## Earle Godfrey, GXM, 3IF, 3JO, W3JO

Earle Godfrey was born on November 3, 1891, in Tacony, Pennsylvania, his father, Leaming, was 23 and his mother, Julia, was 17. He had one brother and one sister. He died in January 1969 in Margate City, New Jersey, at the age of 77. No known children. (Ancestry.com)

Earle Graduated in the class 1917, University of Pennsylvania Law School.
Official (US) Licensing didn't begin until 1912, so any Callsigns before that were "self-assigned."

Godfrey first appears in the June 1910 at his age of 19, in the 2nd Edition of the Wireless Blue Book on page 10 with the call, "GXM" (Godfrey eXperiMental, perhaps?) in Atlantic City, N.J., with a 100m wavelength and 2 inch spark gap. So, perhaps not "Licensed," but clearly "Operating" by this time.

Notes:
Before licensing, very few self-assigned calls included (digit) numerals. 99\% were simply 2 or 3 letters only, and bore no correlation to personal initials.

The Aug. 1913 3rd Ed. Blue Book, pg. 113 places Godfrey (now 3IF) at 145 St. Charles Place in Atlantic City, NJ with 550w of power capability. 1914 (4th Ed., pg. 9) also qualifies his official "3IF" Callsign.)

Sometime between 1916 and 1920, Godfrey became "3JO". (War gap here.) (Ham Call Notes by Pete Varounis, NL7XM)

Earle first worked as a Lawyer (1920 Census). Later he worked as an Engineer in Broadcasting, at city owned Station "WPG" Atlantic City, NJ. (1930 Census) And still later at Station "WBAB" after "WPG" was closed down. (1942 Draft Registration) And after "WBAB" was sold, he worked at "WFPG" and "WFPG-TV" on the Steel Pier in Atlantic City.

(Tom McNally, W2DOX)


WPG, ATLANTIC CITY-Used its own towers as one of the observaton points for describing the Au erbach trophy race around Absecon Island on Memorial Day, the boats racing directly by WPG's transmitter. Photograph shows Chief Engineer Earle Godfrey and Announcer George Foster.

## Atlantic City Plans

NORMAN REED, manager of the former WPG, Atlantic City, which goes off the air as of Jan. 1 to be merged to make WOV in New York a fulltime station, will be the manager of the new WBAB, Atlantic City, which is scheduled to begin operating Jan. 15 as a local on 1200 kc. Earl Godfrey, WPG's chief engrneer, will be chief engineer of the new station, which will be operated by the publishers of the Atlantic City Press and Union, headed by Albert J. Feel. Collins transmitter equipment and a 205foot Lehigh radiator are being installed. Associated Press news and NBC Thesaurus have been ordered.

- Broadcast Advertising


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## RADIO STATION

## WB AB

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atlantic City, New Jersey
## Studios

Absecon Boulevard and
Beach Thorofare

## January 7, 1944


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