



# GLOBAL SHORTWAVE CLUB Newsletter

## President

William G Davis Jr

## Contact Us!

Don't forget to call or write to us at least once a month. We welcome more if you have time!

## Phone Numbers

**315-775-8790**  
Or  
**410-569-8873**

## Address

International  
Global Shortwave Club  
PO Box 973  
Abingdon, Md. 21009  
U.S.A.

## Visit our website!

[www.ictchurch.org](http://www.ictchurch.org)

We have a whole area dedicated to our International Global Shortwave Club members. You can also find our current frequencies and times!

## Current Radio Schedule

WWCR  
Worldwide Christian  
Radio

Monday through Friday  
5.890 - 0300 UT  
13.845 - 1800 UT

Saturday  
4.840 - 0200 UT  
12.160 - 1700 UT

Sunday  
4.840 - 0200 UT  
9.350 - 2100 UT

## Radio – A Tool for War

The Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 morning, bringing the United States into WWII. Afterward, a war of words began. Using the recently popular shortwave frequencies, the Japanese radio station in Shanghai began its propaganda campaign against the United States by aiming the shortwave broadcast at listeners in North America with female Japanese broadcasters.

Allied troops in the South Pacific named all-female English-speaking radio broadcasters of Japanese propaganda, Tokyo Rose, which was not one individual but a group of unassociated women working for the same propagandist effort throughout the Japanese Empire. As the Japanese radio station ended its daily English-language broadcast, the announcer would say, "V stands for victory, a German victory over the enemies of Europe."

In the years soon after the war, the character "Tokyo Rose," whom the Federal Bureau of Investigation asserts as "mythical," became an important symbol of Japanese villainy for the United States. American cartoons, movies, and propaganda videos between 1945 and 1960 portray her as sexualized, manipulative, and deadly to American interests in the South Pacific, particularly by revealing intelligence of American losses in radio broadcasts.

Shortly before Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, an American citizen and the daughter of Japanese immigrants, Iva Toguri D'Aquino, traveled to Japan to care for a sick aunt. After Japan started the war with the United States, Toguri could not stay with her aunt's family, return home to the US, or receive financial aid from her parents because the US government placed them in an Arizona internment camp.

Having no income, Toguri eventually accepted a job as a part-time typist at Radio Tokyo (NHK), where they quickly recruited her as a broadcaster for the 75-minute propagandist program The Zero Hour, which consisted of skits, news reports, and popular American music.

According to studies conducted in 1968, of the ninety-four men who recalled listening to The Zero Hour while serving in the Pacific, 89% recognized it as "propaganda," and less than 10% felt "demoralized" by it. 84% of the men listened because the program had "good entertainment," one GI remarked, "Lots of us thought she was on our side all along."

After World War II ended in 1945, the US military detained Toguri for a year before releasing her due to a lack of evidence. Department of Justice officials agreed that her broadcasts were "harmless." However, when Toguri tried to return to the United States, an uproar ensued because Walter Winchell (a powerful broadcasting personality) and the American Legion lobbied relentlessly for a trial, prompting the FBI to renew its investigation of Toguri's wartime activities.

Her 1949 trial resulted in a conviction on one of eight counts of treason; she became the seventh person in US history convicted of treason. In 1974, investigative journalists found that important witnesses had asserted that the FBI forced them to lie during testimony. They said the FBI and US occupation police had coached them for over two months about what they should say on the stand and threatened them with treason trials if they did not cooperate. In 1977, President Gerald Ford pardoned Toguri based on these revelations and earlier issues with the indictment.