, when matching gift challenges are made by supporters, a real enthusiasm for a project takes hold, and what seems like an impossible financial goal is met ... all donor-driven by our matching gift partner!

These consistent, lead, and matching gifts never cease to inspire and encourage

*Taking a leap of faith, Steve closed his business on Sabbath. To everyone's surprise – especially his competitors – his business flourished.*

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AWR workers in our headquarters office and around the world. We thank God for calling and convicting others to respond to AWR's mission in such a vital way.

Additionally, estate gifts have a lifelong impact on the mission of AWR. Many of our partners have expressed the satisfaction they receive in leaving legacy gifts, knowing that they are having an impact for the kingdom well beyond their own lifetime. Legacy gifts empower donors to control where and how their money is used, for causes they have a desire to sustain, rather than going into the federal coffers.

Won't you join Steve in helping take the gospel more effectively to the communist and Muslim world? With your financial support, as this project is completed, more souls will be won to Christ. Thank you for your gift for the Guam antenna project.

**BY Jeff Wilson**

*Assistant to the  
President for  
Planned Giving*



# “If There Were No AWR Programs ...”

**Y**ou are already well aware that AWR's broadcasts cover the hardest-to-reach regions of the world, transforming lives for Christ. You may have even seen and heard some of the listener testimonies on our TV series, *Making Waves*, where every person is sporting an infectious smile.

One such person is Rajaan. I met him along with several others, after they had completed a four-day walk over treacherous trails in the Himalayas and then traveled another day by bus – finally reaching our remote location. They were excited to meet with us and to be baptized, but out of fear of the authorities, we arranged for their baptism in a secluded mountain stream.

During the conversation, Rajaan shared the events that had led to this day of

celebration. AWR's shortwave broadcasts played a major role in his life. After Rajaan gave his heart to Christ, he began inviting many of his neighbors to hear the daily messages of hope. “Many people,” he said, “walked two hours to come and listen to AWR programs. Now I have about 40 villagers who come on a regular basis. More people were ready for baptism but could not make the long trip because of bad weather.”

Before leaving, he said, “If there were no AWR programs, I would be in darkness on a hill; life would be ruined. I couldn't even imagine what life would be like without this program.”

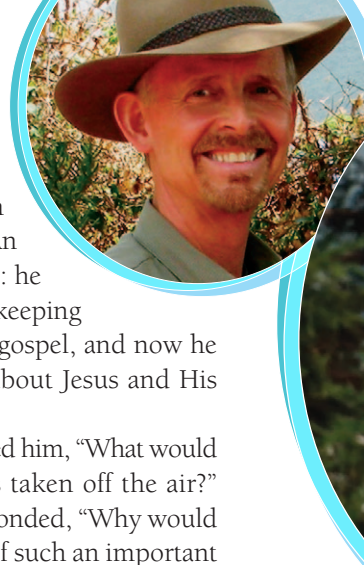
Some days later, I met with Dambra, who had a rice farm in a remote region of India. He listens to our shortwave programs and always takes notes. Then

he travels around the area, sharing all he has learned from our daily messages. An interesting side-note: he is paid by a Sunday-keeping church to share the gospel, and now he is telling everyone about Jesus and His Sabbath.

At one point I asked him, “What would happen if AWR was taken off the air?” He passionately responded, “Why would you rob the people of such an important program as this?”

It is because of you that AWR is able to continue broadcasting the gospel message of hope. But we cannot stay static doing what we have done in the past and expect the Lord to come. No! We must become aggressive in the war against evil.

Because our Guam facility is 25 years old, we wanted to know if it was functioning to peak performance. The engineers completed their study, and guess what? The answer is we can do better! Although







many souls are being won on a continual basis, Guam can reach a higher level of performance. We are reaching Asia, but we can do more. We can close the gap and stop

robbing some locations of the gospel message.

We hunger and thirst for Jesus to come, so we have taken a great leap of faith by acting upon the engineers' recommendations and are updating the Guam operation. We are compelled to do so; we cannot leave billions of people in



darkness in China, India, Nepal, Indonesia, Korea, and other mission-critical areas when we have the light! We must march forward – with your help, we will!

The needed amount of \$2.9 million has already been cut in half by many generous donors who gave as soon as the need was known. With your help, the final \$1.45 million will be raised soon, so people like Dambra and Rajaan will never be “robbed” of the gospel message!

There are four ways you can help:

1. Enclose your check in the envelope provided and mail it to AWR.
2. Call our office at 800-337-4297 and use your credit card.
3. Go online at [www.awr.org/give](http://www.awr.org/give), and follow the prompt for giving.
4. Using the enclosed card, commit to a love gift and simply pay it over a pre-determined time frame of your choice.

BY **Jim Ayer**

*Vice President for Advancement*

# Radio Changed Our Life

Radio has a special place in my heart. It was the radio ministry that brought my own family a knowledge of the gospel of Jesus and an introduction to the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Shortly after the close of World War II, my family lived in a small logging town in northern California. There were no Adventists and, of course, no Adventist church. My brothers and I were preschoolers at that time. Mom and Dad found the radio program on our kitchen radio, and we would all listen on Sunday mornings during breakfast.

After listening to the program for a period of time, my parents took the Bible correspondence course and upon completion requested a visit from an Adventist pastor.

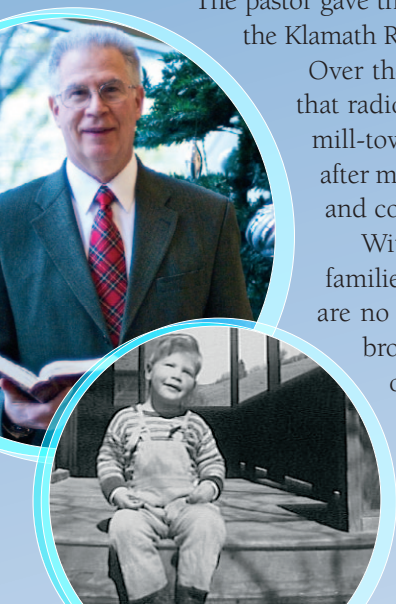
The pastor gave them some additional studies, and they were baptized in the Klamath River. That is one of my earliest memories.

Over the years, I have thanked God that someone sponsored that radio program on a station that reached our little wooden mill-town home. Our family's life-focus changed dramatically after my parents' baptism. There was church school, academy, and college, and service for God's church.

With my background, it is easy for me to imagine other families in isolated places in the world – places where there are no Adventists members or churches – responding to the broadcast ministry of Adventist World Radio. The thousands of letters and e-mails received by AWR each year are a positive testimony that families are being reached by radio.

BY **G. Edward Reid**

*Assistant to the President for Planned Giving*



## OUR MISSION:

AWR broadcasts the Adventist hope in Christ to the hardest-to-reach people groups of the world in their own languages.



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