



LEFT: New Zealand gunners outside billets in Korea which once housed units of the Japanese Imperial Army

minded gunners have a slight dash of home today, an interest in the Wellington meeting."

The sporting flavour of transmissions to Korea is maintained during the week by Jack Lamason. On Monday's at 9.15 p.m. he is heard in a commentary on current sport. To make sure this is heard in Korea a recording is posted next day to the British Commonwealth Forces Radio in Japan and generally reaches them by the end of the week. The station has also sent quarter-hour and half-hour NZBS musical programmes.

But eager as New Zealanders abroad are to know what is happening at home in the field of sport, no programme has been more popular with K Force than Paula Moy's *Request Session*, which, for about two months, has been following *Sporting Roundup* on Saturday nights. Most recent letters have included requests, and there is warm praise for the

way Paula conducts the session. She has even been asked if she is married. The most recent letter received suggested that there would be enough requests for a session longer than the quarter-hour now broadcast, and added: "There's no doubt that such programmes are very good for the morale of the troops."

Reception in Korea seems to vary considerably, for the original shortwave installations here were, after all, never intended for transmission to the Far East. Apart from that, weather and the seasons affect reception, and there is interference at times from stronger stations in the area. Receivers being used in Korea also vary, but 162 Battery, from which the largest number of letters comes, seems especially well provided for. The letters indicate, too, that there is some circulation of radio news to those whose reception is inferior or whose work prevents their listening. For the men of K Force aren't just sitting at the radio. They're fighting a war, and the sound of the guns comes through in many of their letters home.

KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH K FORCE

"GOSH, your voice sounds good to us chaps over here. We all gather round our radio every Saturday night at 7.30 and keep our fingers crossed for the reception. It was good last night, and the lads heard their requests."

Radio New Zealand receives a steady mail of letters of thanks for their special broadcasts to K Force and that was part of one (signed "your most ardent fan") sent to Paula Moy, who conducts a *Request Session* on Saturday nights. Ulric Williams, who is in charge of Radio New Zealand, showed *The Listener* some of these letters the other day and told us something about the programmes broadcast regularly to keep the men in Korea in touch with home.

Since last March Radio New Zealand has been broadcasting a *News Bulletin* to Korea, and *Sporting Roundup* is almost as old. But even before these began, letters told of the eagerness with which normal shortwave broadcasts from New Zealand were listened to. One boy said that they were "as good or better than a letter from the people from home." And soon after the *News Bulletin* began word came that the boys wouldn't miss it even if they had to stay on the guns, for all extensions had been wired to the gun positions.

The *News Bulletin* of 10 to 15 minutes is broadcast every night except Sunday at 10.30 p.m. N.Z. time. On Friday nights it is followed now by a survey of sporting attractions throughout the country. This is conducted by Pat Earnshaw, who is responsible also for a 15-minute *Sporting Roundup* at 9.30 p.m. on Saturdays—results of senior club games from the four main centres and of other important sporting events, including races.

"You should have heard the boys when they heard Waikato beat Auckland for the Ranfurly Shield," said one letter of this session. "They are still talking about it." The same letter commented that the boys seemed to be enjoying the dance band session from the

Radio Theatre, Auckland, which from time to time is recorded from 1YD's Saturday night broadcasts and used on shortwave.

But when it comes to sport there's always something more that New Zealanders would like to hear. "We have one request," one of the boys wrote a month or two ago. "Could you read us the acceptances on two races of a meeting, preferably the double, and please a bit more slowly so that we can write them down." And later: "I can't tell you how much we over here have appreciated your gesture last night in reading the double field out. The reception was excellent, and now all us race-



PAT EARNSHAW



SPENCER DIGBY photo
PAULA MOY



N.P.S. photo
JACK LAMASON

Ardent fans keep their fingers crossed

Travels and Adventures in Somaliland

IT'S nice to find that there are some people in the world who can be primitive without making a fuss about

it. Some races seem to be trying hard to lose their civilisation, while a few are trying to plaster it on where it won't stick. The people of Somaliland though, don't bother either way. They're quite happy, wandering from well to well in their thorn-bush and rock desert on the Horn of Africa (the easternmost bit that sticks out into the Indian Ocean and the Gulf of Aden), herding camels and living on their flesh and milk.



ALLEN O. SMITH

The Somalis are not overburdened with living problems. A tent made of matting stretched over a frame is sufficient for a house, and their wealth is counted by their camels or goats or cattle. Being Moslems, they may have up to four wives (though they have to keep them in separate places, and spend equal amounts of time with each). Their

amusements are simple; an occasional raid keeps them happy, and there's nothing like a prolonged feud or a piece of long-delayed revenge to give some spice to their lives.

But for all that, they're a pleasant people to be with—at least, that's what Allen Smith found when he was in Africa. A New Zealander, he went to Ethiopia in 1933 as a missionary, but in 1935, when the Italian invasion took place, he formed a small Red Cross Unit and travelled to Kenya with the Ethiopian Southern army. There he did further Red Cross work, and also a certain amount of teaching among the Ethiopians. Later he joined the British Army, and, in 1943, was sent with the occupation forces to Italian Somaliland. He rose to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, and his last position was Administrator of Civil and Military Affairs in the Mudugh province.

Most of his time was spent, naturally, among the Somalis. He came to know the race extremely well, even, at times, travelling with them, and Canterbury listeners will learn something of them, too, when the first of his four "Tales of Somaliland" is broadcast by 3YA on December 14, at 10.0 a.m.