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The sound of Christmas music from Montana State University will circle the globe this year, being heard by United States servicemen from Japan to Germany and by the Russian people from the Ukraine to Siberia.

Music from the annual MSU Christmas concert is scheduled to be broadcast by the Armed Forces Radio Network and by the Voice of America, said Dr. Erling S. Jorgensen, director of the MSU Radio-Television Studios.

"In addition to these two special programs," said Dr. Jorgensen, "several Idaho radio stations have offered to feature MSU programs. The annual Christmas concert will be heard throughout Montana and Idaho."

Planning for the two worldwide broadcasts of MSU Christmas music began in September, when the AFRS and the Voice of America were contacted about the possibility of presenting the programs. Early in October, a round of conferences between the Department of Music and the Radio-Television Department resulted in outlining preliminary objectives.

Since the middle of November, crews have been busy in the radio studios in the Journalism building preparing for the broadcasts. At the Department of Music Kenyard Smith has been rehearsing members of the University Choir and the Jubileers in music for the programs.

Dr. Jorgensen said both programs will be recorded on tape on the MSU campus and the tapes flown to New York City and Washington, D. C. The AFRS broadcast will feature traditional holiday music by the University Choir and the Jubileers. The Voice of America program will feature serious music. The narration will be provided by Dr. Peter Lapiken, instructor in the Russian language at MSU.

(more)
The program will be broadcast from the Voice of America facilities in Washington, picked up by relay stations in Europe, and broadcast again to the Russian people. In addition to the music, the program will carry Christmas greetings from the United States and Montana State University.

Production of the programs is supervised by Ron Richards, assistant in the Radio Studios and graduate student at MSU. The technical aspects of the programs are being handled by Robert Scherpenseel. Students assisting in the production are Don Kinney and Jerry Colness, both seniors majoring in radio and television at the University.