

UHF PERMITTEES GET ULTIMATUM TO JUSTIFY EXTENSION REQUESTS

A TOTAL of 83 non-operating uhf stations who have filed applications for extensions of construction completion dates were advised by the FCC last week that the extensions are not going to be given automatically. The Commission said that it was not satisfied with various explanations given by the stations for not having completed construction.

Accordingly, the FCC wrote, each outlet has until Feb. 15, 1957, to provide additional information in support of its extension request. A failure to comply, the Commission warned, means dismissal of the application and cancellation of the construction permit.

The FCC action was not unanimous. Comr. Robert T. Bartley said he would not extend permits to those who have not started construction. Comr. Robert E. Lee, dissenting, said he would renew all the permits pending resolution of the uhf problem.

The stations to which the FCC addressed the letters are in various stages of development. Some have not installed any equipment, some have begun construction and others have been on the air and gone off. The FCC's notice to the "idle" uhf's was interpreted in some quarters as a move to "shake loose" some of these channels which have been tied up for several years, giving "ready-willing-and-able" interests a chance to apply for a facility. Also, the thought goes, a few channels may open up and make possible channel-switches for existing stations.

Warning Last January

Last January when the FCC extended uhf permits it served notice that in July it would critically examine what permittees had done, but when July rolled around the Commission automatically issued three-month extensions.

Stations receiving the FCC letters are listed below in the category as established by the commission:

NO INSTALLATION OF EQUIPMENT:

Ch. 36 WRAC-TV Williamsport, Pa.; ch. 48 WJLN-TV Birmingham, Ala.; ch. 63 WAZL-TV Hazleton, Pa.; ch. 72 WITH-TV Baltimore, Md.; ch. 47 WTVQ (TV) Pittsburgh, Pa.; ch. 26 WNLC-TV New London, Conn.; ch. 52 WOCN (TV) Atlantic City, N. J.; ch. 26 WHFC (TV) Chicago, Ill.; ch. 20 WHCU-TV Ithaca, N. Y.

Ch. 51 WLTV (TV) Wheeling, W. Va.; ch. 20 KBAY-TV San Francisco, Cal.; ch. 20 WIND-TV Chicago, Ill.; ch. 45 WKNE-TV Keene, N. H.; ch. 54 WQXN-TV Cincinnati, Ohio; ch. 27 WSTF (TV) Stamford, Conn.; ch. 23 WPTR-TV Albany, N. Y.; ch. 15 WCBF-TV Rochester, N. Y.; ch. 29 KXYZ-TV Houston, Tex.

Ch. 65 WERE-TV Cleveland, Ohio; ch. 59 WELI-TV New Haven, Conn.; ch. 62 WHEF-TV Brockton, Mass.; ch. 39 WQCY (TV) Allentown, Pa.; ch. 20 WAAB-TV Worcester, Mass.; ch. 44 WJDW (TV) Boston, Mass.; ch. 32 WTLE (TV) Evanston,

Ill.; ch. 52 KCOA (TV) Corona, Cal.; ch. 21 KVAN-TV Vancouver, Wash.

Ch. 62 WBID-TV Detroit, Mich.; ch. 19 WHK-TV Cleveland, Ohio; ch. 18 WTLF (TV) Baltimore, Md.; ch. 33 WMFL (TV) Miami, Fla.; ch. 17 WKDN-TV Camden, N. J.; ch. 17 KSPG (TV) Tulsa, Okla.; ch. 31 WEOL-TV Elyria, Ohio; ch. 14 KTRB-TV Modesto, Cal.; ch. 48 WTVX (TV) Gastonia, N. C.; ch. 31 WNYC-TV New York, N. Y.

Ch. 36 WTVG (TV) Mansfield, Ohio; ch. 23 WMCN (TV) Grand Rapids, Mich.; ch. 40 WINR-TV Binghamton, N. Y.; ch. 79 WTOH-TV Toledo, Ohio; ch. 38 WKOK-TV Sunbury, Pa.; ch. 19 WTVI (TV) Fort Pierce, Fla.; ch. 31 WFOX-TV Milwaukee, Wis.; ch. 18 WEAL-TV Orlando, Fla.; ch. 23 WPHD (TV) Philadelphia, Pa.; ch. 38 WXEL (TV) Boston, Mass.; ch. 73 WXTV (TV) Youngstown, Ohio.

ON AIR AND OFF:

Ch. 58 WRTV (TV) Asbury Park, N. J.; ch. 38 WFTV (TV) Duluth, Minn.; ch. 46 WFPG (TV) Atlantic City, N. J.; ch. 15 WPFA-TV Pensacola, Fla.; ch. 21 WKLO-TV Louisville, Ky.; ch. 22 WIFE (TV) Dayton, Ohio; ch. 31 KBMT (TV) Beaumont, Tex.; ch. 24 WBTM-TV Danville, Va.; ch. 30 WCDC-TV Meridian, Miss.

Ch. 53 WKJF-TV Pittsburgh, Pa.; ch. 39 KNUZ-TV Houston, Tex.; ch. 21 WKNY-TV Poughkeepsie, N. Y.; ch. 15 WICA-TV Ashtabula, Ohio; ch. 25 KTVQ (TV) Oklahoma City, Okla.; ch. 23 KCEB (TV) Tulsa, Okla.; ch. 49 WKNA-TV Charleston, W. Va.; ch. 56 WTAO-TV Cambridge, Mass.; ch. 17 KGTV (TV) Des Moines, Iowa; ch. 16 WNET (TV) Providence, R. I.; ch. 15 WLBR-TV Lebanon, Pa.; ch. 35 WJPB-TV Fairmont, W. Va.; ch. 36 WATL-TV Atlanta, Ga.

PARTIAL CONSTRUCTION:

Ch. 59 WPTV (TV) Ashland, Ky.; ch. 41 WQXL-TV Louisville, Ky.; ch. 14 WACA-TV Camden, S. C.; ch. 30 WQIK-TV Jacksonville, Fla.; ch. 27 WLAP-TV Lexington, Ky.; ch. 14 WOOK-TV Washington, D. C.

MISCELLANEOUS:

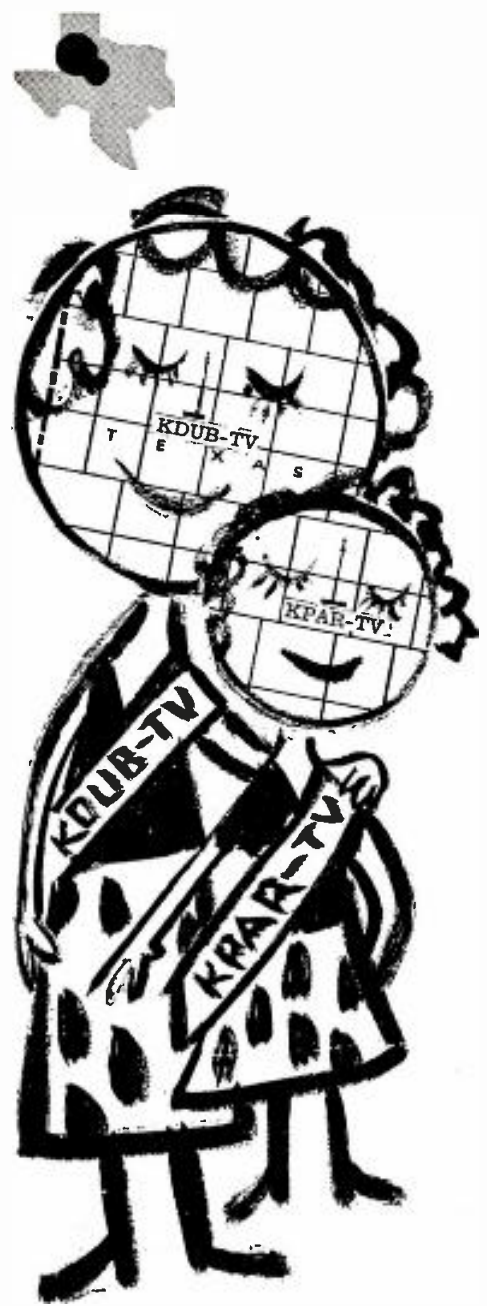
Ch. 26 WCKG (TV) New Orleans, La.; ch. 44 WOPT (TV) Chicago, Ill.; ch. 44 WTVU (TV) Scranton, Pa.; ch. 25 WCAN-TV Milwaukee, Wis.; ch. 52 WRAY-TV Princeton, Ind.; ch. 16 KEDD (TV) Wichita, Kan.; ch. 67 WFMZ-TV Allentown, Pa.

KFMB-TV Appeals ABC Proposal

THE U. S. Court of Appeals in Washington, Friday was asked to rule on the legality of ABC's proposal to feed its network programs to ch. 6 XETV (TV) Tijuana, Mexico. The appeal was taken by ch. 8 KFMB-TV San Diego, one of the two San Diego outlets which have fought the network's plans to affiliate with the Mexican station for the lower California market. The FCC affirmed its 1955 authorization of this affiliation last month after a hearing was held on the San Diego objections [B•T, Oct 29].

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