

<b>REQUEST FOR RECORDS DISPOSITION AUTHORITY</b>		JOB NUMBER N1-173-98-9	
To: NATIONAL ARCHIVES and RECORDS ADMINISTRATION (NIR) WASHINGTON, DC 20408		DATE RECEIVED 11-30-98	
1. FROM (Agency or establishment)  Federal Communications Commission		<b>NOTIFICATION TO AGENCY</b>	
2. MAJOR SUBDIVISION		In accordance with the provisions of 44 U.S.C. 3303a, the disposition request, including amendments, is approved except for items that may be marked "disposition not approved" or "withdrawn" in column 10.	
3. MINOR SUBDIVISION			
4. NAME OF PERSON WITH WHOM TO CONFER  Ms. Judy Boley	5. TELEPHONE  (202) 418-0210	DATE 3-24-99	ARCHIVIST OF THE UNITED STATES <i>John W. Carl</i>
6. AGENCY CERTIFICATION I hereby certify that I am authorized to act for this agency in matters pertaining to the disposition of its records and that the records proposed for disposal on the attached <u>12</u> page(s) are not now needed for the business of this agency or will not be needed after the retention periods specified; and that written concurrence from the General Accounting Office, under the provisions of Title 8 of the GAO manual for Guidance of Federal Agencies,  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is not required; <input type="checkbox"/> is attached; or <input type="checkbox"/> has been requested.			
DATE 11/16/98	SIGNATURE OF AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE <i>Judy G. Boley</i>	TITLE <i>RM Team Leader AND PERM</i>	
7. Item No.	8. DESCRIPTION OF ITEM AND PROPOSED DISPOSITION	9. GRS OR SUPERSEDED JOB CITATION	10. ACTION TAKEN (NARA USE ONLY)
	SEE ATTACHED PAGES  This schedule provides one-time disposition for the specific records listed, and which are stored at the Washington National Records Center. It does not provide continuing disposition authority for records currently created or maintained by the Federal Communications Commission.		

**Federal Communications Commission  
WNRC Project  
RG 173 records stored at WNRC**

NOTE: This schedule provides one-time only disposition authority for the specific FCC records listed which are stored at WNRC. This schedule cannot be used to provide continuing disposition authority for FCC records which may be located elsewhere in agency custody.

**1. Docket Reference Materials, 1949-1958.**

Reference copies of printed Initial, Proposed, and Final Decisions, arranged chronologically. The files were maintained in the Office of Administration and in the Office of Hearing Examiners.

AUTHORIZED DISPOSITION: Destroy on approval of this schedule.

Acc. 55C0373, boxes 29-31  
Acc. 56B0589, box 32-33  
Acc. 56C0589, box 25-28  
Acc. 60L0356, box 38 (Box 39 NOS)

Justification: The official copy of all FCC Initial, Proposed, and Final Decisions are maintained in Docket Files in the Office of the Secretary, and are approved for permanent retention in the National Archives.

**2. Investigation Files and Reports, 1954.**

Investigation working papers and background files, reports and notes of interviews, copies of witness statements, photocopies of background documents such as newsclippings and press releases, correspondence, telegrams, memorandums, and similar records maintained by Lead Attorney Arthur J. Schissel relating to House Un-American Activities Committee investigations of suspected Communist influence in broadcasting. There is an index to files and witnesses in Box 1 which may serve as a finding aid. Other files relate to an investigation of Philadelphia disk jockeys Steve Allison and Bob Horn on suspected morals charges.

AUTHORIZED DISPOSITION: PERMANENT. Transfer to the National Archives in FY 1999.

Acc. 58A0260, box 1-9

Acc. 58C0260, box 10

Justification: These records document FCC investigations (with DOJ and FBI) into alleged Communist activities of broadcasters during the McCarthy hearings. While it is not possible to determine what, if any, actions resulted from the investigations, the investigations resulted in significant controversy. They will be valuable to researchers interested in HUAC hearings and in the investigations of the federal government into alleged Communist activities and other allegations in the broadcasting field.

**3. Management Surveys and Attorney Investigations, 1938-1954.**

Two management surveys conducted by a contractor in 1950 titled "Increasing Effectiveness of Staff Offices," and "Increasing Effectiveness of Field Offices," which provide an overall history of FCC and its organizational interrelationships. Also included are working files of FCC attorney Nathan H. David related to a 1943 House investigation of Chain Broadcasting Co.; staff attorney George Porter's files related to the revocation of a station license in Salisbury, MD; and other files relating to James Petrillo, President of the American Federation of Musicians, and the musicians strike of 1942 over the control of reproduction technology and use of recordings on the air.

**AUTHORIZED DISPOSITION: PERMANENT.** Transfer to the National Archives in FY 1999.

Acc. 58E0260, box 39

Justification: The reports contain valuable evidential information on FCC management and organization. The investigation working papers document significant issues related to broadcasting, and significant issues related to FCC licensing during World War II. They will be valuable to historians researching FCC and broadcasting history, and warrant preservation in the National Archives.

**4. International Tariff Transmittals, 1934-1956.**

Transmittal letters and rate change tables from Press Wireless, Inc. and RCA to the FCC Tariff Bureau containing notifications of rate changes.

**AUTHORIZED DISPOSITION:** Destroy immediately on approval of this schedule.

Acc. 58G0764, box 49-50

Justification: These records do not document significant decisions, actions, policies, or procedures of the FCC, and do not contain information that is essential to researchers in understanding activities of the FCC or of broadcasting history. The FCC required all wireless companies to publish current rate tables, and to send them to the Tariff Section for review.

**5. U.S. Change Lists, 1943-1960.**

Published weekly lists indicating changes in call letters, frequencies, and other proposed changes in station assignments. Arranged in folders by year.

**AUTHORIZED DISPOSITION:** Destroy immediately on approval of this schedule.

Acc. 58A0004, box 359-362

Acc. 62B0055, box 336-339

Justification: All changes in station assignments and licenses are maintained in Broadcast License Files, and in official Docket Files, both of which are approved for continued retention in the National Archives. The Change Lists only summarize approved changes that are documented in these files.

**6. Subject Files of the Budget Director, 1943-1962.**

Correspondence, memorandums, reports, budget estimates, and similar records that were maintained by the Director of the Budget Office. Subjects include Congress, Bureau of the Budget, Reimbursibles, and Actions of Estimates 1943-1961.

**AUTHORIZED DISPOSITION:** PERMANENT. Transfer to the National Archives in FY 1999.

Acc. 65A0753, box 27 (Box 28 NOS)

Justification: These files contain significant information relating to the FCC budget process, and actions taken on the FCC budget by the Bureau of the Budget and Congress. They relate to other significant files such as Budget Estimates, listed elsewhere in this schedule that were also maintained in the Budget Office. The records will be valuable to historians in documenting FCC appropriations, and changes to the FCC budget over time.

7. **Field Office Telephone Company Reports, 1957-1962.**

Copies of accounting reports from various telephone companies such as AT &T, Pacific Telephone and Telegraph, and Southwest Bell, maintained primarily by the New York field office, but also from St. Louis and San Francisco. The reports list the cost of building improvements, cost of overhead and supply expenses, improvements to leased buildings, telephone set losses, costs of converting teletypewriters, and similar financial information related to telephone company operations. The original copies of the reports were sent to FCC HQ by the Field Coordinator in the region.

**AUTHORIZED DISPOSITION:** Destroy immediately on approval of this schedule.

Acc. 65J0831, box 87

**Justification:** These reports are incomplete, and do not make any substantive findings or recommendations. It is also not possible to determine any FCC actions that might have resulted from these reports.

8. **Telephone Company Annual Reports, 1883-1960.**

Published annual reports submitted to the FCC by private telephone companies, arranged alphabetically. Major companies such as Bell Telephone, Chesapeake and Potomac, and AT &T and included, as are many small independent telephone companies prior to consolidation and mergers. FCC used these annual reports to gather financial information relating to telephone company operations.

**AUTHORIZED DISPOSITION:** PERMANENT. Transfer to the National Archives in FY 1999.

Acc. 65B0966, box 1-12

**Justification:** The annual reports are conveniently arranged to facilitate research at NARA, and there are no other easily referenced files that contain similar information. The files are particularly valuable to researchers with respect to small independent phone companies in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, prior to telephone company consolidation into the Bell System.

9. **Survey of Political Broadcasting Policies, FCC Form, 1960, 1964, 1968, 1970 elections.**

Surveys received by FCC from all TV, AM, and FM stations. The survey of policies was

not specifically limited to any particular election or primary campaign, but to gather information from stations about political broadcasts on behalf of candidates relating to the program time requested, program time denied, total station charges, minutes of appearances of candidates for various offices, and general station policies relating to political broadcasts. Records are arranged loosely in boxes in no discernible order.

**AUTHORIZED DISPOSITION:** Destroy immediately on approval of this schedule.

Acc. 66D0687, box 55-65

Acc. 72A5239, box 1-14

Acc. 73-0012, box 1-5

**Justification:** The forms do not contain substantive information about the equal time provisions of broadcasters for political candidates, and it is not possible to tell how FCC used this information, or the any actions that might have resulted from the surveys. No substantive information concerning the individual stations is contained in the survey forms that would be useful to researchers and broadcast historians.

**10. Commissioner's Correspondence Subject Files, 1942-59 (bulk 1955-59).**

Original incoming and carbon outgoing correspondence to Commissioner Richard Mack, former FCC commissioner, and carbon copies of correspondence to and from C. J. Durr, Acting Commissioner, relating to stations, docket matters, licenses granted, complaints from the public, and similar issues. Some of the files are arranged by state, others refer to the Docket number. Most records dated in the 1940s are filed loosely in the box, and are from the office of C.J. Durr.

**AUTHORIZED DISPOSITION:** PERMANENT. Transfer to the National Archives in FY 1999.

Acc. 66H0687, box 77

**Justification:** The incoming correspondence and the outgoing reply is from the highest office at the FCC, even though the series appears to be incomplete. While it is not possible to determine if copies of the correspondence is also maintained in the Docket Files, some of the correspondence in this accession is to high-level government officials, such as the Attorney General. Other correspondence pertains to complaints received regarding operations of individual stations, or allegations of improper broadcasts that may or may not have led to a Docket.

**11. Correspondence of the Secretary-Technical Assistant, 1952-1958.**

Correspondence arranged chronologically relating to international cooperation, Commission fellowships, international visitors, thank you letters from VIPs, international technical assistance training, training courses, and similar records related to international activities of the FCC.

**AUTHORIZED DISPOSITION:** Destroy immediately on approval of this schedule.

Acc. 67D0212, box 20

**Justification:** These files do not document significant FCC activities related to the regulation of broadcasting in the United States, and do not have sufficient value to warrant preservation in the National Archives. The records do not have continuing legal, fiscal, or administrative value.

**12. Duplicate Copies of Docket Files, 1962-1966**

Duplicate copies of correspondence, petitions, applications, hearings, decisions, and memorandums maintained by Commissioner Henry (and other FCC Commissioners). The files duplicate information which is officially maintained by the Office of the Secretary. The records are arranged by Docket Number, by state, by alphabetical topic, and by station call letter. A separate subset of files contain copies of the official agenda of Commission hearings for docketed cases.

**AUTHORIZED DISPOSITION:** Destroy immediately on approval of this schedule.

Acc. 67A0433, box 1-274

**Justification:** These are duplicate copies of records maintained solely for the convenience of reference by the Commissioners. All of the information in these records is officially maintained in the official Docket Files of the FCC maintained in the Office of the Secretary, and which are approved for continued preservation in the National Archives.

**13. Agenda Subject Files, 1962.**

Agendas of Commission meetings and hearings for docketed cases arranged by the kind of hearing: General, Aural, Common Carrier, Renewals, TV, and Complaints. All records in the files refer to the official docket number, and consist of published memorandums, orders, opinions, and decisions. The official record of meetings and hearings are maintained in the Office of the Secretary. These files were maintained for reference

purposes by FCC Chairman Henry.

**AUTHORIZED DISPOSITION:** Destroy immediately on approval of this schedule.

Acc. 67C0794, box 18

**Justification:** These are reference files for use by Commissioner Henry. None of the information in the files is unique, and all official actions of the Commission relating to hearings or docket cases is maintained in the Office of the Secretary. The records duplicate information the Docket Files which have previously been approved for continued preservation in the National Archives.

**14. Educational TV Station Grant Applications, 1964-1965.**

Duplicate copies of HEW grant applications from universities and public high schools requesting financial assistance for the construction of new educational cable TV systems and the improvement of existing systems. Filed sequentially by grant number, and thereunder by city.

**AUTHORIZED DISPOSITION:** Destroy immediately on approval of this schedule.

Acc. 68B4769, box 19-24

**Justification:** HEW was the official granting agency, and FCC received copies of the grant application for its review. There is no indication what action, if any, FCC took relating to these grant applications, nor which grants might have been approved or denied by HEW. The records do not have sufficient fiscal, legal, or administrative value to warrant continued retention.

**15. Technical Research and Information Reports, 1960-1968.**

Reports of the Ad hoc Committee to Evaluate Radio Propagation Factors in the FM Band, 1949, and a Telephone Accounting Dept. special report on the Bell system policies and practices in radio broadcasting from 1920-1936. Partial records are also included which contain interoffice memorandums, agendas, drafts of reports from the Broadcasting Bureau, and copies of legislation and other Congressional materials relating to the Quiz Show scandals of the 1960s.

**AUTHORIZED DISPOSITION:** PERMANENT. Transfer to the National Archives in FY 1999.



Acc. 69E0173, box 25

Justification: These records document regulatory issues, concerns, and policies prior to the establishment of the FCC, and Bell System telephone company practices, and early issues related to national FM broadcasting. Although the Quiz Show records appear to be incomplete, they contain information that is valuable to researchers that documents one of the major American broadcasting scandals which was investigated by the FCC and led to greater federal regulatory authority.

**16. Correspondence, Office of Satellite Communication, 1963-1966.**

Incoming and outgoing correspondence, memorandums, issue points, notes and memos of official contacts, public notices, and similar records of the Office of Satellite Communications, arranged chronologically by year and thereunder by month. The records relate to the development of COMSAT, the first communication broadcast satellite.

AUTHORIZED DISPOSITION: PERMANENT. Transfer to the National Archives in FY 1999.

Acc. 71A7314, box 1

Justification: These are the official (yellow copy) files of the program office responsible for developing federal policies related to licensing and approving the use of commercial satellites for broadcast purposes. The records consist of high-level correspondence to and from the chief of the Common Carrier Bureau, the Office of Satellite Communication, the Commission Chair, and the Principal Engineer, and other bureau heads. The records have sufficient value to merit continued preservation in the National Archives.

**17. Budget Office Estimate, Justification, and Hearing Records, 1932-1969.**

Acc. 72A2283, box 1-3

Acc. 73-0021, box 1-4

- a. Official copies of FCC budget estimates, justifications, and hearing records.

AUTHORIZED DISPOSITION: PERMANENT. Transfer to the National Archives in FY 1999.

- b. Monthly Operating Reports, 1959-1964.

AUTHORIZED DISPOSITION: Destroy during archival processing without

further agency notification.

Justification: These records are a complete set of the official budget estimates and justifications of the Federal Radio Commission in 1932, the predecessor of the FCC, and of the FCC from its establishment in 1934 through 1969. The records are not duplicated in other series of records, and have significant value to researchers in the National Archives. It was determined in the review that a small quantity of Monthly Operating Reports submitted by FCC units do not have sufficient value to warrant continued preservation, and should be destroyed during archival processing.

**18. Emergency Broadcast Advisory Committee Records, 1964-1969.**

Meeting records such as minutes, terms of reference, handwritten notes, reports, and correspondence of the chair of several subcommittees of the National Industry Advisory Committee (NIAC) which was established in the early 1960s to advise the FCC on civil defense broadcast services, emergency preparedness, and civil defense planning in the event of war or other national emergency. The subcommittee records are from the Aeronautical Communication Services Subcommittee, the Regional Industry Advisory Council, and the Domestic and International Common Carrier Services Subcommittee.

**AUTHORIZED DISPOSITION:** PERMANENT. Transfer to the National Archives in FY 1999.

Acc. 74-0016, box 1-4

Justification: These records document significant actions of the federal government and the FCC in developing national civil defense plans, coordinating federal government and private industry responsibilities, protecting critical broadcast services facilities, emergency preparedness, and other related broadcast services at the height of the Cold War, and when the threat of nuclear attack was a key issue in federal policy and planning. Although the records of the national advisory committee are not included, the correspondence and reports of the subcommittees will be valuable to researchers in understanding how the FCC and the government established national civil defense communication policies and services.

**19. Deleted Foreign Broadcast License Files, 1935 - 1959.**

Radio and TV broadcast license files from 1935 - the late 1950s submitted by American networks (ABC, CBS, Paramount, and NBC) for authorization to broadcast American programs to Canada and Mexico, particularly to Toronto and Montreal. Some of the files contain correspondence protesting FCC decisions, particularly for the application from the

Church of the Universalist seeking permission to broadcast to Canada.

**AUTHORIZED DISPOSITION:** PERMANENT. Transfer to the National Archives in FY 1999.

Acc. 80-0095, box 1-3

**Justification:** These records document early attempts of American broadcast companies and major networks to establish foreign audiences in Canada and Mexico. The records identify programming plans, broadcast services, and related efforts during the "Golden Age" of radio broadcasting, and in the early stages of televised broadcasting. The records have significant value to researchers in documenting early foreign broadcasting of American networks, and warrant continued preservation.

**20. Monthly Revenue Reports from Telephone Companies, 1972-1974.**

FCC Form 901, 903, and 905, Monthly Reports of Revenues, Expenses, and Other Items-Telephone Companies, submitted by telephone companies to the Economic Studies Division for review. Some of the boxes also contain published telephone company annual reports and bound computer printouts submitted by telephone companies with the forms.

**AUTHORIZED DISPOSITION:** Destroy immediately upon approval of this schedule.

Acc. 80-0107, box 1

Acc. 80-0111, box 1-2

Acc. 80-0114, box 1-3

Acc. 81-0050, box 1-3

**Justification:** These revenue reports contain routine financial information regarding telephone company financial operations. It is not possible to determine what, if any, action was taken by FCC as a result of these submissions, or how the information was used by the FCC in regulating telephone companies, developing new or revised policies, or other agency procedures. The records do not have sufficient value to merit preservation in the National Archives.

**21. Central Files of the Executive Director, 1942-1946.**

Correspondence from the central classified files for various file classifications related to Telegraph Companies, undersea cable communications, amateur radio operations, marine communication and ship-to-shore radio, war emergency planning, and Complaints and Violations, license history correspondence for individual radio stations, and FCC

investigations . The files are part of the main body of Central Files of the Executive Director which has already been transferred to the National Archives.

**AUTHORIZED DISPOSITION:** PERMANENT. Transfer to the National Archives in FY 1999.

Acc. 81-0004, box 1-8

**Justification:** These files complement accessions 52-A-415, 63-A-83, and 72-A-2580 which were previously transferred to the National Archives. The records consist of the central files of the Exec. Director, and document significant agency activities at a very high level.

**22. Experimental TV Application Files, 1939.**

Applications submitted to the FCC for experimental and developmental TV broadcasting. These records contain a license submitted by the May Co. Department Stores to operate a television station in its stores to broadcast a continuous fashion show for customers.

**AUTHORIZED DISPOSITION:** PERMANENT. Transfer to the National Archives in FY 1999.

Acc. 52A0051, box 83

**Justification:** These records document an early proposal for commercial TV broadcasting in the U.S. and will be valuable to researchers interested in how television broadcasting developed. Although this license was dismissed by the FCC, because of its age, and its significance in documenting one of the earliest experimental uses of television, it was determined that this application had sufficient value to warrant preservation in the National Archives.

**23. Special Temporary Authorizations and Informals, 1943-1957.**

FCC Form 725-A, Special Temporary Authorization to Transmit, for non-commercial mobile radio, remote pick-ups, and remote broadcasts. Arranged alphabetically by applicant.

**AUTHORIZED DISPOSITION:** Destroy immediately upon approval of this schedule.

Acc. 58A0004, box 353-358

Justification: These are temporary extensions to operate a mobile or remote radio, to seek a short-term extension for radio transmitters, and other routine non-commercial license extensions. The records do not document significant FCC actions, nor do they contain information that would be valuable to researchers interested in AM, FM, or TV broadcast history. Remote broadcast, mobile radio, and similar non-standard broadcast license files have been appraised as temporary records under N1-173-98-2, Item 1b.

**24. Mobile/Industrial Radio License History Cards, 1968-1971**

Card files of each mobile and industrial radio license approved by FCC. The files list license number, licensee, frequency, number of radios and base stations, repeater frequencies, and similar information.

**AUTHORIZED DISPOSITION:** Destroy immediately on approval of this schedule.

Acc. 72B5939, box 1-132 and 135-159

Acc. 72C5939, box 133-134 (NOS)

Justification: Mobile radio and industrial radio license files have previously been appraised as temporary records. The license history cards served FCC as a finding aid and quick reference aid to these voluminous case files to track renewals, changes, and other license history information. The card files do not contain information that warrants preservation in the National Archives.