

Chronology 1931-1991

- 1895:**
Guglielmo Marconi sends and receives his first wireless signals across his father's estate at Bologna, Italy.
- March 27, 1899:**
Marconi flashes the first wireless signals across the English Channel.
- December 12, 1901:**
Marconi at Newfoundland intercepts the first transatlantic signal, the letter "S", transmitted from Poldhu, England.
- 1906:**
Dr. Lee De Forest invents the audion, a three-element vacuum tube, having a filament, plate and grid.
- January 13, 1910:**
Enrico Caruso and Emmy Destinn, singing backstage at the Metropolitan Opera House, New York, broadcast through De Forest radiophone and are heard by operators on S.S. Avon at sea and by wireless amateurs in Connecticut.
- June 24, 1910:**
United States approves an act requiring certain passenger ships to carry wireless equipment and operators.
- April 14, 1912:**
S.S. Titanic disaster proves the value of wireless at sea; 705 lives saved. Jack Phillips and Harold Bride are the wireless men. David Sarnoff, at Marconi wireless station on Wanamaker Building in New York, receives signals.
- August 20, 1920:**
WWJ (AM) Detroit, owned by Detroit News, starts what is later claimed to be regular broadcasting.
- November 2, 1920:**
KDKA (AM) Pittsburgh (Westinghouse Co.) sends out the Harding-Cox election returns, starting what is claimed to be first regularly scheduled broadcasting.
- July 2, 1921:**
Dempsey-Carpentier fight is broadcast from Boyle's Thirty Acres in Jersey City through a temporarily installed transmitter at Hoboken, N.J. Major J. Andrew White is the announcer. This event gives radio a tremendous boost.
- 1922:**
The superheterodyne as a broadcast receiver is demonstrated by its inventor, Edwin H. Armstrong.
- September 7, 1922:**
WEAF (AM) New York broadcasts the first commercially sponsored program of the Queensborough Corp., a real estate organization.
- January 4, 1923:**
A "chain" broadcast features a telephone tieup between WEAF New York and WNAC Boston.
- 1924:**
Republican convention at Cleveland and Democratic convention at New York are broadcast over networks.
- 1925:**
Coolidge inaugural broadcast by 24 stations in transcontinental network.
- February 23, 1926:**
President Coolidge signs the Dill-White Radio Bill creating the Federal Radio Commission and ending chaos caused by wild growth of broadcasting.
- November 1, 1926:**
National Broadcasting Company organized, with WEAF and WJZ as key stations and Merlin Hall Aylesworth as president. Headquarters established at 711 Fifth Avenue, New York.
- September 18, 1927:**
Columbia Broadcasting System goes on the air with a basic network of 16 stations. Major J. Andrew White is president.
- January 3, 1929:**
William S. Paley elected president of Columbia Broadcasting System.
- November 18, 1929:**
Dr. V.K. Zworykin demonstrates his kinescope or cathode-ray television receiver before a meeting of the Institute of Radio Engineers.
- July 30, 1930:**
Experimental television transmitter W2XAB is operated by National Broadcasting Co. in New York.
- 1931**
- July 21:**
Experimental television station W2XAB is opened by Columbia Broadcasting System in New York.
- October 15:**
First issue of *Broadcasting* magazine appears. "Broadcasting in the United States today stands in grave jeopardy. Politically powerful and efficiently organized groups, actuated by a selfishness and with a mania for power, are now busily at work plotting the complete destruction of the industry we have pioneered and developed," Walter J. Damm, president, National Association of Broadcasters, in his message to 1931 annual NAB convention. Federal Radio Commission grants full power (50 kw) to nine stations, making total of 23 outlets now authorized for full power operation out of 40 clear-channel stations.
- November 1:**
Harry Shaw, WMT(AM) Waterloo, Iowa, is elected NAB president for ensuing year.
U.S. and Canadian stations complain of interference from high-power Mexican border stations, Mexico not being party to "gentlemen's agreement" between Canada and U.S. for non-conflicting frequency assignments.
NBC forms two Pacific Coast networks—Orange, comprising KGO(AM) Oakland, KFI(AM) Los Angeles, KGW(AM) Portland, KOMO(AM) Seattle, KHZ(AM) Spokane, and Gold, with KPO(AM) San Francisco, KECA(AM) Los Angeles, KEX(AM) Portland, KJR(AM) Seattle and KGA(AM) Spokane.
Pursuant to zone and state quota system of station allocations ordered by Davis amendment to the Federal Radio Act of 1927, FRC orders WIBO(AM) and WPCC(AM) Chicago off the air and assigns 560 kc, on which they share time, to WJKS(AM) Gary, Ind. (This became benchmark law in later court appeal. See report for May 15, 1933).
- December 1:**
Two of every five U.S. households owned radios on April 1, 1930, U.S. Census Bureau reports: 12,078,345 radio families out of total 29,980,146 U.S. families.
- December 15:**
FRC revises rules to require station-break announcements only every 30 minutes and to permit identification of reproduced music in any "clear" language. Also provides for granting applications without hearings.
Chicago stations, meeting with Better Business Bureau, agree to drop exaggerated and misleading advertising, to abide by NAB standards of practice. More than half of nation's stations are operating without profit, NAB President Harry Shaw tells FRC.
- 1932**
- January 1:**
James C. Petrillo, president, Chicago local, American Federation of Musicians, calls strike against city's radio stations for midnight New Year's Eve. Educational stations devote only 8% of their air time to educational programs, compared to 10% average for commercial stations, FRC records show.
- January 15:**
Senate adopts resolution ordering FRC to investigate radio advertising, study feasibility of government operation of broadcasting along European lines. Refusing to bow to Petrillo's demands, Chicago broadcasters stand firm, avert strike, win new contract on own terms.
- February 1:**
FRC adopts order requiring all applications for station licenses to include sworn statements of transfer terms, designed to stop "trafficking in wave lengths and licenses."
- February 15:**
Senate launches study to find why State Department has not negotiated with Mexico and Cuba to protect radio channels used by U.S. broadcasters. BBDO survey finds over 75 regular weekly transcribed programs on air for national advertisers, .175% increase in two years.
Gross incomes of CBS and NBC in 1931 totaled \$35,791,000, gain of 33.6% over 1930.
- March 1:**
House Committee on Patents begins investigation of American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers and what committee Chairman William I. Sirovitch (D-N.Y.) termed its "racketeering" activities. New copyright legislation designed to protect broadcasters and other users of music is planned.
- March 15:**
CBS, NBC and New York area stations, notably WOR(AM), go into round-the-clock operations to cover Lindbergh kidnapping, radio's biggest spot-news reporting job to date.
Samuel Clyde, director of advertising, General Mills, urges that broadcasting stations operate on standard time year round as railroads do, eliminating semiannual time change switch he called "the one big drawback" in radio advertising.
William S. Paley, CBS president, and associates buy half interest in network held by Paramount-Publix Corp., giving them complete ownership of network. Lehn & Fink, in daring experiment, puts complete 1932 advertising budget of Pebecco toothpaste into radio.
KNX(AM) Hollywood signs three-year contract with United Press for wire service for four broadcasts each day plus "extras."
- April 1:**
WFLA(AM)—WSUN(AM) Clearwater, FL, installs country's first directional antenna, designed by Raymond Wilmette, "British authority on transmitting aerials."
- April 15:**
ASCAP boosts copyright fees to broadcasters by 300%, to 5% of gross income, totaling some \$3.5 million annually, compared with \$960,000 for 1931.
- May 1:**
NBC lifts ban on recorded programs for its owned and operated stations, leaving it up to judgment of station managers, but still barring them from network use.
Rejecting ASCAP's demands, NAB sets up committee to negotiate better deal with copyright owners, secures moratorium until Sept. 1.
- June 15:**
Federal Radio Commission, after six-month investigation of broadcasting, particularly its advertising activities, reports to Congress that "any plan... to eliminate the use of radio facilities for commercial advertising purposes, will, if adopted, destroy the present system of broadcasting."
Advertising agencies, also queried, say that any law limiting advertising on air to announcement of sponsorship would cause most advertisers to cease their use of radio.
- July 1:**
State Supreme Court of Nebraska, in suit of Attorney General C.A. Sorensen against KFAB (AM) Lincoln and Richard A. Wood for allegedly libelous remarks made by Wood over KFAB during election campaign, rules that broadcasting station is equally liable with speaker for libelous statements disseminated through its facilities.
- July 15:**
To broadcast 58 hours of sessions of two national political conventions from Chicago Stadium, NBC canceled 56 commercials, CBS canceled more than a dozen.
NBC withdraws prohibition against price mentions on air during daytime hours; A&P is first advertiser to take advantage.
- August 1:**
ASCAP breaks off negotiations with NAB; prepares to start negotiations with individual stations; offers three-year contracts at 3% of net income for first year, 4% for second and 5% for third, plus annual sustaining program fees. Broadcasting survey of free advertising propositions currently flooding radio station mail reveals national magazines as most persistent in demands for free time on air.
- August 15:**
Republicans allot \$300,000 for radio time for presidential campaign, two-thirds for network time, one-third for spot.
- September 1:**
NAB resumes negotiations with ASCAP, submits to demands for progressive percentage-of-income fees for music used on commercial shows, plus flat sustaining payment.

September 15:

CBS and NBC permit price mentions, night as well as day; again, A&P is first advertiser to broadcast prices at night.

October 18:

Mexican government authorizes XER(AM), across border from Del Rio, Tex., to broadcast with 50 kw; NAB files protest with State Department asking protection from interference for U.S. broadcasters.

ASCAP offers special reduced fees to newspaper-owned stations in recognition of "substantial contributions to the promotion of music made by newspapers.

To protect broadcasters from dangers inherent in Nebraska Supreme Court ruling on radio libel, John W. Guilder, acting chairman of committee on communications, American Bar Association, advocates rule freeing station from liability "whenever it appears that the management of the station exercised due and reasonable care to avoid the utterance of defamation."

November 1:

Chrysler Corp. introduces 1933 Plymouth Six to 75,000 salesmen via 25-city CBS hookup; insures this radio business conference for \$500,000 against line break or equipment failure.

Interstate Commerce Commission, dismissing complaint of Sta-Shine Co. against NBC and WGBB (AM) Freeport, New York, rules that broadcasting stations are not public utilities and that ICC therefore has no power to regulate their advertising rates.

December 1:

NAB St. Louis convention elects as president Alfred J. McCosker, director, WOR(AM) Newark, NJ; plans program of aggressive opposition to exorbitant copyright fees and line charges, spearheaded by prominent public figure and supported by war chest three or four times as big as present annual income of \$50,000; agrees on self-regulation as best preventive of governmental interference in broadcasting.

Accepting government consent decree, General Electric and Westinghouse agree to divest themselves of their stock control of RCA, which becomes completely independent company; patent pool becomes nonexclusive, but RCA retains licensing rights to patents of GE and Westinghouse as well as its own.

1933

January 1:

Frederic R. Gamble, American Association of Advertising Agencies executive secretary, urges closer cooperation between agencies and broadcasters, advocates cash discount for bills paid promptly by agencies.

January 15:

Phonograph companies start labeling records "not licensed for radio broadcast" as move to protect their alleged property rights; Oswald F. Schuette, director of NAB copyright activities, calls move "a bluff" with no legal basis.

February 1:

NAB retains Newton D. Baker, Cleveland attorney who was Secretary of War during Wilson administration, as special counsel.

Foods, drugs and toiletries, and tobaccos were most-advised products on radio networks (CBS and NBC) in 1932, when combined gross time sales totaled \$39,106,776.

March 1:

NAB commercial committee and AAAA radio committee agree on standard form for agency orders of radio time.

Attempted assassination of President-elect Roosevelt gets prompt radio coverage; CBS puts eyewitnesses on air within 90 minutes via special line instead of taking time to have link with Miami reversed.

KOIL(AM) Omaha, creates business at depth of Depression by selling time to associations of barbers, beauticians, florists, grocers, druggists and other trade groups whose members buy collectively what they can't afford individually.

March 15:

Radio places full facilities at disposal of Roosevelt administration during banking crisis; largest audience in history reported for President Roosevelt's CBS-NBC broadcast on plans to reopen nation's banks.

Canadian Radio commission acquires its first three stations, CNRA(AM) Moncton, N.B.; CNRO(AM) Ottawa, Ont., and CNRV(AM); Vancouver, B.C., formerly owned by Canadian National Railways.

April 1:

Post office modifies rules so stations can forward fan mail to sponsors in bulk without paying additional first class fees.

NBC discontinues its Pacific Coast Gold Network to save line costs; Orange network continues, absorbing some Gold programs.

Southern California broadcasters carry on amid wreckage to keep nation informed of effects of earthquake.

April 15:

NAB organizes Radio Program Foundation to make available for broadcasting copyrighted works of non-ASCAP composers and publishers.

Federal District Court in Sioux Falls, S.D., grants Associated Press permanent injunction against unauthorized broadcasting of AP news by KSOO (AM) Sioux Falls.

May 1:

AP membership votes to ban network broadcasts of AP news and to curtail local broadcasts to bulletins at stipulated times with air credit to member newspaper, which is to pay extra broadcast assessment.

American Newspaper Publishers Association annual meeting resolves that radio logs are advertising and should be published only if paid for.

May 15:

Federal Radio Commission is granted absolute power in distributing radio facilities by Supreme Court ruling upholding commission's decision to delete WIBO(AM) and WPCC(AM) Chicago (over quota by current allocation plan) and give 560 kc regional channel to WJKS(AM) Gary, Ind.

News on air is undiminished as United Press and International News Service fail to follow AP's example; networks establish own correspondents in key cities; President again uses combined CBS-NBC networks for second "fireside chat," phrase coined by Harry Butler, CBS Washington.

July 1:

NAB-sponsored Radio Program Foundation acquires broadcast rights to Ricordi catalogue of 123,000 compositions; offers package to member stations at rates of \$2.50 to \$25 monthly.

George B. Storer, president, CKLW(AM) Detroit-Windsor, heads Point-O-Purchase Broadcasting System, which plans to install radio receivers in grocery and drug stores to receive programs broadcast by Point-O-Purchase during peak shopping hours and so provide "the missing link between manufacturer and consumer."

August 1:

National Recovery Administration program involves broadcasters in two ways: (1) As employers and as operators of medium which can publicize program. (2) NAB sends questionnaire to all broadcasters on employment practices, appoints advisory committee to work with William B. Dolph, former RCA Photophone salesman, now in charge of radio publicity for NRA.

August 15:

First North American Radio Conference breaks up when Mexico refuses to budge from demands for 12 clear channels; interference problems foreseen as Latin American countries, not bound by any international agreements, are free to use whatever frequencies they desire.

September 1:

Rate cutting, per-inquiry business, song plugging, excessive coverage claims, excessive commission payments, lotteries and similar practices are barred by broadcasting code drafted by NAB committee and submitted to NRA; Sol A. Rosenblatt is named code administrator.

New York business group headed by Alfred E. Smith acquires commercial and program rights of WMCA(AM) New York in \$155,000-a-year deal whose legality is questioned by Federal Radio Commission.

September 15:

NAB special counsel, Newton D. Baker, files suit in federal court asking dissolution of ASCAP as illegal trade combination. CBS assigns publicity director, Paul White, to task of organizing nationwide staff to collect news for network broadcast.

October 1:

General Mills sponsors twice-daily broadcasts on CBS of news collected by Columbia News Service; Washington Star drops program log of WJSV(AM) (CBS outlet serving Washington) in line with policy of "not advertising our competitors."

After many delays, Ed Wynn's Amalgamated Broadcasting System gets under way as third national net-

work with 100 outlets, connected by Western Union lines. (see Nov. 15 item).

Stations file for 50 kw power as FRC lifts limit from four to eight per zone, or from 20 to 40 for U.S.

NBC moves into Radio City headquarters, world's largest broadcasting plant.

October 15:

NAB convention re-elects Alfred J. McCosker, WOR(AM) Newark, NJ, for second year as president; urges abolition of requirement that recorded programs be so identified; urges three-year licenses in place of current six-month ones; agrees to intensify fight against ASCAP; denounces concealed commercials in sustaining programs and contingency accounts as unfair practices.

Yankee Network adds rider to political contracts absolving network from liability for libel or defamation by speakers.

November 15:

Repeal of Prohibition Act raises question of advertising hard liquor on radio; CBS and some stations announce they will not accept it at all.

Other groups ponder "third network" organizations as Ed Wynn's Amalgamated Broadcasting System goes bankrupt.

WGN (AM) Chicago, WBZ (AM) Boston and WHAM (AM) Rochester, NY, are first to get 50 kw under revised regulation.

December 1:

President signs broadcasting code, calling for minimum wages of \$40 per week for technicians, \$20 per week for announcers and program production employees (\$15 if fewer than 10 such employed at station).

Washington newspapers agree to publish radio logs only as paid advertising.

1934

January 1:

Broadcast band widened to include three new channels—1530, 1550 and 1570 kc—with 20 kc separation, for experimental operation (but with full authority to broadcast commercial programs) with goal of high-fidelity broadcast transmission.

January 15:

WLW Cincinnati starts tests of new 500 kw transmitter, world's most powerful.

Group programming, a station-built half hour sold to six sponsors instead of one, developed at WTMJ Milwaukee to stimulate sales during Depression, proves successful for both station and sponsors.

February 1:

NRA Code Authority for broadcasting outlaws per-inquiry and contingent business, launches study of status of performers to determine whether they should be covered by code's wage-and-hour provisions.

Students remember advertising they hear better than that they read in test conducted by Professor Frank Stanton of Ohio State University's psychology department.

February 15:

CBS and NBC withdraw from newsgathering field as AP, UP and INS agree to provide material for morning and evening network newscasts.

Milwaukee Journal's WTMJ(AM) prepares for experimental facsimile broadcasting.

March 1:

Press Radio Bureau begins operations; Yankee Network and KFI (AM) Los Angeles set up own news organizations with exchange of news contemplated.

March 15:

George B. Storer, chief owner of CKLW(AM) Detroit-Windsor, WSPD(AM) Toledo, Ohio and WWVA(AM) Wheeling, W.Va., becomes president and majority stockholder of Federal Broadcasting Corp., lessee-operator of WMCA(AM) New York, designated as key station for projected nationwide network.

April 1:

Three independent news services organize to provide news to radio stations.

May 1:

Federal Trade Commission announces that after June 1 it will periodically ask stations, networks, transcription companies for copies of all commercial copy as part of overall survey of advertising.

June 15:

Communications Act now law; Federal Communications Commission to replace Federal Radio Commission July 1.

July 1:

E.O. Sykes, charter member of Federal Radio Commission, is named chairman of new FCC. Other members are: Thad H. Brown, also holdover from FRC, Paul A. Walker, Norman S. Case, Irvin Stewart, George Henry Payne and Hampson Gary. George B. Storer announces new network, American Broadcasting System, will begin operations in mid-August; hires Frederick H. Weber, former Chicago manager of NBC station relations, as operations vice president.

July 15:

Clear-channel stations attack "break down" policy of old radio commission; urge FCC to conduct engineering study of subject preliminary to restatement of regulations.

August 1:

FCC forms three-man broadcasting division, with Hampson Gary as chairman, Thad Brown and Judge Sykes as members.

September 1:

Department of Justice files antitrust suit asking dissolution of ASCAP as illegal monopoly.

September 15:

Don Lee, owner of KHJ(AM) Los Angeles, KFRC(AM) San Francisco, KDB(AM) Santa Barbara, CA, and KGB(AM) San Diego and operator of Don Lee Network, dies at 53.

October 1:

J. Truman Ward, WLAC(AM) Nashville, is elected president of NAB.

Quality Group organizes as network for commercial programs only, linking WOR(AM) New York, WGN(AM) Chicago and WLW(AM) Cincinnati, with WXYZ(AM) Detroit as optional outlet.

October 15:

FCC revises quota system to permit more stations and higher power.

Ford Motor Co. pays \$100,000 for broadcast rights to World Series; links three networks plus independent stations into 180-outlet special hookup for event.

FCC begins hearing on proposal that 25% of broadcasting facilities be allotted to nonprofit groups.

Quality Group changes name to Mutual Broadcasting System.

American Broadcasting System starts 16-hour daily program service over 18-station network reaching from New York to St. Louis.

November 1:

After years of legal battles to protect its place in Chicago, Westinghouse moves KYW(AM), city's first radio station, to Philadelphia to comply with governmental quota technicalities.

Complying with request made jointly by 13 clear-channel stations, FCC orders inquiry into clear-channel structure.

Federal court upholds property right to broadcast material, enjoins Upgroar Co., Boston publisher, from publishing Ed Wynn's Texaco fire chief broadcast scripts in pamphlet form.

1935**January 1:**

Federal District Judge John C. Bowen in Seattle rules that once news is printed in newspapers it may be broadcast without restriction, dismisses AP suit against KVOS(AM) Bellingham, WA., alleged to have "pirated" AP news from member newspapers.

NAB starts study of audience-survey methods with eye to establishing independent audit bureau for radio.

January 15:

Federal Judge Merrill E. Otis in Kansas City, MO., rules station is jointly liable with speaker for libelous broadcasts, finds KMBC(AM) guilty for statement on CBS program originating in New York.

February 15:

First *Broadcasting Yearbook* is issued. In face of many requests for free time from commercial firms, broadcast code authority rules against any station accepting "propaganda" except on commercial basis.

April 1:

With new chairman, Anning S. Prall, FCC starts to clean house: cites stations for accepting medical advertising, warns industry to live up to rules, holds conference with network heads on good taste in broadcasting, calls national meeting to work out ways for better cooperation between broadcasters and educators.

April 15:

American Society of Recording Artists, new group, asks royalty fees for broadcasts of phonograph records.

May 15:

Philip G. Loucks resigns as managing director of NAB after five years to return to private law practice.

United Press and International News Service offer news to radio; Associated Press permits member papers to provide news for local newscasts but still forbids sponsorship.

RCA announces it is taking television out of laboratory for one million field-test program.

June 1:

Code authority for broadcasting industry shut down as Supreme Court of United States declares National Recovery Act unconstitutional.

Transradio Press Service files \$1-million damage suit against CBS, NBC, AP, UP, INS and American Newspaper Publishing Association, alleging press-radio program agreed to in 1934 was illegal and unfair competition.

June 15:

Plan for bureau of agency recognition and credit information to be operated for, and by, broadcasting industry is adopted by NAB commercial section.

NBC launches Thesaurus, recorded library service.

July 1:

Warner Brothers announces withdrawal of its five music publishing firms, said to account for 40% of all ASCAP music performances, from ASCAP on January 1, 1936.

July 15:

NAB elects Charles W. Myers, KOIN(AM) Portland, OR, president, names James Baldwin as managing director; re-elects as treasurer Isaac D. Levy of WCAU(AM) Philadelphia, controversial figure in acceptance of new five-year license from ASCAP; endorses agency-recognition plan; adopts revised code of ethics which outlaws per-inquiry and contingent business.

Washington state gets restraining order preventing ASCAP from collecting royalties for broadcast performances of its music within state, on grounds that ASCAP is monopoly in violation of state constitution.

September 15:

Scripps-Howard decides to enter radio and applies for permission to buy WFBE(AM) Cincinnati; seeks stations in other cities where it has newspapers.

Committee of 15, with equal representation from NAB, Association of National Advertisers and American Association of Advertising Agencies, starts work on creation of radio counterpart of Audit Bureau of Circulations for newspapers and magazines.

October 1:

FCC demonstrates it is still scrutinizing programs by giving scores of stations temporary renewals pending further investigation of "questionable" programming.

October 15:

Eso's sponsorship of United Press news on group of NBC O&O stations leads Associated Press board of directors to reaffirm its ban on use of AP news on sponsored broadcasts.

November 15:

Tax law of state of Washington, imposing tax of 0.5% on gross income of radio stations, is declared unconstitutional by federal court in suit brought by KVL(AM) Seattle; state supreme court had upheld law's validity in earlier suit of KOMO(AM)—KJR(AM).

December 1:

Yankee Network underwrites Boston survey of listening made by mechanical meter devices attached to sets in 1,000 homes to measure tuning, developed by two Massachusetts Institute of Technology professors, Robert F. Elder of marketing department and L.F. Woodruff of electrical engineering department.

1936**January 1:**

Warner Brothers withdraws musical catalogues from ASCAP and offers performance rights to broadcasters on flat fee basis which networks reject; ASCAP temporarily extends its licenses to broadcasters but with no reduction in fees.

NBC adds second Pacific Coast network; both NBC Red and NBC Blue now national.

Lenox R. Lohr, general manager of Chicago's successful Century of Progress, succeeds M.H. Aylesworth as NBC president.

U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals holds broadcasting news taken from newspaper as unfair competition, re-

versing earlier decision in case of AP versus KVOS(AM) Bellingham, WA.

WCOA(AM) Pensacola, FL, asks FCC to compel AT&T to reduce its rates in first formal complaint ever filed concerning charges for broadcast lines.

January 15:

ASCAP cancels temporary licenses, threatens infringement suits against stations not signing new five-year contracts at same price for less music.

Following industry survey, 120 members of Distilled Spirits Institute agree not to advertise hard liquor on air.

February 1:

FCC liberalizes recording-transcription announcement rules; now requires only one announcement per quarter-hour.

February 15:

Warner Brothers files infringement suits totaling more than \$3 million against networks and stations; NAB revives plan to establish its own music-rights organization.

March 15:

CBS broadcasts speech by Communist Party Secretary Earl Browder; some affiliates refuse to broadcast it; editorials and congressmen attack and defend CBS action.

April 1:

CBS buys KNX(AM) Los Angeles for \$1.3 million, biggest station deal to date.

Hearst Radio acquires KTAT(AM) Fort Worth, WACO(AM) Waco, TX, and KOMA(AM) Oklahoma City.

AT&T works out agreement with WCOA(AM) Pensacola to reduce rate on backhauls by 50% (savings of about \$2,000 per year for station).

April 15:

U.S. Supreme Court rules broadcasting is instrumentality of interstate commerce, not subject to state taxation, in reversing Supreme Court of Washington State, which had upheld a state tax on gross receipts of radio stations.

May 1:

NAB board approves plan to create "bureau of copyrights" with "measured service" method of compensation.

June 15:

President Roosevelt signs bill repealing Davis Amendment to original radio law, which required equal division of broadcasting facilities among five zones, and among states in each zone, opens way for more stations, increased power.

Don Lee Broadcasting System starts first public demonstration of cathode-ray television in U.S. with daily broadcasts of 300-line pictures using system developed by Harry Lubcke, Don Lee director of TV.

July 1:

FM broadcasting, new system invented by Major E.H. Armstrong, is described at FCC hearing as static-free, noise-free, free from fading and cross talk, uniform day and night throughout all seasons and with greater fidelity of reproduction.

July 15:

Charles W. Myers, KOIN(AM)-KALE(AM) Portland, OR, elected NAB president; Isaac D. Levy, WCAU(AM) Philadelphia, retiring NAB treasurer, attacks NAB board and managing director for copyright mismanagement, then resigns from NAB promising to form new association; convention backs managing director and board and maintains solid front. Sales managers organize as NAB division.

RCA shows radio manufacturers its system of TV, being field tested with transmissions from New York's Empire State Building.

August 1:

Warner Brothers returns to ASCAP, drops infringement suits of more than \$4 million.

National Association of Regional Broadcasting Stations organizes to protect interests at upcoming FCC allocations hearings, elects John Shepard III, Yankee Network president, as chairman.

Members of National Association of Recording Artists follow up granting of injunction restraining WDAS(AM) Philadelphia from broadcasting phonograph records made by NARA President Fred Waring, institute suits against WHN(AM), WNEW(AM) and WEVD(AM), all New York, for unauthorized record broadcasts.

August 15:

Philco Corp. demonstrates its system of television with seven-mile transmission of live and film subjects in 345-line images 9 1/2 by 7 1/2 inches.

September 1:

Mutual Broadcasting System starts drive to become nationwide network by signing five Midwestern affiliates—KWK(AM) St. Louis; KSO(AM) Des Moines, IA; WMT (AM) Cedar Rapids, IA; KOIL (AM) Omaha, NE; KFOR(AM) Lincoln, NE; WLW(AM) Cincinnati, turns in its MBS stock but remains as outlet.

September 15:

Television starts in England, with twice-daily telecasts using alternately Baird and EMI-Marconi systems.

October 1:

After KF(AM) and KECA(AM) Los Angeles refuse to carry President Roosevelt's "fireside chat" as sustaining program, Democratic National Committee cuts them from network outlets getting paid campaign broadcasts.

October 15:

A.C. Nielsen proposes metered tuning method of measuring size of program audiences at ANA meeting, reveals his firm's acquisition of "audimeter" developed at MIT; Edgar Felix urges coverage measurements to determine audience.

November 1:

CBS cancels "debate" of Senator Arthur Vanderberg (R-MI) with recording of President Roosevelt's statements as violating its no-transcription rule, then reinstates broadcast; mob at Terre Haute, IN, prevents Communist candidate Earl Browder from reaching WBOW(AM) studio; parties step up time purchases as campaign closes.

November 15:

Complete election return coverage by networks and stations winds up campaign in which political parties spent estimated \$2 million for radio time.

Demonstrations of RCA's 343-line TV system are highlight of NBC's 10th anniversary celebration.

December 15:

Don Lee Broadcasting System affiliates with Mutual, making latter coast-to-coast network.

1937

January 1:

Chicago Federation of Musicians forbids members to make recordings except under special conditions, as move to halt threat of "canned" music to employment of live musicians.

U.S. Supreme Court throws out suit of Associated Press against KVOS(AM) Bellingham, WA, for AP's failure to show damages of over \$3,000, minimum needed for federal jurisdiction, but looks with disfavor on KVOS practice of buying newspapers and reading news from them on air.

February 1:

Radio goes on around-the-clock duty to provide communication for flood-stricken Ohio and Mississippi valleys, and aids relief work; job wins nation's praise.

Station sales managers, in first national meeting, reject requests of recording companies for third 15% (in addition to commissions paid agencies and station representatives), ask networks to discontinue chain-break announcements from their O&O stations before asking affiliates to do so.

Representative Otha D. Wearin (D-IA) introduces bill to outlaw newspaper ownership of radio stations.

February 15:

Charging networks with monopoly in broadcasting, legislators demand congressional investigation of radio. Representative Wigglesworth (R-MA) blasts FCC for permitting trafficking in licenses and reads into record full report of station sales and leases approved by commission.

April 1:

North American Radio Conference at Havana agrees on technical principles of broadcast allocations, paving way for treaty conference in November.

CBS applies for experimental video station in New York, plans to install RCA TV transmitter in Chrysler building tower and to construct special studios at total cost of \$500,000.

April 15:

CBS recognizes American Guild of Radio Announcers and Producers, independent union headed by Roy S. Langham, CBS producer; bargaining begins for network's announcing-production employees.

May 1:

CBS breaks ground for \$2-million Hollywood studios. American Radio Telegraphists Association (CIO), International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (AFL) and Newspaper Guild (claimed by both AFL and CIO)

start drives to organize station employees; NBC institutes five-day week for production staff.

May 15:

WLS(AM) Chicago recording team of Herb Morrison, announcer, and Charles Nehlsen, engineer, on routine assignment at Lakehurst, NJ, record on-the-spot, at-the-time account of explosion of German dirigible Hindenburg; NBC breaks rigid rule against recordings to put it on network.

RCA demonstrates projection television, with images enlarged to 8 by 10 feet, at Institute of Radio Engineers convention.

June 15:

Transradio Press's \$1,700,000 suit against networks and press associations is settled out of court.

July 1:

NAB elects John Elmer, WCBM(AM) Baltimore, as 1937-38 president, James W. Baldwin is reappointed managing director.

August 1:

American Federation of Musicians demands that broadcast stations increase their employment of musicians to number satisfactory to union or lose their musical programs.

Actor's Equity withdraws from radio with organization of new AFL union, American Federation of Radio Artists.

Guglielmo Marconi, 63, dies of heart attack in Rome.

September 1:

Independent Radio Network Affiliates organize to deal with AFM; ponder suggestion of AFM President Joseph N. Weber that weekly sum of three and half times station's one-time evening quarter-hour rate be used to employ live musicians, amounting to some \$5.5 million per year overall.

Frank R. McNinch, from Federal Power Commission, goes to FCC as chairman; Commander T.A.M. Craven becomes FCC commissioner.

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (AFL) starts drive to organize radio technicians after National Labor Relations Board certifies American Radio Telegraphists Association (CIO) as bargaining agent for WHN(AM) New York technicians, overruling petition of International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (AFL).

September 15:

AFM strike averted as network affiliates agree to spend additional \$1.5 million per year to employ staff musicians; NAB calls special convention.

Chicago stations broadcast lessons as infantile-paralysis epidemic closes schools.

October 1:

American Bar Association recommends that broadcasting of court trials be "definitely forbidden."

FCC gives two stations—WGH(AM) Newport News, VA, and WHO(AM) Des Moines, IA, permission to experiment with facsimile broadcasts on their regular frequencies in midnight-6 a.m. period; both plan to use system developed by W.G.H. Finch, former assistant chief engineer of FCC.

October 15:

NAB special convention votes for complete reorganization, approves 50% hike in dues.

November 1:

FCC allocates 75 channels with 40 kc separation (41,020 kc to 43,980 kc) for "apex" stations and 19.6-mc bands for television (44-108 mc), with 16 channels in 30-40 mc band for relay stations.

November 15:

NBC refuses to let General Hugh S. Johnson broadcast talk on venereal disease. Bell Labs demonstrates intercity TV program transmission over 90-mile coaxial cable connecting New York and Philadelphia.

December 15:

Inter-American Radio Conference reaches agreement on broadcast allocations that protects U.S. broadcasters by eliminating Mexican border stations, but requires many shifts in U.S. station frequencies.

1938

January 1:

U.S. Court of Appeals for District of Columbia, in opinion written by Associate Justice Justin Miller, sharply criticizes FCC in reversing its denial of application of Paul H. Heitmeyer for new station in Cheyenne, WY, which court calls "arbitrary and capricious."

January 15:

FCC announces policy of not licensing second station in same community to existing licensee unless it is "clearly shown" that public interest would be best

served by such license; denies application of WSMB(AM) New Orleans for second station there.

John Shepard III, president of Yankee Network, starts construction of 50 kw FM station atop Mt. Wachusett at cost of \$250,000; Major Edwin H. Armstrong, FM's inventor, builds own 50 kw FM station at Alpine, NJ; others are planned to test this new medium.

February 1:

RCA puts stations on notice it may institute "reasonable fees" for broadcasting of Victor and Bluebird records; move said to be self-protective in view of attempts of National Association of Performing Artists to establish its performing rights in recordings through court action.

FCC sets 25 channels, 40 kc wide, in 41-42 mc band, for exclusive use of noncommercial educational stations.

February 15:

Under leadership of Mark Ethridge, general manager of Louisville (KY) *Courier-Journal* and *Times*, operator of WHAS(AM) Louisville, and Edwin W. Craig, WSM(AM) Nashville, two-day NAB convention sweeps through reorganization plan, elects new board of 23 directors—one from each of 17 geographic districts and six at large, names Philip G. Loucks, author of reorganization plan, special counsel to guide NAB affairs pending selection of first paid president. Broadcasting publishes first facsimile newspaper in demonstration for convention delegates.

With most network affiliates signing local musicians-union contracts on basis of AFM-IRNA agreement, AFM submits new contract terms to recording companies.

March 15:

Southern California stations turn over all facilities to emergency public service as other means of communication fail in flood crisis.

April 1:

Mark Ethridge is drafted as first president of revamped NAB to guide industry for interim period while paid president is sought; to serve without pay but with plenary powers.

FCC sends stations detailed questionnaire seeking full information on fiscal operations during 1937.

Wheeler-Lea Act, giving Federal Trade Commission new powers to curb false and misleading advertising, becomes law.

Hitler's quick conquest of Austria gets full coverage from U.S. networks.

April 15:

Plea to FCC to keep its regulation of radio to minimum necessary to provide interference-free service to public, and to give broadcasters licenses for longer than six months, is made by William S. Paley, CBS president, in tradition-breaking broadcast of network's annual report to public as well as stockholders.

May 1:

CBS dedicates \$1.75 million Pacific Coast headquarters building on Columbia Square, Hollywood.

National Committee of Independent Broadcasters negotiates agreement with AFM for employment of musicians based on that of IRNA.

May 15:

U.S. Court of Appeals for District of Columbia cites FCC for lacking consistent policy as it reverses FCC's denial of new daytime station at Pottsville, PA, to Pottsville Broadcasting Co., and remands it, making reconsideration mandatory.

June 15:

Senate resolution that broadcast power in excess of 50 kw would be against public interest removes superpower from FCC consideration as hearings on new rules get under way.

Neville Miller, former mayor of Louisville, KY, to assume presidency of NAB July 1 as first paid president, at salary of \$25,000 per year, plus \$5,000 for expenses.

House votes down resolution for investigation of monopoly in radio by vote of 234 to 101.

July 1:

Radio broadcasting's average weekly paycheck of \$45.12 is highest of all U.S. industries, Bureau of Labor Statistics reveals in answer to *Broadcasting's* query.

Senate ratifies Havana Treaty calling for many shifts in frequencies of U.S. stations to be made yearly after treaty has been ratified by three of four participating countries: United States, Canada, Mexico and Cuba.

August 1:

Census Bureau survey finds 62% of farm homes equipped with radios.

W. Lee O'Daniel uses radio exclusively to win Democratic nomination for governor of Texas, boosts sales of Hillbilly Flour at same time.

August 15:

Paramount Pictures acquires interest in Allen B. Dumont Labs.

September 1:

Atlantic Refining Books record football schedule of 168 East Coast games.

September 15:

World Broadcasting System launches "wax network" with 25 major market affiliates.

October 1:

New York stations pool equipment to keep public informed as hurricane hits city; New England stations also rise to meet emergency of crippling storm.

November 1:

NBC moves western headquarters into Hollywood Radio City, new \$2-million building.
FCC superpower committee recommends ending WLW(AM) Cincinnati's license for 500 kw operation and returning station to 50 kw.

November 15:

Mexican Senate refuses to ratify broadcast agreement section of Havana Treaty.

December 1:

David Sarnoff, RCA president, urges industry self-regulation of programming at opening of chain-monopoly hearings.

December 15:

Suits of Paul Whiteman against WNEW(AM) New York and Elin Inc., sponsor of record program on WNEW, and of RCA against Whiteman, WNEW and Elin, become suit of RCA against Whiteman when Whiteman drops his suits and WNEW and Elin make no defense against RCA; at stake is determination of whether recording company or recording artist, or either, has control of broadcast performances of phonograph records.

1939

January 1:

CBS enters recording field with purchase of American Record Corp. for \$700,000; ARC subsidiaries include Columbia Phonograph Co., one-time owner of network. Patent for iconoscope-kinescope tubes, basis of electronic television, is granted to Dr. Vladimir Zworykin after 15 years of litigation.

January 15:

FCC Commissioner George Henry Payne drops \$100,000 libel suit against *Broadcasting*.

Federal statutory court issues permanent injunction restraining New Jersey Board of Public Utility Commissioners from interfering with NBC's erection or operation of experimental station, holds broadcasting to be interstate and therefore outside authority of state commission.

February 1:

FCC is legally bound to reconsider economic factors if issue is raised, U.S. Court of Appeals for District of Columbia rules in remanding commission's grant of new station in Dubuque, Iowa, to Telegraph Herald.

February 15:

American Federation of Radio Artists strike is averted as networks sign commercial program contracts. Agencies which could not sign, as technically they are not employers of talent, agree to abide by terms.

Associated Press begins supplying news to NBC, without charge and for sustaining use only, after NBC and CBS discontinue service of Press Radio Bureau; CBS uses news from International News Service and United Press.

Common Pleas Court of Tioga County, PA, holds NBC liable for allegedly slanderous remark ad-libbed by Al Jolson during Shell Chateau broadcast, sustains jury award of \$15,000 to Summit Hotel of Allentown.

March 1:

Thirty-page questionnaire from FCC, delving into all phases of broadcast operation, evokes chorus of protests from station operators.

U.S. and Canada complete agreement on frequencies based on Havana Treaty.

March 15:

CBS attacks summer slump by offering extra discounts to nighttime sponsors that stay on air year-round and by threatening advertisers, taking more than eight weeks off, with loss of present time periods.

W2XBF New York, experimental facsimile station, starts regular program service three hours daily. WOR(AM), WGN(AM) and WLW(AM) inaugurate New York-Chicago-Cincinnati facsimile network series.

April 15:

Eugene O. Sykes retires after 12 years on Federal Radio Commission and FCC to enter private law practice; is succeeded on FCC by Frederick I. Thompson, publisher, *Montgomery (AL) Journal*.

May 1:

Both houses of Congress establish radio galleries, largely due to efforts of Fulton Lewis Jr., MBS commentator.

Telecast of opening ceremonies of New York World's Fair marks start of regular daily television schedule by RCA-NBC in New York; first appearance of President on TV.

June 1:

In accordance with mandate from membership, Associated Press board authorizes sale of AP news on sponsored broadcasts.

FCC lifts ban on sponsorship of international broadcasts, but sets limits on type of programming; fears of censorship immediately aroused.

July 15:

NAB adopts code of self regulation which bars liquor advertising and sale of time for controversial issues; limits commercial time to 10% of program in evening.

Federal district court in New York grants RCA permanent injunction against NEW's broadcasting Victor and Bluebird records without permission, in decision holding recording company, not artist, holds performance rights except where contract places them with artist; RCA plans to offer license to stations.

August 1:

New FCC rules governing broadcasting become effective, with station licenses extended from six months to one year and horizontal power increases for qualified local and regional stations.

August 15:

Angered by refusal of American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers to offer terms for new music-performing licenses, NAB Copyright Committee retains Sydney Kaye, New York copyright attorney, as special counsel to aid broadcasters in building their own source of music.

James L. Fly, general counsel of Tennessee Valley Authority, named by President and confirmed by Senate to succeed Frank R. McNinch, retiring as FCC chairman Sept. 1.

September 1:

Appellate court rules that economic interest must be considered in issuing station licenses, scuttling FCC theory that competition does not constitute appealable interest; commission calls ruling body blow at American system of broadcasting.

September 15:

Special copyright convention of NAB unanimously approves \$1.5-million fund to set up its own supply of music.

Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, overruling lower court, finds NBC not liable for ad-libbed remarks of Al Jolson; ruling sets precedent that broadcaster is not liable for remarks spoken without warning by artist employed by sponsor using broadcaster's facilities.

Networks draft code for war coverage; goal is full, factual reporting with minimum of horror, suspense and undue excitement.

October 15:

NAB code committee, in first action, bars sponsored broadcasts of Father Coughlin and Elliott Roosevelt under "no sale of time for controversial issues" rule; some broadcasters say they'll resign from NAB.

November 15:

Elliott Roosevelt organizes Transcontinental Broadcasting System, to start operating Jan. 1 as fifth national network.

NAB board backs up code committee; John Shepard goes along by forfeiting payment for Father Coughlin broadcasts; four Texas State Network stations resign.

United Fruit Co. buys time on NBC's international stations for daily newscasts to Latin America; first advertiser to sponsor such broadcasts.

December 15:

Triple FM relay with program broadcast by one station, picked up and rebroadcast by second, whose signal was again picked up and rebroadcast.

1940

January 1:

Mexico's ratification of North American Regional Broadcasting Agreement, following similar actions by Canada, Cuba and United States, paves way for shift in broadcasting frequencies agreed on in Havana two years earlier.

NBC gets biggest news beat of 1939 with eyewitness description of sinking of Admiral Graf Spee, broadcast as it happened in Montevideo, Uruguay, harbor.

January 15:

FM Broadcasters Inc. is organized at New York meeting.

February 1:

U.S. Supreme Court decision in so-called Pottsville case gives FCC freer hand in dealing with applications for new stations, eliminating all questions of priority of filing.

February 15:

New "crackdown" era foreseen as FCC refers complaints on "Pot o' Gold" and other give-away programs to Department of Justice for possible action under anti-lottery laws.

March 1:

FCC approves "limited commercialization" of television effective Sept. 1.

March 15:

Sun Oil Co. becomes first sponsor to have programs regularly telecast; company's Monday-Friday Lowell Thomas newscasts on NBC-Blue are also carried on W2XBS, NBC experimental TV station in New York.

RCA cuts price of television sets, starts sales drive intended to put minimum of 25,000 in homes in service area of NBC's New York video station.

April 1:

Supreme Court of U.S. upholds "free competition" stand of FCC Attorney General William J. Dempsey, emphasizes that Communications Act gives FCC "no supervisory control of the programs, of business management or of policy"; contains no order to consider effect of competition of new grant on existing stations.

FCC suspends order for "limited commercial" operation of TV, censures RCA for sales efforts which are seen as attempt to freeze TV standards at present level, calls new hearing; critics call move "usurpation of power."

April 15:

Justice Department declines to prosecute "Pot o'Gold."

FCC's new 42-page license application forms require so much information that many radio attorneys fear they will be virtually impossible to fill out.

May 1:

Westinghouse terminates contract for NBC management of sales and programs of KDKA(AM) Pittsburgh, KYW(AM) Philadelphia, WBZ(AM) Boston and WBZA(AM) Springfield, MA, after nine years; will assume management of owned stations itself.

Broadcast Music Inc. acquires catalogue of M.M. Cole Music Publishing Co. as first major step toward building reservoir of music for broadcasters.

May 15:

Justice Department subpoenas ASCAP files.

June 1:

FCC authorizes commercial operation for FM, assigns it 35 channels, 200 kc wide, between 43 and 50 mc; puts television back into laboratory until industry reaches agreement on standards.

Henry W. Grady School of Journalism of U. of Georgia institutes George Foster Peabody awards for radio; first awards to be given in 1941 for achievements of 1940.

June 15:

James C. Petrillo is elected president of American Federation of Musicians, succeeding Joseph N. Weber, retiring after 40 years as AFM head.

FCC Chain Monopoly Committee recommends drastic changes in network operations, such as limiting network ownership of stations and length of affiliation contracts, taking networks out of transcription and talent-booking business, forcing them to serve remote area whether this is profitable or not.

July 1:

Republican convention adopts first radio plank ever put into political-party platform, upholding application of constitutional principles of free press and free speech to radio; is also first party convention to be telecast.

July 15:

Niles Trammell becomes NBC president, succeeding Lenox R. Lohr, resigned to head Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry.

August 1:

U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upholds right of broadcaster to put phonograph records on air without need to get permission from either recording company or recording artists; reverses decision of federal district court in RCA-Whiteman-WNEW case.

Democrats also adopt "free radio" plank for party platform, urging radio be given same protection from censorship as press.

BMI ships transcriptions with more than 50 non-ASCAP numbers to member stations; first product of plan to make stations musically independent.

August 15:

National Television Systems Committee, representing TV manufacturers and broadcasters, organizes to seek determination of proper standards for TV.

September 1:

CBS demonstrates system of color television developed by its chief TV engineer, Dr. Peter Goldmark.

September 15:

Assignment shifts affecting 777 standard broadcasting stations in U.S. are ordered by FCC for March 29, 1941, in accordance with North American Regional Broadcasting Agreement reached in Havana in December 1937.

November 1:

President Roosevelt withdraws nomination of Thad H. Brown for new seven-year term as FCC commissioner at Brown's request, after Senate recesses without acting on appointment, which met rigorous opposition.

December 1:

BMI acquires performing rights to more than 15,000 compositions in catalogue of Edward B. Marks Music Corp. in last month of preparations for broadcasters' break with ASCAP.

December 15:

Edward J. Noble, chairman of Life Savers Corp., buys WMCA(AM) New York from Donald Flamm for \$850,000.

1941

January 1:

After FCC approves transfer of WMCA to E.J. Noble, former owner Donald Flamm asks commission to reconsider and dismiss sale.

Department of Justice prepares criminal suits against ASCAP, BMI and broadcasting networks and groups for music monopoly; U.S. Supreme Court will review state anti-ASCAP laws; broadcasters are confident they'll win their battle against music monopoly.

Formation of Latin American CBS network of 39 longwave and 25 shortwave stations in 18 countries is announced by CBS President William S. Paley on return from seven-week tour.

January 13:

After more than 10 years of semi-monthly publication, *Broadcasting* becomes a weekly.

January 20:

In what was to become famous as "Mayflower Case" (primarily decided on other grounds), FCC held that broadcasters could not editorialize.

January 27:

BMI and Department of Justice agree on terms of consent decree.

Press Association Inc. is formed as new subsidiary of Associated Press to handle news for radio.

February 10:

Clear-channel stations form Clear Channel Broadcasting Service, name Victor A. Sholis, former public relations chief of Department of Commerce, as director, with Washington headquarters.

U.S. Court of Appeals for District of Columbia, in series of decisions, holds itself powerless to issue stay orders enjoining FCC from putting its rulings into effect unless public interest would be adversely affected, and then solely on questions of law.

February 24:

ASCAP accepts government consent decree; will offer broadcasters both blanket and per-piece licenses.

AFM President James C. Petrillo, in ruling aimed at American Guild of Musical Artists, orders AFM members not to perform with any instrumentalist who is not AFM member.

March 3:

Shortage of recording blanks foreseen as Office of Production Management places aluminum in "much needed" category, giving defense program first call.

March 10:

Ray C. Wakefield is nominated for FCC to fill place vacant since June.

March 17:

General Foods signs unprecedented contract with Jack Benny giving comedian control of his Sunday-night period on NBC Red network at its termination, whether or not he continues under GF sponsorship.

March 24:

FCC orders public hearings on newspaper ownership of radio stations.

March 31:

Group of nearly 100 newspaper publishers with radio interests names Mark Ethridge, Louisville, (KY) *Courier-Journal* (WHAS), chairman of steering committee to oppose governmental action outlawing newspaper ownership of stations; 292 of country's 893 broadcasting stations are newspaper-affiliated.

Wholesale switch of frequencies in compliance with Havana treaty goes through without hitch.

April 28:

President Roosevelt drafts Mark Ethridge to undertake survey of entire broadcasting station.

Newspaper stations elect Harold Hough, Fort Worth *Star-Telegram* (WBAP-KGKO), chairman of steering committee; appoint Thomas D. Thatcher, former solicitor general, as chief counsel; vote \$200,000 for hearing expenses.

May 5:

FCC authorizes full commercial operation for TV as of July 1, fixes standards at 525 lines, 30 frames, FM sound.

Major reorganization of radio network operations is called for by FCC network monopoly report, which would ban option time, exclusive affiliations, ownership of more than one station in market or operation of more than one network by same interests.

May 12:

MBS signs ASCAP blanket license at 3% of gross for four years and 3-1/2% until 1950, on eve of NAB convention; NBC and CBS continue negotiations for better terms.

May 19:

Industry's stormiest convention votes fight to finish against FCC monopoly rules, backs plan for Senate investigation of FCC, asks legislation to aid broadcasters, and angers FCC Chairman James L. Fly into rebuttal in which he describes NAB as akin to "a mackerel in the moonlight-it both shines and stinks."

NAB President Neville Miller urges broadcasters to stand by BMI, condemns MBS-ASCAP pact; several MBS stockholder stations resign from NAB; 39 MBS affiliates organize to investigate ASCAP deal, tell MBS they won't accept ASCAP music.

May 26:

BMI growth continues; has 190 affiliated publishers, 690 station members.

June 2:

CBS withdraws from talent management field, sells Columbia Artists Bureau to Music Corp. of America for \$250,000, Columbia Concerts Corp. to its present management.

FCC amends rules so "any person" can petition for change in rules of practice or procedure; formerly only "applicant" had that right.

Socony-Vacuum Oil Co. becomes first FM network sponsor by signing for newscasts on American Network, FM network serving New England.

June 30:

Bulova Watch Co., Sun Oil Co., Lever Bros. Co. and Procter & Gamble sign as sponsors of first commercial telecasts on July 1 over NBC's WNBT(TV) New York (until then W2XBS); first TV rate card puts WNBT base rate at \$120 per evening hour.

August 4:

NBC reaches agreement with ASCAP calling for blanket licenses with network to pay 2-3/4% of net time sales, stations 2-1/4%; stations' approval needed.

August 11:

FCC adopts order banning multiple ownership of stations in same area.

September 1:

After arguments by broadcasters, broadcast unions and others, Senate Finance Committee deletes tax on time sales from 1941 Revenue Act.

September 8:

Completion of arrangement for 92-station Pan American Network to rebroadcast NBC programs shortwaved from U.S. is announced by John F. Royal, NBC vice president, on his return from six-week, 20,000-mile tour of Latin America.

October 13:

FCC extends license term for standard broadcasting stations from one to two years.

November 24:

BMI offers new eight-year blanket licenses at 25% reduction from original one-year contracts, covering both commercial and sustaining programs, with clearance at source on network shows.

December 8:

NBC separates Red and Blue networks by setting up Blue Network Co. with Mark Woods as president, Edgar Kobak as executive vice president.

December 15:

Defense Communications Board becomes supreme communications arbiter with the U.S. at war; plan is to keep broadcasting on as normal operations as possible.

Dr. Frank Conrad, assistant chief engineer of Westinghouse known as father of broadcasting for his pioneering achievement, dies of heart attack at 67.

President Roosevelt's broadcast to nation on Dec. 9, day after war was declared, has largest audience in radio history (about 90 million) and highest ratings (CAB, 83, Hooper, 79).

December 22:

Byron Price, executive news editor of Associated Press, is appointed director of new censorship bureau.

U.S. Weather Bureau bans weather broadcasts for duration.

Thomas A. McClelland, chief engineer of KLZ(AM) Denver, on duty as ensign with USNR at Pearl Harbor, was killed in action during Japanese attack December 7, radio's first casualty of war.

December 29:

J. Harold Ryan, vice president, Fort Industry Co., is named assistant director of censorship, in charge of broadcasting.

1942

January 5:

Department of Justice files antitrust suits against NBC and CBS.

Manila radio stations are "dismantled and destroyed" to keep them from falling into hands of Japanese.

January 19:

Censorship code outlaws man-on-the-street and other ad-lib interviews and quiz programs.

Office of Facts and Figures is designated as clearing house for governmental broadcasts, with William B. Lewis, former CBS program vice president, as coordinator.

February 2:

Broadcasters' Victory Council is formed as liaison with all government agencies having wartime radio functions; chairman is John Shepard III, president, Yankee Network.

FCC shuts off construction of new stations in all areas now getting primary service, pending formal orders from War Production Board freezing broadcast assignments for duration.

ASCAP approves clearance at source on transcribed programs.

February 23:

Advertising Council is organized by advertisers, agencies and media to put talents and techniques of advertising at disposal of government to inspire and instruct public concerning various phases of war effort.

CBS cuts time allowed for commercials on newscasts by 20%, bans jingles or other "undue" gaiety, puts restrictions on middle commercials.

March 23:

Office of Censorship forbids any mention of weather on baseball broadcasts.

Committee on War Information issues war policies, pledges that public will get bad news as well as good, so long as no aid is given to enemy.

March 30:

Edward Klauber, CBS executive vice president, is elected to new post of chairman of executive com-

mittee; Paul W. Kesten becomes vice president and general manager, with all departments reporting to him except programming, which reports to President William S. Paley.

April 13:

Minimum program time required of TV stations is cut from 15 hours to four hours per week for war period. U.S. Supreme Court upholds power of U.S. Court of Appeals for District of Columbia to issue orders staying FCC decision during pendency of appeals; decision, called major legal victory for broadcasters, comes after three years of litigation by Scripps-Howard Radio on behalf of WCPO(AM) Cincinnati.

April 20:

War Production Board cuts supply of shellac for phonograph records to 30% of preceding year's figure; transcriptions, made of vinylite, are not affected.

May 4:

FCC issues freeze order on station construction.

May 18:

NAB convention by-passes reorganization proposals, votes to set up industry-operated equipment pool, admits networks to active membership.

Keystone Broadcasting System, transcription network, holds first meeting of some 50 affiliated stations.

June 1:

FCC eases operator requirements to meet shortage.

June 15:

CBS revises its discount structure to include new 15% discount for advertisers using full CBS network of 115 stations.

June 22:

President Roosevelt creates Office of War Information, appoints Elmer Davis, CBS commentator, as its director.

June 29:

American Federation of Musicians notifies recording companies that after July 31 no AFM member will play for recordings of any kind.

July 13:

Gardner Cowles Jr., publisher-broadcaster, is named assistant director of OWI in charge of all domestic operations; William B. Lewis, former CBS program vice president and radio chief of Office of Facts and Figures, heads radio bureau of Cowles' branch of OWI.

July 20:

Broadcasting is declared essential industry by Selective Service System.

August 3:

Justice Department asks injunction as AFM President Petrillo refuses to cancel strike against recordings.

August 24:

Ratings battle begins when OWI asks why C.E. Hooper Inc. shows audiences up in 1942 over 1941, while Cooperative Analysis of Broadcasting reports decline.

September 7:

AFM makes record ban complete by canceling permission previously given to members to make commercial transcriptions for one-time air use.

October 12:

Radio time contributed to government would cost \$64 million yearly at regular commercial rates, Elmer Davis, OWI director, states in testimony before House Appropriations Subcommittee.

November 2:

Government leases shortwave stations from private owners; Office of War Information and Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs to handle programming.

November 16:

Dr. Miller McClintock, executive director of Advertising Council, is named first paid president of MBS.

November 23:

FCC adopts wartime equipment pool plan for all licensees.

December 21:

General Tire & Rubber Co. contracts to buy Yankee Network, its four AM and two FM stations, for \$1.2 million.

1943

January 4:

Office of War Information asks stations to clear quarter-hour, Monday-Fridays trip for important war-infor-

mation broadcasts, which will be available for local sponsorship.

January 25:

House approves Cox resolution to investigate FCC; Rep. Eugene Cox (D-GA) attacks FCC as "nastiest nest of rats in this entire country."

February 15:

AFM proposes recording companies pay fixed fee for each recording into union unemployment fund, amount to be negotiated, as price of ending strike; transcriptions for one-time use exempted.

March 1:

Recording companies reject Petrillo "fixed fee" plan as involving unacceptable philosophy that recording industry has "special obligation to persons not employed by it."

FCC adopts policy to protect applications for TV and FM facilities until end of war.

March 8:

First Alfred I. du Pont awards of \$1,000 each for public service broadcasting go to KGEI, General Electric shortwave station, and Fulton Lewis Jr., MBS commentator.

May 17:

Supreme Court upholds right of FCC to regulate broadcasting practices, specifically to compel compliance with its network monopoly rules; networks rush to work out new contracts with affiliates by June 14 deadline; exclusivity is forbidden, option time curtailed.

May 24:

Supreme Court rules FCC erred in breaking down 850 kc channel and assigning WHDH(AM) Boston full time on that frequency without hearing testimony from its occupant, KOA(AM) Denver; decision seen as guaranteeing right of stations for full hearing before their service is modified by commission order, with burden of proof on applicant.

June 21:

CBS affiliates open drive to bar "hitch-hike, cow-catcher" announcements.

Assn. of Radio News Analysts adopts code opposing censorship; Paul White, CBS news director, insists on right to "edit."

July 5:

House Select Committee opens hearings on FCC with charges of gross inefficiency and interference with war effort.

Transcription companies ask War Labor Board to help after AFM President Petrillo tells committee the union will "make no more transcriptions for anyone at anytime."

July 12:

Decca Records buys World Broadcasting System; P.L. Deutsch to continue as president with five-year contract.

July 19:

CBS tests program analyzer to find out what makes people listen; device is invention of Paul Lazarsfeld, director of Office of Radio Research at Columbia University, and Frank Stanton, CBS vice president.

July 26:

War Labor Board accepts jurisdiction in AFM recording ban, but fails to order union to return to work for transcription companies.

August 2:

Edward J. Noble buys Blue Network from RCA for \$8 million cash; will dispose of WMCA(AM) New York.

August 9:

Plan to end AFM recording strike by getting broadcasters to agree to pay performance fees to union for all musical record broadcasts and to work for legislation giving copyright in records to both recording artist and recording company finds little favor among broadcasters.

Edward Klauber resigns as CBS director and chairman of executive committee because of ill health.

August 30:

MBS plans to use 3-5 p.m. time for recorded repeats of top evening network programs; offers free time to advertisers during test period of 13 weeks.

September 13:

General Dwight D. Eisenhower himself broadcasts news of Italy's surrender, first such event to be announced by radio.

September 20:

CBS acts to eliminate "cow-catcher" and "hitch-hike" announcements.

NAB news and public-relations committee adopts resolution on editorializing on air, that management must have final say as it is responsible to public as licensee.

September 27:

Decca Records and World Broadcasting System sign with AFM, agree to pay royalties direct to union.

October 11:

CBS President William S. Paley accepts overseas psychological warfare assignment with Office of War Information; board elects Paul W. Kesten executive vice president.

October 18:

Mark Woods remains as president of Blue Network and Edgar Kobak as executive vice president as Edward J. Noble assumes ownership.

Government drops antitrust suits against networks; MBS dismisses its action against RCA-NBC.

October 25:

Four transcription firms—Associated Music Publishers Lang-Worth, C.P. MacGregor and Standard Radio—sign with AFM; NAB denounces principle of direct payment to union as "vicious".

Treasury Department and OWI permit sponsorship of war-bond announcements for first time; OWI rejects idea of government itself buying time.

November 8:

R. Morrie Pierce, chief engineer of WGAR(AM) Cleveland, on leave with OWI, is revealed as having had major role in surrender of Italian fleet, broadcasting surrender terms from "baling wire" transmitter he built at Algiers.

November 29:

FCC bans multiple ownership of standard-broadcast stations in same area, effective immediately for new grants, effective June 1, 1944, for existing "overlapping" situation.

Edward Klauber, former chairman of CBS executive committee becomes associate director of OWI, succeeding Milton S. Eisenhower.

December 20:

FCC extends broadcast licenses to total of three years.

1944

January 17:

FCC decides not to adopt any general rule on newspaper ownership of radio stations but to consider all applications on individual merits; announcement ends three years of uncertainty.

NBC makes its programs available to FM outlets of its AM affiliates without charge to sponsors until increased audience warrants it.

Some 6,000 radio-station and network employees, nearly quarter of industry total, are in armed forces, *Broadcasting* survey reveals.

January 31:

FCC and War Production Board ease construction ban, permitting new stations where such grants would serve "outstanding public need or national interest."

CBS makes its programs available for FM stations of AM affiliates at no charge to sponsors.

February 7:

J. Harold Ryan, assistant director of censorship, is elected president of NAB for interim period.

Television Broadcasters Association, organized in January, elects Allen B. DuMont as first president.

February 14:

Governor John W. Bricker of Ohio urges legislation to restrict FCC and keep radio as free as press.

March 6:

MBS restricts commercial religious programs to Sundays before 1 p.m., limits to half-hour, bans fund appeals.

May 1:

CBS proposes starting off postwar TV with high-definition, full-color pictures, broadcast on 16 mc bands.

May 8:

Military authorities and radio networks discard traditional taboos to cooperate in providing American public full and immediate reporting of invasion of Europe by Allied forces.

May 22:

Single ownership of five TV stations is permitted by FCC, up from former limit of three.

June 5:

Purchase by Sol Taishoff and wife of 50% interest in *Broadcasting*, owned by Mr and Mrs. Martin Codel, gives Taishoffs full ownership of magazine founded by Taishoff and Codel in October 1931. Taishoff becomes publisher of *Broadcasting*, post held by Codel, and continues as editor.

Colgate-Palmolive Peet Co. notifies stations to suspend all spot and station-break announcements for 24 hours or longer after news of invasion breaks.

June 12:

Radio gives nation news of invasion of Europe by Allied forces.

Allied Expeditionary Forces inaugurate broadcasting service for troops invading Europe, under direction of Colonel Edward M. Kirby, former NAB public relations director.

June 19:

National War Labor Board orders prompt settlement of recording dispute between RCA, CBS, NBC and AFM with union to let members resume work for those companies; calls for negotiation of settlement agreement within 15 days; AFM refuses to let members work for those companies until they accept same terms as other recording firms.

July 31:

MBS plans to outlaw "hitch-hikes, cow-catchers" next year.

August 14:

NBC announces it has completely eliminated "hitch-hikes" and "cow-catchers" from all programs it broadcasts.

September 25:

Chester J. LaRoche, former chairman of Young & Rubicam, is elected vice chairman of Blue Network board, making him operating head of network.

October 2:

FCC opens hearings on postwar allocations with testimony of Radio Technical Planning Board that agreement had been reached to recommend 41-56 mc band for FM, TV allocations to extend upwards from there.

Democrats begin five-minute broadcasts, using last part of popular half-hour network shows where advertiser will clear them.

October 9:

CBS, in testimony presented by Paul Kesten, executive vice president, asks for more space for FM, with TV being moved to UHF part of spectrum above 300 mc.

October 16:

Muzak Corp., now owned by William B. Benton, asks FCC for "suitable number" of FM channels for noncommercial subscription broadcasting service, nonsubscribers to get "pig squeal."

AFM President Petrillo rejects direct appeal of President Roosevelt to call off recording strike against RCA, CBS, NBC.

October 23:

Invasion of Philippines is first announced by radio from floating broadcasting station off Leyte; Major A.A. Schechter, former NBC news chief, directs radio coverage.

Morris Pierce enlists cooperation of armored division to capture Radio Luxembourg intact, giving OWI 150 kw transmitter to use in support of advancing Allied armies.

November 6:

Edgar Kobak resigns as executive vice president of Blue Network to become president of Mutual.

Chairman James Lawrence Fly resigns from FCC to open own law office in New York.

November 20:

Paul Porter, former CBS attorney, wartime government official, publicity director of Democratic National Committee, is nominated for FCC.

RCA, CBS and NBC give up fight against AFM, submit to royalty payments to union unemployment fund.

Broadcast Measurement Bureau plan is approved by ANA and AAAA; NAB appropriates \$75,000 for first year's operation.

November 27:

WWJ(AM) Detroit bans all transcribed announcements as of Feb. 1, 1945.

Blocking AFM plans to take over transcription handling, National Labor Relations Board certifies National Association of Broadcast Employees and Technicians, technicians union, as bargaining unit for all NBC and Blue-owned stations outside Chicago (where AFM local already has contract).

December 4:

Robert D. Swezey, general counsel of Blue Network, moves to Mutual as vice president and assistant general manager.

December 18:

First convention of Television Broadcasters Association has attendance of 750; calls for united effort to get TV started properly; elects J.R. Poppele, WOR(AM) New York chief engineer, as president.

FCC adopts rule calling for disclosure of identity of person or organization sponsoring or supplying program; NAB convinces commission words "paid for" are not necessary.

December 25:

Paul Porter is sworn in as FCC chairman on recess appointment of President when Congress adjourns without confirming him.

FCC transfers owned-station licenses, ratifying change of Blue Network to American Broadcasting Co.

1945

January 8:

NABET walks out of negotiations with NBC, ABC, takes its case to National Labor Relations Board.

Hugh M. Feltis resigns as general manager, KFAB(AM) Omaha, to head Broadcast Measurement Bureau.

January 16:

FCC announces allocations proposals; TV band is divided; FM moved to 84-102 mc to disappointment of its advocates who had hoped to keep it in 50 mc area.

January 29:

Cecil B. DeMille, refusing to pay special American Federation of Radio Artists \$1 assessment to oppose so-called "right to work" proposition on previous November's ballot and failing in his court fight to prevent his suspension by union, can no longer appear on Lux Radio Theater broadcasts.

February 12:

Liberation of Manila completely covered by radio; highlight is broadcast by Bert Silen, released from Santo Thomas internment camp, who told NBC audience: "As I was saying when I was so rudely interrupted over three years and a month ago..." (He had been broadcasting on NBC when Japanese bombs destroyed Philippine transmitter).

AFM tells members not to appear on television until further notice; stations not notified.

April 16:

Radio covers death of President Roosevelt; commercial programming discarded for tributes; commercial announcements eliminated; only news and music retained.

April 23:

Philco Corp. dedicates world's first multi-relay network between Philadelphia and Washington, seen as forerunner of nationwide television networks.

May 14:

Pooled coverage of Nazi surrender brings American people full details of end of war in Europe; for broadcasters V-E Day means end of ban on man-in-the-street programs, request numbers and other wartime program restrictions, but continued demands for men and material mean that freeze on new construction won't be lifted until V-J Day.

May 21:

FCC allocates spectrum space above 25 mc with exception of 44-108 mc; delays decision as to placement of FM propagation studies to be made by FCC and industry engineers.

June 4:

In joint request, FM Broadcasters Inc. and Television Broadcasters Association ask FCC to allocate 44-108 mc immediately; FM to get 50-54 mc for educational use, 54-68 mc for commercial operation; TV to receive 68-74 mc and 78-108 mc.

Stations object to FCC questions on commercial-versus-sustaining time; point out that sponsorship does not prevent program from being public service and that commercial-sustaining ratio is not true measure of operation in public interest.

June 11:

Frank Stanton, vice president of CBS, is elected director and appointed general manager; vice presidents Joseph H. Ream and Frank K. White also elected directors of CBS.

July 2:

FCC allocates FM to 88-106 mc band; TV: ch.1, 44-50 mc; ch.2-4, 54-72 mc; ch.5-6, 76-88 mc.

July 9:

FCC eases rules on transcription identifications, dropping requirement for identifying each record played and leaving language up to broadcaster.

July 23:

Associate Justice Justin Miller is picked as new NAB president, to assume office Oct. 1 for five-year term.

August 6:

FCC adopts new provisions requiring licensee to file annual ownership reports, plus interim reports on changes in "policymaking personnel"; ownership data to become public record but network and transcription contracts and financial data not to be open.

FCC by 4 to 3 vote, approves sale of Crosley Corp., including WLW Cincinnati, to Aviation Corp. for \$21 million.

Westinghouse discloses "stratovision" plan for airborne television transmitters to serve as relay stations for TV and FM programs as networks without wire connections.

August 13:

FCC decides financial data it collects will be kept confidential or disclosed at commission's discretion; to broadcasters' protests that disclosing their financial affairs would put them at disadvantage with competitive media, Commissioner Clifford Durr replies that newspapers and magazine are private; radio is public.

FCC announces that on Oct. 7 it will start acting on applications in its pending files, presaging radio's greatest construction boom.

NAB chooses A.D. Willard, manager of WBT(AM) Charlotte, N.C., as executive vice president at \$25,000 per year; replaces code with standards of practice that leave vital question of selling time for controversial topics up to individual station operator.

Representative Emanuel Celler (D-NY) demands that FCC "crack-down" on broadcasters, pay more attention to renewals of station licenses, order designated hours set aside for sustaining educational and cultural programs, pass on station sales prices, and criticize programs for having too much "corn," commercial content and boogie-woogie.

August 20:

Radio tells world of Japanese acceptance of Potsdam terms and end of World War II.

September 10:

Approving sale of Crosley radio properties to Avco by 4-3 vote, FCC announces "open bid" proposal for future station sales, permitting number of applicants to compete for acquisition of any station put on market with FCC determining successful buyer on same basis as awarding new facility.

September 17:

FCC issues rules and regulations for FM broadcasting.

Associated Broadcasting Corp. puts fifth national network on air.

September 24:

FCC issues plan for distribution of 13 VHF channels among 140 markets.

Mark Woods, ABC president, resumes active direction of network as Chester J. LaRoche drops executive duties.

October 1:

Networks sign NABET contract, including recognition of platter-turning jurisdiction.

October 22:

James C. Petrillo, AFM president, tells networks that dual broadcasting of musical programs on FM as well as AM outlets violates their AFM contracts.

FMBI board votes to merge with NAB, which will establish an autonomous FM division.

November 5:

President Truman opens radio news gallery broadcast room in Senate wing of Capitol.

November 26:

Broadcasting becomes *Broadcasting-Telecasting* with first appearance of Telecasting on cover and masthead.

New FCC television-allocations plan follows proposals of Television Broadcasters Association, assigns seven channels each to New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles, gives additional channels for 33 other cities, sets 28 hours per week as minimum operating schedule.

December 10:

U.S. Supreme Court rules that FCC must hear all mutually exclusive applications before making grants;

reverses grant to WJEF(AM) Grand Rapid, MI; sustains appeal of WKBZ(AM) Muskegon, MI.

December 17:

Licenses must retain control of programs, U.S. District Court for New Mexico rules, outlawing contract whereby KOB(AM) Albuquerque, N.M., was to turn over one hour of broadcast time each day to New Mexico College of Agriculture and Mechanical Arts.

December 24:

FCC announces tentative allocations plan for FM, providing for over 1,500 FM stations; makes 32 more conditional grants, bringing total to 229.

1946

January 14:

William S. Paley is elected board chairman of CBS; Paul W. Kesten becomes vice chairman; Frank Stanton is elected president.

January 28:

After two days of hearings, FCC denies petitions of Zenith and General Electric, rules that FM will stay at 88-108 mc.

Achievement of John H. DeWitt in "shooting the moon" is sensation of Institute of Radio Engineers convention; report details how chief engineer of WSM(AM) Nashville, as Army Signal Corps officer, bounced radar signal off earth's satellite some 240,000 miles away and got echo back.

February 4:

General Mills allocates \$5 million, half its advertising budget, for radio in 1946.

CBS demonstrates color-television film program broadcast from its new UHF transmitter; says with industry cooperation color for home can be available within year.

February 18:

Charles R. Denny Jr. becomes acting chairman of FCC as Paul Porter is drafted to Head Office of Price Administration.

First Washington-New York telecast through AT&T coaxial cable is termed success by engineers and viewers.

February 25:

House approves Lea Bill to outlaw union excesses, chiefly those of AFM against radio, by 222-43 vote.

Westinghouse report on Stratovision reveals that usable signals transmitted with 250 w from altitude of 25,000 feet have been picked up 250 airline miles away.

March 4:

NARBA signatory nations negotiate three-year interim agreement; clear-channel stations protest compromise that gives Cuba right to use five U.S. clear channels, foreseeing damaging interference.

Donald Flamm, former owner of WMCA(AM) New York, wins \$350,000 verdict against Edward J. Noble, ABC board chairman, in New York Supreme Court; jury upholds Flamm's charge he was forced to sell station to Noble in 1940.

March 11:

FCC issues 139-page report on "Public Service Responsibility of Broadcast Licensees," soon nicknamed "The Blue Book," which lists carrying of sustaining programs, local live programs and programs devoted to discussion or public issues, along with elimination of advertising excesses, as factor to which FCC will give "particular consideration" when asked to renew station licenses; NAB declares basic freedoms of radio are at stake.

March 18:

FCC makes first postwar full grants of construction permits for commercial FM stations.

April 1:

ABC adopts elaborate system for recording and re-broadcasting network programs developed by Charles E. Rynd, network vice president, to keep them on air at same hour locally despite variations in time from city to city as some adopt daylight time, others remain on standard time.

April 22:

President Truman signs Lea Act, drafted to stop featherbedding practices of unions; AFM plans court test of law's constitutionality.

If FCC adopts Avco "auction" plan it will also seek control of station sales prices, Charles R. Denny, acting chairman, tells hearing on open-bidding proposal.

CBS color television program is successfully transmitted over 450-mile coaxial cable link from New York to Washington and back.

April 29:

Associated Press votes to admit stations as associate members, in recognition of "radio as a great medium for the dissemination of news," stations to have no vote in AP affairs.

World Wide Broadcasting Corp. wins fight for return of shortwave stations when Board of War Communications rescinds order of Nov. 4, 1942, seizing WRUL and other World Wide transmitters.

CBS presents plan for FM network of 200 stations, with five superpower AM stations providing nighttime coverage for remote areas; cost put at \$10.8 million to install, with \$4.8 million annual operating expenses.

May 6:

ABC buys Kind-Trendle Broadcasting Corp. (WXYZ[AM] Detroit, WOOD[AM] Grand Rapids, MI, and Michigan Radio Network) for \$3.65 million, subject to FCC approval; sale of network stock to raise \$15 million for this and other expansion planned.

Defying Lea Act, AFM President Petrillo notifies members not to play for combined AM-FM programs.

May 20:

Census Bureau reports 90.4% of U.S. homes had radios in 1945, up 17.9% from 1940.

June 3:

AFM strikes WAAF(AM) Chicago over station's refusal to hire three additional "musicians" to work as librarians in move seen as precipitating court test of Lea Act.

Proposed amendments to Standards of Good Engineering Practice for FM include designation of community stations as Class A with maximum power raised from 250 w to 1 kw; metropolitan and rural stations to comprise Class B (adopted June 24).

June 10:

AFM President James C. Petrillo tell union's convention that if Supreme Court upholds Lea Act as constitutional he will forbid musicians to play on network programs at expiration of present contracts on Jan. 31, 1947.

June 17:

FCC denies FM license to WWDC(AM) Washington because of plan to duplicate give-away program which commission holds of questionable legality.

Major Edward Bowes, originator of radio amateur show, dies after long illness on eve of 72nd birthday.

June 24:

Telecast of Louis-Conn heavyweight title bout, sponsored by Gillette Safety Razor Co. on four-city hook-up, reaches estimated 100,000 viewers, convinces skeptics that television is here.

E.F. McDonald Jr., president of Zenith Radio Corp., in *Collier's* magazine article, declares advertising alone cannot support television; public must pay for TV programs as it does for movies, magazines, newspapers.

Cooperative Analysis of Broadcasting announces "temporary suspension" of service on July 31 after 17 years; Hooper ratings made available to exclusive CAB subscribers.

July 22:

Denying petition of Robert Harold Scott for revocation of licenses of three San Francisco stations for refusing him time for talks on atheism, FCC nevertheless warns that "if freedom of speech is to have meaning...it must be extended as readily to ideas which we disapprove or abhor as to ideas which we approve."

FCC adopts plan to set aside for one year every fifth Class "B" FM channel.

July 29:

Religious leaders of all faiths denounce FCC opinion in atheism case.

August 5:

NAB membership passes 1,000 mark.

Commission adopts watered-down version of Avco plan lacking features that broadcasters most strenuously opposed.

August 12:

FCC adopts interim clear-channel policy providing for consideration of some clear-channel applications with mutually exclusive nonclear-channel requests; industry puzzled whether this means breakdown of clears or not.

Paul W. Kesten resigns as chairman of board and director of CBS because of ill health; to continue to serve as a consultant.

August 19:

Bing Crosby signs \$30,000-per-week contract to do series for Philco, broadcast on ABC but transcribed in advance; deal is said to stipulate return to live broadcasts if program's rating falls below agreed-on level.

September 23:

Drew Pearson, columnist-commentator, and his former partner, Robert Allen, apply for facilities of Hearst Radio's clear-channel station, WBAL(AM) Baltimore, under "comparative consideration" clause of FCC rules.

September 30:

CBS petitions FCC to adopt standards and authorize commercial operation of color-television stations in UHF frequencies immediately.

Licenses of AM stations pass 1,000 mark.

October 21:

AFM, after demanding increases ranging from 233% to 566%, accepts record manufacturers' offer of flat 37-1/2% increase in musician's pay; asks transcription firms for \$50 per man to make commercial disks of one minute or less.

October 28:

Clear Channel Broadcasting Service proposes realignment of clear channels whereby 20 stations (five to each network) would get 750 kw power.

Promotional organization (subsequently named FM Association) is organized to foster growth of FM and succeed FMBI, now division of NAB.

November 4:

RCA demonstrates all-electronic system of color TV.

November 11:

Bristol-Myers is first advertiser to sponsor television-network program: "Geographically Speaking," which started Oct. 27 on NBC-TV's two-station network.

November 18:

Robert Harold Scott gets time on KWQ(AM) San Francisco to argue cause of atheism; more than 5,000 listeners write station to praise or condemn its grant of time for broadcast.

Robert E. Kintner, ABC vice president in charge of news, special events and publicity, is elected executive vice president.

December 9:

Charles R. Denny is promoted from acting chairman to regular chairman of FCC.

Federal District Court Judge Walter La Buy rules Lea Act unconstitutional, sustains motion of AFM President James C. Petrillo to dismiss charges of violating Lea Act in calling strike at WAAF(AM) Chicago; appeal to Supreme Court planned.

December 16:

Supreme Court upholds FCC in denying license renewal to WOKO(AM) Albany, NY, for failure to disclose 24% interest held by Sam Pickard, former FCC commissioner and CBS vice president, for 12 years.

December 23:

FCC orders networks to report on sustaining programs for week of Nov. 17-23, making good on "Blue Book" promise to request this information every quarter.

1947

January 13:

Roy Hofheinz, KTHT(AM)-KOPY(FM) Houston, is elected president of new FM Association at first general meeting.

January 27:

Receiver production hit high of 15-million sets in 1946, Radio Manufacturers Association reports.

February 3:

Competing color systems are viewed by FCC as prelude to direct testimony at hearing on CBS petition for approval of commercial licenses for color-TV stations now.

February 17:

Money paid AFM by recording companies will be spent for free public concerts, James C. Petrillo announces; nearly \$2-million already collected.

February 24:

Tests prove Stratovision feasible, Westinghouse tells FCC.

March 24:

FCC denies CBS petition for commercial color-TV operation, sends color back to labs for continued search for "satisfactory" system.

April 7:

Carl Haverlin, MBS station-relations vice president, is appointed first paid president of BMI at salary of \$35,000 per year.

U.S. now has 35.9-million radio families (93% of all homes) who listen total of 150.8 million hours per day,

according to surveys made by Market Research Co. of America and A.C. Nielsen Co. for CBS.

April 21:

Justin Miller, NAB president, urges stations to editorialize despite Mayflower edict.

April 28:

Fred Allen uses gag about network vice presidents which NBC had ruled out and is cut off air while he tells it; story is front-paged across nation as advertising agency demands rebate for 35 seconds of dead air.

May 12:

Senate votes to ban union-controlled "slush funds" in amendment to Labor Bill; would permit payments such as those made to AFM by record manufacturers only if funds are jointly administered by union and management.

May 26:

WGAR(AM) Cleveland wins grant for 1220 kc and 50 kw after long fight with WADC(AM) Akron, OH, whose application was denied solely on program grounds, FCC states.

June 9:

AT&T files proposed rates for coaxial-cable intercity television program service: base rate of \$40 per mile per month for eight-hour daily service is called exorbitant.

June 30:

Within hour, Taft-Hartley Act becomes law and Supreme Court upholds constitutionality of Lea Act ban on featherbedding.

July 7:

Abolition of federal ban on new construction lets broadcasters go ahead with building plans.

FCC proposes to approve sale of KMED(AM) Medford, OR, to Medford Radio Corp. which matched prior offer of Gibson Broadcasting Corp.; decision is first under Avco Rule "auction" provision in which approval went to competing bidder rather than to original "purchaser."

July 14:

Brigadier General David Sarnoff becomes board chairman as well as president of RCA on retirement of former board chairman, General James G. Harbord.

July 28:

FCC gets largest peacetime budget as Congress approves appropriation of \$6.2 million.

August 4:

Finch Telecommunications demonstrates Colorfax, full-color facsimile process.

August 18:

Survey of NAB member stations shows average of commercial time is 66%, sustaining 34%, well within "Blue Book" 80-20 ratio.

September 1:

RCA offers to help other manufacturers get started in production of TV receivers by disclosing complete technical data of RCA's own new model.

September 22:

FM Association convention plans aggressive promotion of FM in year ahead; Everett L. Dillard, founder and president of Continental (FM) Network, is elected FMA president.

September 29:

National Association of Station Representatives is formed at five-hour meeting in New York called by Paul H. Raymer and Edward Petry; goal is promotion of spot radio.

October 6:

National Association of Station Representatives files complaint with U.S. attorney general and FCC against CBS for assuming representation for non-network sales of affiliates formerly represented by NASR members.

October 13:

Charles R. Denny Jr. resigns as FCC chairman to join NBC as vice president and general counsel.

First telecast from White House is made when President Truman addresses nation on food conservation.

October 20:

Government renews prosecution of AFM President James C. Petrillo; files amended bill of criminal information in U.S. District Court in Chicago.

October 27:

AFM orders members to stop making recordings and transcriptions as of Dec. 31 "and never again to make them."

November 10:

MBS subscribes to BMB, bringing all networks into industry research organization as earlier subscriptions of ABC, NBC, CBS had been conditional on network unanimity.

November 17:

Television network service extends to Boston with opening of AT&T radio relay system between that city and New York.

November 24:

Networks and AFM begin discussions for renewal of contracts after existing pacts conclude Jan. 31, 1948.

December 1:

AFM President Petrillo calls off ban on performing for network co-op programs.

December 29:

President Truman appoints Wayne Coy, director of Washington Post stations, as FCC chairman.

1948

January 5:

WFIL-FM, Philadelphia Inquirer station, starts regular transmission of two facsimile editions per day, eight-pager at 2:15 pm, four-pager at 5 pm.

January 12:

NBC plans East Coast microwave relay system for networking TV programs as alternative to AT&T coaxial cable.

Westinghouse breaks with Clear Channel Broadcasting Service, tells FCC that 20 super-power (750 kw) stations will not "adequately or economically solve the issues" of clear-channel proceeding.

January 19:

Federal Judge Walter La Buy again finds James C. Petrillo, AFM president, not guilty of violating Lea Act by causing strike of librarians at WAAF(AM) Chicago; Representative Clarence F. Lea (D-Calif.), author of act, calls verdict "unwarranted."

January 26:

AT&T files FM tariffs; base monthly airline-mile cost for 16 consecutive hours per day is \$10, compared to \$6 for AM.

February 2:

FCC by 4-to-2 vote in WHLS(AM) Port Huron, MI, case, holds Section 315 of Communications Act to comprise "absolute" prohibition against station's censoring political broadcasts; states this federal prohibition will relieve station of responsibility for libelous material in political broadcasts.

RCA announces development of 16-inch TV picture tube, first metal kinescope, with picture area of 125 square inches.

February 9:

Western Union reveals plans to enter TV network service, starting with microwave relay between New York and Philadelphia.

February 23:

FCC assigns band for intercity TV relays operated by broadcasters for interim period until permanent common-carrier facilities are available.

March 1:

Senate Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee orders FCC to hold up its clear-channel decision as Senator Edwin C. Johnson (D-Colo.), ranking minority member, introduces bill to break down clear channels and limit power to 50 kw.

March 8:

FCC starts hearings on right of stations to editorialize.

March 15:

American Jewish Congress petitions FCC for revocation hearing for KMPC(AM) Los Angeles, charging station with "slanting" news comments.

March 22:

FCC holds three-day hearing on proposed standards for facsimile broadcasting.

March 29:

AT&T files new tariffs for intercity TV transmission, substantially lower than those proposed year ago.

April 19:

Court of Appeals for District of Columbia reverses FCC's nonhearing grant to Joseph P. Stanton of 10 kw daytime station at Philadelphia on WCKY(AM) Cincinnati's 1-B clear channel (1530 kc); rules that when licensee claims grant would adversely affect him he must be given opportunity to argue his cause and if

argument indicates that his rights would be adversely affected, full-dress hearing on application must be held.

April 26:

As Senate Commerce Committee closes hearing on Johnson Bill to break down clear channels, Acting Chairman Charles W. Tobey (R-NH) issues surprise order for new hearing to investigate broadcast allocations, regulations and patent ownership.

May 3:

Affirming lower court's denial of injunction to WSAY(AM) Rochester, NY, to keep ABC and MBS from switching affiliations to other stations, U.S. Second Circuit Court of Appeals, New York, holds that network is not common carrier and can make whatever contracts it wishes for distribution of its programs.

May 10:

Texas attorney general notifies FCC that despite its WHLS Port Huron decision, Texas libel laws are still in effect and "stations carrying libelous material will be subject to state laws."

FCC orders into effect earlier proposal assigning TV ch. 1 (44-50 mc) to nongovernment fixed and mobile services, denying FM spokesman's pleas for that channel for use in FM network relaying; gives FM stations in 44-50 mc band until end of year to move to 88-108 mc; issues proposed new expanded TV allocation table; calls hearing on feasibility of TV use of frequencies above 475 mc; proposes required minimum hours of TV station operation be scaled from 12 hours per week for first 18 months to 28 hours per week after 36 months.

House Un-American Activities Committee to investigate station grants to Edward Lamb, Representative F. Edward Hebert (D-LA) states after speech accusing Lamb of having "Communist associations and affiliations."

May 24:

NAB convention approves new code, considerably revamped from original version, as ideal toward which operation should be aimed.

ABC makes public offering of 500,000 shares of voting stock; it is all sold in less than two hours at \$9 per share.

May 31:

President Truman nominates Frieda Henneck to FCC as first woman appointee.

FCC's denial of application by WADC(AM) Akron, OH, because it contemplated full-time use of network programs, is upheld by U.S. Court of Appeals for District of Columbia, which splits 2-to-1 over whether decision involved censorship.

D.C. appellate court refuses to rehear WCKY case, in which it rules FCC should have heard WCKY Cincinnati before putting daytimer on its channel; appeal to Supreme Court foreseen.

June 7:

Gulf Oil Corp. starts sponsorship of We the People on both CBS Radio and CBS-TV; first regularly sponsored simulcast series.

June 14:

FCC authorizes commercial use of facsimile broadcasting on FM channels as of July 15; adopts rules and standards for printed broadcast medium.

Texas Co. puts old-style vaudeville show on TV; launches hour series on NBC-TV starring Milton Berle and with commercial delivered by Sid Stone, vaudeville pitchman.

June 28:

TV coverage of GOP convention makes history, reaches 10-12 million persons, costs estimated \$200,000, is transmitted to Midwest viewers by Stratovision.

July 5:

FCC officially adopts its "Port Huron" interpretation of political-broadcast law at outset of presidential campaign.

July 19:

KPRC(AM) Houston asks court to set aside commission's views on political broadcasting and itself interpret the law.

July 26:

FCC orders investigation of station representation by networks to see whether it violates commission's network regulations.

Major E.H. Armstrong sues RCA and NBC for alleged infringement of five of his basic FM patents.

Give-away programs on radio networks alone total \$165,000 a week, a *Broadcasting* survey reveals.

Five Baltimore stations are charged with contempt of court for broadcasting wire-service dispatches of arrest and confession of man charged with two murders; press

associations join NAB in fight against "Baltimore gag" rule.

August 9:

FCC proposes rules for give-aways which would bar practically all such programs from air.

Frederic W. Ziv buys World Broadcasting System from Decca Records for \$1.5 million.

House Select Committee starts investigation of FCC by questioning commission officials on their stand on political broadcasts.

August 16:

Westinghouse applies for commercial use of Stratovision.

August 23:

FCC proposes to limit ownership of AM stations to seven by any entity in line with existing limit of six FM and five TV stations.

September 20:

AFM President James C. Petrillo offers to end eight-and-a-half-month-old ban on recordings; proposes royalty payments to be made to disinterested trustee, who would collect funds from recordings and use them to hire unemployed musicians, avoiding Taft-Hartley ban on direct payments to union.

September 27:

NBC proposes new TV-affiliation contracts calling for station to give NBC 30 hours of free time per month, while network assumes all connection costs; NBC sets objective of 28 hours per week of network service.

Philco asks court to force AT&T to transmit from New York to Boston TV programs sent via Philco's own relay system from Philadelphia to New York; charges AT&T with insisting its intercity facilities be used all way.

October 4:

FCC puts freeze on TV licensing and hearing functions, pending decision of changes in present TV standards.

October 11:

CBS purchases "Amos 'n' Andy" out-right for \$2 million; makes strong effort to get Bergen and McCarthy away from NBC.

Court of Appeals for District of Columbia rules that FCC must grant hearing to any station that claims it will be harmed by grant of another application, even if interference would occur outside normally protected contour, in decision reversing nonhearing grant to put 1 kw daytime station at Tarboro, NC, on 760 kw 1-A clear channel of WJR(AM) Detroit.

October 25:

FCC rules that equal-time provision of Communications Act applies only to candidates competing against one another in same contest.

Ultrafax, high-speed communications system claimed to be capable of transmitting and receiving million words per minute, developed by RCA in cooperation with Eastman Kodak Co. and NBC, is demonstrated.

November 1:

Record companies and AFM reach agreement; companies to pay royalties to "public music fund" administered by impartial trustee.

November 22:

FCC orders hearing on news policies of G.A. Richards, owner of KMPC(AM) Los Angeles, WJR(AM) Detroit and WGAR(AM) Cleveland.

Association of Federal Communication Consulting Engineers is organized by 26 consultants.

November 29:

CBS gets Jack Benny program; will start Jan. 2 in same Sunday evening period (7-7:30 pm) and with same sponsor (American Tobacco Co.) it had on NBC; Edgar Bergen deal awaiting Internal Revenue ruling; Phil Harris-Alice Faye show to remain on NBC for time being.

Bulova Watch Co. introduces plan for combining time signals with TV station-identification announcements; 1949 advertising budget includes \$500,000 for TV, \$3 million for radio.

Negotiations are in progress for sale of ABC to 20th Century-Fox.

U.S. Court of Appeals for District of Columbia reverses FCC on denial of license renewal to WORL(AM) Boston; call action arbitrary, capricious and without "substantial" evidence.

December 6:

Frank M. Folsom, executive vice president in charge of Victor Division, becomes president of RCA, succeeding Brigadier General David Sarnoff, who retains board chairmanship.

Verdi's "Otello" is telecast in full from stage of Metropolitan Opera House in New York on ABC-TV with Texas Co. as sponsor.

December 20:

Recording peace near as Labor Secretary Maurice Tobin and Attorney General Tom Clark approve "trust fund" plan as within Taft-Hartley Act; Samuel R. Rosenbaum, one-time president of WFIL(AM) Philadelphia, is chosen as impartial trustee and administrator of fund.

December 27:

Transcription companies sign five-year agreements with AFBM.

1949

January 3:

Affirming FCC's denial of application of Bay State Beacon, Inc. for Brockton, MA, station, which would offer 95% of its time for sale, Court of Appeals of District of Columbia rules commission has right to examine percentages of commercial and sustaining time proposed by applicant.

January 10:

Daytime Stratovision tests deliver good pictures to some areas but in others local-station interference mars reception.

With Jack Benny and "Amos 'n' Andy" in its Sunday night line-up, CBS Radio now tops NBC in ratings in critical 7-8 pm period.

Resisting FCC order to move all FM to 88-108 mc, FM inventor E.H. Armstrong wins stay order from U.S. Court of Appeals for District of Columbia permitting his experimental station, W2XMN Alpine, NJ, to continue operating on 44.1 mc pending hearing.

January 17:

John Churchill resigns as BMB research director; NAB lends its director of research, Dr. Kenneth H. Baker, to supervise BMB's second nationwide study of station and network audiences.

AT&T coaxial cable links East Coast and Midwest television stations.

January 24:

CBS gets services of Bing Crosby for both radio and television.

January 31:

Baltimore court finds three stations guilty of contempt for violating rule prohibiting publication of crime news. CBS signs Edgar Bergen and Red Skelton; other deals reported near.

Academy of Television Arts and Sciences presents first Emmy awards; KTSL(TV) Los Angeles telecasts ceremonies.

KMED(AM) Medford, OR, tells FCC its sale to Gibson Broadcasting is off because of commission's competitive bidding rule.

February 7:

Appellate division of New York Supreme Court sets aside award of \$490,419 to Donald Flamm, former owner of WMCA(AM) New York, in suit against Edward J. Noble, ABC board chairman, to whom Flamm sold WMCA in 1941.

Pennsylvania state board of censors of motion pictures orders censorship of TV films before they are telecast by any Pennsylvania station.

February 14:

NBC rescinds rule against use of transcriptions on network.

March 7:

NBC affiliates give network vote of confidence at Chicago meeting.

Hugh Feltis resigns as president of BMB to become general manager of KING(AM) Seattle.

March 21:

Fred Allen signs contract giving NBC exclusive rights to his services for radio and television.

April 4:

NAB protests limitations on use of 540 kc channel proposed by FCC: to limit power to 1 kw and no use at all within 25 miles of some 224 military installations; points out that 1947 Atlantic City allocations made 540 kc broadcast channel.

April 11:

Frank K. White, president of Columbia Records and previously treasurer and vice president of CBS, becomes president of Mutual, succeeding Edgar Kobak, retiring to open office as business consultant.

April 18:

After stormy debate on convention floor, with expansion of Broadcast Advertising Department of NAB

demanding, board creates Broadcast Advertising Bureau, names Maurice B. Mitchell as its director, operating under board policy committee, and earmarks \$100,000 to get it going.

BMB wins vote of confidence from convention and loan of \$75,000 from NAB.

International high-frequency conference at Mexico City comes to stormy end as U.S. delegation refuses to approve pilot plan giving Russia and other countries greater share of channel hours.

May 2:

Two New York-Chicago channels added to AT&T coaxial cable service now provide three west-bound and one east-bound channel for television programs.

May 9:

FCC authorizes NBC to operate UHF station at Bridgeport, CT, for experimental rebroadcasts of programs of UHF WNBT(TV) New York.

May 16:

CBS signs Frank Stanton to 10-year contract to continue as president at base salary of \$100,000 per year, followed by 10-year consultant's contract at \$25,000 per year.

May 23:

Mark Woods signs five-year contact with ABC to remain as president at \$75,000 per year; Robert E. Kintner as executive vice president at \$50,000 and C. Nicholas Priaulx as vice president and treasurer at \$27,500; all provide for increases if earnings approve.

Associated Actors and Artists of America, parent AFL talent union, sets plans for new branch, Television Authority, to end conflicting claims of Actors' Equity, AFRA, Screen Actors Guild and others.

May 30:

FCC consolidates all major television problems, including UHF-VHF allocations and color; plans hearings to start in August.

Arkansas Supreme Court upholds Little Rock's city tax on radio stations.

Representative John Rankin (D-Miss.) introduces bill to make networks, stations and broadcasters-commentators liable to suit by person slandered in district where he resides "at the county seat" by law of Congress; FCC is "too slow," Rankin states.

Disputing suggestion of FCC Chairman Wayne Coy that FM stations be forced to duplicate AM programs when facilities are jointly operated, FM Association President William E. Ware declares that "such regulations would sound the death knell of FM."

WORL(AM) Boston goes off air after fighting for license renewal since 1945.

Longest direct TV pickup, 129 miles, made by KFMB-TV San Diego during dedication when it got and re-broadcast salute from KTLA(TV) Los Angeles without special equipment of any kind.

June 6:

FCC sanctions editorializing by broadcast stations within undefined limits of "fairness" and "balance" by 4-to-1 vote, overriding eight-year-old Mayflower decision; Commissioner Frieda B. Hennock, dissenting, contends majority's standard of fairness is "virtually impossible to enforce"; CBS announces it will editorialize "from time to time."

June 13:

FCC repeals Avco rule which for four years had required stations up for sale to be advertised for competing bids; admits rule had failed its purpose and often inflicted "severe economic and other hardships" on buyers and sellers.

Maryland Court of Appeals reverses lower court ruling that upheld "Baltimore gag" rule, reverses contempt citations against WCBM(AM), WITH(AM) and WFBM(AM) Baltimore and James P. Connolly, former WITH news editor.

NAB TV Music Committee and ASCAP reach tentative agreement on AM formula plus 10% as basis for TV music licenses; stations and ASCAP members asked to approve before July 1 deadline.

June 27:

Broadcast Advertising Bureau transfers headquarters to New York; plans expanded operations with \$200,000 budget.

July 4:

CBS, having announced that it would broadcast editorials over its own name, now says it will sell time for "expression of opinion on public issues."

July 11:

Sylvester L. (Pat) Weaver, vice president and radio-TV director of Young & Rubicam, joins NBC as vice president in charge of television.

July 18:

NAB board streamlines association organization, establishes audio division comprising both AM and FM and video division; A.D. Willard, executive vice president, declines appointment as head of video division and resigns to return to private industry.

FCC announces TV allocations plan: to add 42 UHF channels to present 12 VHF channels, with another 23 to 28 UHF channels reserved for experimental television, providing for 2,245 TV stations in 1,400 communities.

August 29:

FCC bans give-aways as violation of criminal lottery laws.

September 5:

ABC, CBS, NBC seek injunctions to prevent FCC from putting its anti-giveaway ruling into effect.

September 12:

AT&T's policy of not connecting its television-network facilities with those of private broadcasters is called "unlawful" in proposed FCC report.

Attempts of TV networks to obtain exclusive rights to World Series end in offer of telecasts to all on "no pay, no charge" terms; Gillette Safety Razor Co. buys rights, gets TV time free.

September 26:

FCC denies sale of WHAS(AM) Louisville, KY, to Crosley Corp. because of overlap between WHAS and Crosley's WLW(AM) Cincinnati.

Justice Department files anti-trust suit against *Lorain* (OH) *Journal*, charging conspiracy to damage WEOL-AM-FM Elyria-Lorain through restraint and monopoly of dissemination of news and advertising.

FCC suspends ban on give-away programs until court tests decided.

Schenley Distillers, after proposing to buy time for its hard-liquor products, decides to maintain "no radio" policy.

October 10:

Niles Trammell becomes NBC board chairman; Joseph McConnell, RCA executive vice president, succeeds him as NBC president.

CBS demonstrates studio, film and outside pickups in color to FCC; observers find quality generally good.

October 17:

RCA official demonstration of its color system to FCC, presented in rush, is admittedly disappointing; later informal showing much better.

October 24:

TV networks sign five-year contracts with ASCAP retroactive to Jan. 1, 1949; work commences on per-program license terms.

October 31:

U.S. District Court for Eastern District of Pennsylvania rules that attempt of state board of censorship to require censorship of television films is invalid because it infringes on field of interstate commerce.

November 7:

Mutual and Gillette Safety Razor Co. sign seven-year, \$1-million contract for radio rights to World Series and All-Star baseball games.

November 14:

U.S. Supreme Court upholds Little Rock, Ark., city taxes of \$250 per year on generation of radio waves and \$50 on solicitors of local advertisers.

NBC reorganizes into three self-contained operating divisions: television network, radio network, owned-and-operated stations, plus small, high-level management staff.

November 21:

NAB approves plan to reorganize BMB as independent stock company along line of BMI; extends deadline for dissolution of present BMB to July 1, 1950.

Television Authority is launched as AFL talent union for television, despite opposition of Screen Actors Guild and Screen Extras Guild.

December 12:

Stalemated when U.S. rejects Cuba's channel demands, NARBA conference at Montreal recesses for four months to give U.S. and Cuba time to work out agreement.

FM Association votes to disband, merge with NAB.

1950**January 2:**

Robert E. Kintner becomes president of ABC as Mark Woods is elected vice chairman.

NBC-TV asks affiliates to clear two and half hours on Saturday night for network variety series.

January 9:

DuMont scores NBC Saturday night request as clear attempt to freeze out competition; asks FCC to stop attempt.

NBC opens UHF TV satellite station in Bridgeport, CT, for experimental rebroadcasts of WNBT(TV) New York programs on 529-535 mc band.

January 16:

U.S. Supreme Court refuses to review decision of Maryland Court of Appeals invalidating Baltimore court principle that broadcasting or publishing news of indicated criminal constitutes contempt of court; effect is to extend to Maryland generally accepted rules of free press in crime reporting.

February 13:

FCC approves request of Zenith Radio Corp. for putting test of Phoneyvision in Chicago.

February 20:

Finding that NBC's plan for two-and-a-half-hour Saturday night TV program violates FCC's network rules, commission starts issuing temporary licenses to stations that have agreed to take all or part of program.

March 6:

New Mexico Appellate Court rules all KOB(AM) Albuquerque broadcasts are interstate commerce and therefore not taxable by state; Virginia general assembly passes bill forbidding cities, towns or counties in state from levying license or privilege taxes on broadcasting stations.

A.C. Nielsen Co. buys national network Hooperatings from C.E. Hooper Inc.

March 20:

Broadcast Audience Measurement is formed as successor to BMB; to be financed through sale of stock to broadcasters on BMI pattern.

Forbidden by FCC from censoring political broadcasts, broadcasters are not liable for defamatory remarks in such broadcasts, Federal District Court Judge Kirkpatrick rules in suit of David H.H. Felix against five Philadelphia stations.

March 27:

WFIL(AM) Philadelphia cuts night rates, increases daytime rates, as move to adjust radio price scale to growing audience for television.

April 3:

RCA shows its new tri-color picture tube; calls for adoption of compatible color standards.

WTMJ-FM Milwaukee, first FM station west of Alleghenies, turns back its license and goes off air after 10 years.

April 17:

FCC, interpreting its decision on editorializing, says stations have "an affirmative duty to seek out aid and encourage the broadcast of opposing views on controversial questions of public importance."

April 24:

William B. Ryan, general manager of KFI(AM) Los Angeles, is elected general manager of NAB to direct departmental operations.

May 15:

Television does not hurt attendance at sports events after first year of set ownership, when novelty has worn off, according to study conducted by Jerry Jordan.

May 22:

CBS and its owned stations, withdraw from NAB. Color Television Inc. demonstrates its color system to FCC.

DuMont shows its new three-color direct-view TV receiver tube.

May 29:

Chromatic Television Labs and Don Lee Broadcasting System both announce development of new tri-color TV tubes.

June 5:

ABC and its five owned stations pull out of NAB. NBC starts counter raid for CBS talent; signs Groucho Marx to eight-year, \$3-million capital-gains contract; goes after other name stars.

June 12:

NBC signs Bob Hope to five-year contract. KFI-AM-FM-TV Los Angeles asks all employees to sign loyalty oaths disclaiming membership in Communist Party or other subversive groups.

Radio Manufacturers Association becomes Radio-Television Manufacturers Association.

June 19:

ABC signs Don McNeill, conductor of Breakfast Club, to 20-year contract; also purchases Screen Guild Play-

ers; NBC signs Kate Smith to five-year TV contract. John Shepard III, founder of Yankee Network, dies of heart attack at 64.

Skiatron Corp. announces "Subscriber Vision" as its entry in pay-television field.

July 24:

Following outbreak of hostilities in Korea, White House calls for formation of all-inclusive Broadcasters Defense Council to organize radio-TV for instant availability for government.

July 31:

Association of National Advertisers starts drive for lower radio rates, citing inroads of TV on radio audience.

August 21:

Hugh M.P. Higgins, vice president and general manager of WMOA(AM) Marietta, OH, is named interim director of Broadcast Advertising Bureau.

August 28:

FCC dismisses complaint against KOB(AM) Albuquerque filed in March 1946 by then New Mexico Governor John J. Dempsey accusing station of broadcasting libelous attacks against him; admonishes station to "reread" commission's new decision on editorializing.

September 4:

FCC states it will adopt CBS color-television system unless set makers agree to "bracket standards" to enable sets to receive both present 525-line pictures and 405-line images proposed by CBS; if they agree, commission will adopt "bracket standards" for black-and-white TV, postpone color decision.

General Foods drops Jean Muir from Aldrich Family after protests against her appearance from "a number of groups"; Joint Committee Against Communism claims credit for her removal, announcing drive "to cleanse" radio and television of pro-Communist actors, directors, writers; Muir denies any Communist affiliations or sympathies.

U.S. District Court in Cleveland holds that newspaper which refuses to carry advertisement of local radio sponsors violates antitrust laws, in deciding government antitrust suit against *Lorain* (OH) *Journal* for unfair competition with WEOL(AM) Elyria, OH.

Color Television Inc. announces new compatible "dash sequential" system of color TV; petitions FCC to reopen color hearings.

September 11:

Three TV networks—ABC, CBS, NBC—agree to pay \$50,000 apiece to Gillette Safety Razor Co. for pooled telecast of World Series. Gillette having paid \$800,000 for TV rights; stations to be paid for one hour's time for each first four games; DuMont refuses to take part, denounces deal as "economically detrimental" to TV.

September 28:

Schenley International Corp. buys time on Hawaiian and Alaskan radio station to advertise whiskies.

Multiplex Development Corp. demonstrates method for simultaneous broadcast of three signal FM channel.

October 2:

Liberty Broadcasting System starts operating as fifth national network, feeding more than 10 hours of programs daily to 240 outlets.

Lewis Allen Weiss resigns as board chairman of Don Lee Broadcasting System, ending 20 years with regional network.

Set makers tell FCC they can't begin turning out TV sets with bracket standards by proposed November deadline.

October 9:

FCC initiates rulemaking proposal to equalize competition among TV networks and eliminate alleged domination of NBC-TV and, secondarily, of CBS-TV.

October 16:

FCC approves CBS color, effective Nov. 20; CBS promises 20 hours of color programs weekly within two months; RCA continues work on its compatible system; manufacturers divided as to whether to make sets and converters to receive CBS colorcasts.

FCC denies license renewal of WTUX(AM) Wilmington, DE; station charged with helping local bookmakers.

October 23:

NBC presents four-part radio plan to affiliates: Operation Tandem, rotating participation by six sponsors in five separate hour-long programs on different nights; Night and Day, three-advertiser participation in two daytime and one night-time period on rotating three-week schedule; Sight and Sound, three-advertiser rotating participation on half-hour radio and half-hour TV program; This Is Television, radio show made up of excerpts from six TV shows to be sold to TV sponsors.

Mexico withdraws from NARBA conference, already in difficulty over failure of U.S. and Cuban delegations to agree.

RCA files suit in federal district court in Chicago asking temporary injunction against FCC's color order being made effective pending determination of suit for permanent injunction; Pilot Radio Corp. files similar suit in Brooklyn but withdraws it when FCC moves to transfer RCA suit to New York.

October 30:

Reporting on its experience with UHF operation in Bridgeport, CT, RCA states: "It will be most unfortunate if television expansion has to go into the UHF band."

November 20:

Cuba gets right to use six U.S. 1-A clear channels and Jamaica two under new five-year North American Radio Broadcasting Agreement signed by United States, Canada, Cuba, Bahamas-Jamaica and Dominican Republic; Mexico, which withdrew from conference, and Haiti, which did not participate, will be given chance to subscribe.

Chicago Federal Court issues temporary restraining order halting FCC from putting its color rule into effect before final decision is made.

December 11:

FCC, by 4-to-2 vote, proposes to renew license of WBAL(AM) Baltimore and deny application of Drew Pearson and Robert S. Allen for the 50 kw, 1-B clear-channel facility.

December 25:

Chicago Federal Court dismisses RCA complaint against FCC adoption of CBS color system but bans commercial operation pending decision by U.S. Supreme Court.

CBS asks all employees to sign loyalty oaths; NBC has inquired as to its employees' Communist Party membership since 1944.

1951

January 1:

FCC approves General Tire & Rubber Co. purchase of Don Lee Broadcasting System for \$12,320,000; company also owns Yankee Network; sells KTSL(TV) Los Angeles to CBS for \$333,765. New antenna rules call for special study of all towers over 500 feet for air safety purposes; those under 500 feet need special studies only if located near airports or airway systems.

Gillette Safety Razor Co. buys TV rights to World Series and All-Star baseball games for six years at \$1 million per year; also holds radio rights through 1956 with Mutual.

Zenith Radio Corp. starts Phonevision tests in Chicago; 300 families to get "top-flight" motion pictures which they can see by calling operator, agreeing to pay \$1; otherwise they, and other viewers, get only scrambled signal.

January 8:

William B. Ryan, NAB general manager, is elected president of Broadcast Advertising Bureau.

NBC shelves proposed night-time rate cut for its radio network after majority of affiliates register opposition.

January 15:

National Collegiate Athletic Association adopts plan for close control of telecasts of football games.

January 22:

AFM sets 50% increase in base pay plus employment quotas; seen as tripling music costs as price for signing new contracts at radio-TV network key stations in New York, Chicago and Hollywood.

February 5:

NAB board revises by-laws to provide board chairmanship (and elects Justin Miller to post, relieving him of operating duties) and TV participation; changes name of organization to National Association of Radio and Television Broadcasters; grants active-membership privileges to radio and TV stations and networks; creates autonomous 25-member radio and 13-member TV boards of directors.

Progressive Broadcasting System suspends operation two months and five days after its opening, Nov. 26, 1950.

February 12:

Average family sees movies at home slightly better than twice per week in Phonevision test, Zenith Radio Corp. says in report on first four weeks of pay-TV experiment.

March 5:

Television Broadcasters Association dissolves; Thad H. Brown Jr., TBA counsel, becomes counsel for TV branch of NARTB.

March 12:

After negotiations of more than year between ASCAP and All-Industry TV Per Program Committee fail to produce agreement on per-program license terms, ASCAP mails out license forms calling for payments of 8.5% to 9.5% of card rate for use of its tunes on commercial TV programs; terms had been rejected by industry committee.

March 19:

Renewing drive for lower radio rates, ANA asserts that inroad of TV on full networks now amounts to 19.2% for NBC, 19.4% for CBS, compared to 14.9% for both networks in summer of 1950.

ABC offers sponsors of afternoon programs on NBC 45% discounts on one-fourth of full-hour rate, plus \$1,000 per week toward programs costs, to switch those shows to ABC.

National Association of Radio Station Representatives becomes National Association of Radio and Television Station Representatives, changing from NARSR to NARTSR.

Frank Costello's hands provide television's picture of week as he refuses to expose his face to cameras covering New York hearings of Senate Crime Investigation Committee whose chairman is Senator Estes Kefauver (D-Tenn.)

March 26:

FCC reveals proposed allocations plan making full use of UHF band in addition to 12 VHF channels to provide for some 2,000 TV stations in more than 1,200 communities; about 10% of channels are to be reserved for "indefinite" period for noncommercial educational stations.

First multiplex facsimile network is operated as joint venture of Columbia University, Hogan Labs, Rural Radio Foundation, WOR-FM New York, WHVA(FM) Poughkeepsie, NY, WQAN(FM) Scranton, PA, and WHCU-FM Ithaca, NY; newspaper prepared by Columbia Graduate School of Journalism is sent by landline to WOR-FM transmitter and relayed in turn by Poughkeepsie and Scranton stations to Ithaca, using equipment designed by Hogan Labs.

Skiatron Electronics & Television Inc. shows its Subscriber-Vision system of pay-TV to FCC in test broadcast from WOR-TV New York.

April 9:

Harold E. Fellows, general manager, WEEI(AM) Boston, is chosen as NARTB president.

April 16:

CBS enters manufacturing field with purchase of Hytron Radio & Electronics Corp., tube manufacturer, and its set-making subsidiary, Air King Products Co.

April 23:

Network affiliates, at special meeting at NARTB convention, elect Paul W. Morency, WTIC(AM) Hartford, CT, chairman of special committee charged with persuading CBS to rescind its proposed rate cuts and other radio networks from cutting their rates.

U.S. Supreme Court refuses to review ruling of lower court that Communications Act does not prohibit stations from censoring political talks by persons who are not candidates.

April 30:

Thomas F. O'Neil, vice president and director of Don Lee and Yankee regional networks, is elected board chairman of Mutual, succeeding Theodore C. Streibert, president of WOR(AM) New York.

May 7:

NBC announces 10%-15% cut in radio rates, comparable to that of CBS; ABC and MBS plan similar reductions.

May 14:

Tilting antenna of UHF transmitter can double its signal strength, RCA engineers report after Bridgeport experiments.

May 28:

United Paramount Theaters and American Broadcasting Co. agree on \$25-million merger; Leonard Goldenson, UPT president, would be president of new company, with ABC President Robert Kintner continuing as president of its broadcasting division and Edward J. Noble, ABC board chairman and chief owner, becoming chairman of finance committee.

Justice Department starts probe into restrictions placed on broadcasts and telecasts of all professional and amateur sports, with special emphasis on baseball play-by-play policies.

June 4:

Supreme Court affirms lower-court ruling upholding FCC adoption of color standards; CBS plans to start

colorcasting by end of June; RCA says it will continue public demonstrations of its "improved, compatible, all-electronic system."

G.A. (Dick) Richards dies at 62 after suffering for many years from serious heart ailment; long-standing FCC proceedings for renewal of licenses of his three stations, KMPC Los Angeles, WJR Detroit, WGAR Cleveland, are still not ended.

June 11:

General Tire & Rubber Co. buys KFI-TV Los Angeles for \$2.5 million.

June 18:

Chris Witting, general manager DuMont TV Network, becomes director of network and three DuMont TV stations—WABD(TV) New York, WTTG(TV) Washington, WDTV(TV) Pittsburgh—succeeding Mortimer W. Loewi.

June 25:

ABC reorganizes into four divisions with a vice president in charge of each: Ernest Lee Jahncke for Radio Network Division; Alexander Stronach Jr. for Television Network Division; Slocum Chapin for Owned Television Stations and Television Spot Sales; James Connolly for Owned Radio Stations and Radio Spot Sales.

Louis-Savold heavyweight fight, telecast to nine theaters in six cities but not to homes, draws capacity crowds.

After years of hearings, FCC grants renewal of license to WBAL Baltimore, dismissing application of Drew Pearson and Robert Allen for facilities.

July 2:

Mark Woods resigns as vice chairman of ABC.

Sixteen advertisers co-sponsor first commercial colorcast, hour-long program on five-station East Coast CBS-TV hookup.

July 16:

CBS separates its operations into six divisions, each with its own president: CBS Radio Division, headed by Howard S. Meighan; CBS Television Division, headed by J.L. Van Volkenburg; CBS Laboratories Division, headed by Adrian Murphy; CBS-Columbia Records Inc., (set manufacturing), headed by David H. Cogan; Columbia Records Inc., headed by James B. Conkling; Hytron Radio & Electronics Corp., headed by Bruce A. Coffin.

Failing in its attempt to raid NBC, ABC introduces its own set of daytime serials.

July 23:

U.S. Court of Appeals orders FCC to resolve 10-year old 770 kc dispute of WJZ(AM) New York and KOB(AM) Albuquerque, N.M.

August 20:

Robert Saudek, ABC vice president, resigns to become director of Ford Foundation's Television-Radio Workshop.

Screen Actor's Guild, opening contract negotiations with motion-picture producers, asks for ban on TV use of pictures made after Aug. 1, 1948, until agreement is reached on conditions of TV exhibition.

September 10:

President Truman's address at Japanese peace treaty conference in San Francisco is pooled telecast to open \$40-million coast-to-coast television-network facilities of AT&T.

NCAA announces TV schedule of 19 games featuring 29 teams on nine Saturdays; each city to get seven games with two "blacked out"; Westinghouse Electric Corp. sponsoring on NBC-TV; colleges to get about \$700,000 of \$1.25 million paid for rights plus time.

Gillette Safety Razor Co., holder of World Series TV rights for six years, signs four-year contract with NBC-TV as network to carry games.

September 17:

Senator William Benton (D-CT) proposes that limited amount of radio and TV time be given free to responsible candidates for federal office as means of reducing campaign costs.

October 1:

Brigadier General David Sarnoff, RCA board chairman, on completion of 45 years in radio, asks RCA scientists for three "gifts" for his 50th anniversary: an electronic amplifier for light for television, a television picture recorder and an electronic air-conditioner for home use.

October 8:

Completely revamping its policies, NBC Radio eliminates "must buys" to let advertiser pick stations he wants; changes network rates of affiliates, some up, some down; adds more stations, possibly as many as 200, to network; will broadcast Minute Man programs

with top stars as network sustainers for local sale by affiliates on "pay as you sell" plan; offers certain network programs to advertisers on one-time-or-more basis; revises network option time to conform to changed sales requirements.

Major league baseball teams drop "territorial" rules cramping radio-TV rights; Department of Justice starts court effort to break down professional football's bans on broadcasting.

Merger of radio-television properties of General Tire & Rubber Co. and R.H. Macy & Co. combines WOR-AM-FM-TV New York with Don Lee and Yankee Network, giving new firm majority (58%) control of MBS.

October 22:

Complying with request of Defense Mobilization Chief Charles E. Wilson, CBS agrees to stop color-TV manufacturing and broadcasting for "duration of the emergency"; halts plans of James Lees & Sons Co., carpet firm, to be first regular network color sponsor.

NARTB TV board approves new and strict TV code with seal which subscribing stations may show; review board to enforce advertising and program provisions and to check unfair competition within industry; seal may be withdrawn for code violations.

November 5:

Judge Ira E. Robinson, one-time chairman of Federal Radio Commission, dies at 82.

November 12:

Federal District Court orders KSFO(AM) San Francisco to make time available for campaign broadcast for Communist candidate as refusal would constitute censorship beyond authority of licensee.

November 19:

NBC Radio offers to guarantee to deliver 5.3-million messages weekly at cost of \$2.75 per thousand for three-program deal; rebate will be made to advertiser if Nielsen audit at end of 13 weeks shows total listener-impressions are below guarantee.

Bing Crosby Enterprises announces development of system for recording sight-and-sound programs on magnetic tape; pictures shown at demonstrations described as "hazy" but "viewable."

November 26:

Transradio Press Service shuts down its news service after 17 years.

December 3:

NBC affiliates reject its "guaranteed advertising attention plan"; ask network to delay its new rate formula until new research determines present radio values; approves establishment of NBC merchandising department but turns down its "market-basket plan" of merchandised advertising.

Three-year-old hearing on renewal of licenses of Richards stations, WJR Detroit, WGAR Cleveland and KMPC Los Angeles, ends with FCC accepting assurances of Mrs. G.A. Richards that stations would not broadcast biased or slanted news and granting license renewals.

National Television Systems Committee starts field tests of tentative standards for compatible TV.

December 17:

Louis G. Caldwell, "dean of radio law," dies at 60. Upholding lower court, U.S. Supreme Court holds that *Lorain* (OH) *Journal* violated antitrust laws when it refused to sell advertising to local advertisers who bought time on WEOL Elyria, Ohio.

December 31:

Westinghouse Electric Corp. buys \$3-million campaign package on CBS Radio and CBS Television, including conventions, 13-week get-out-the-vote campaign and election night coverage.

1952

January 7:

Philco Corp. buys NBC radio-TV coverage of political conventions and election night for \$3.8 million.

January 28:

Admiral Corp. buys convention and election coverage on ABC radio and TV networks for reported \$2 million; DuMont announces its coverage, in cooperation with Life magazine, will be available for local sales by affiliates on co-op basis; (offer later withdrawn and Westinghouse buys DuMont as well as CBS coverage.

February 25:

Wayne Coy resigns as FCC chairman to become consultant to Time Inc.

Liberty Broadcasting System sues 13 of 16 major-league baseball teams for \$12 million, triple damage allegedly suffered through loss of Game of the Day broadcasts; MBS announces that nine teams have con-

tracted for participation in its Game of the Day broadcasts.

March 3:

Speaker Sam Rayburn (D-TX) bars radio-television coverage of House Committees.

President appoints Commissioner Paul A. Walker FCC chairman.

March 10:

CBS acquires 45% interest in KQV(AM) Pittsburgh; arranges merger of WCCO(AM) and WTCN-TV Minneapolis-St. Paul, with CBS holding 47%, subject to FCC approval.

CBS demonstrates all-electronic color-TV receiver operating with CBS color system.

March 17:

Adrian Murphy, president, CBS Labs, becomes president, CBS Radio Division, succeeding Howard S. Meighan, who joins general executive group of CBS Inc.

Naylor Rogers, executive vice president of Keystone Broadcasting System, who entered radio in 1925 as general manager of KNX(AM) Los Angeles, dies at 66.

April 7:

Wallace A. White Jr., former Republican senator from Maine, co-author of Radio Act of 1927 and active in communications during his 32 years in House and Senate, dies at 74.

April 14:

FCC issues "Sixth Report and Order," lifting freeze on television as of July 1; provides for 2,053 stations in 1,291 cities, 617 VHF and 1,436 UHF, including 242 noncommercial educational stations (80 of them VHF); three zones are established, with different mileage separation and antenna-height regulations; Commissioner Robert F. Jones dissents vehemently to whole report; Commissioner Frieda Hennock objects to "inadequate" educational reservations.

April 28:

MBS Board Chairman Thomas F. O'Neil assumes presidency as well, following resignation of Frank White.

May 19:

Liberty Broadcasting System, unable to break broadcasting restrictions of major baseball leagues, suspends operations.

June 2:

Overruling Court of Appeals finding that transit broadcasts deprived riders of their liberty without due process of law, U.S. Supreme Court holds that D.C. Public Utilities Commission was within its rights in permitting radio programming for street cars and buses in nation's capital.

Walter Evans, president, Westinghouse Radio Stations, dies at 53.

FCC approves sale of KOB-AM-TV Albuquerque, NM, to Time Inc. and Wayne Coy for \$600,000.

June 16:

U.S. Supreme Court, remanding to FCC its grant of new station to Texas Star Broadcasting Co., states that in considering application for new station commission must weigh gain of new proposed service against loss to be suffered by existing licensee.

June 23:

NBC reorganizes with Vice President Sylvester L. Weaver put in charge of both radio and TV networks; Frank White joins NBC as vice president and general manager for radio and TV; Vice President Robert W. Sarnoff heads newly created film division; NBC launches promotion drive for combined use of radio and TV as most effective advertising buy.

July 7:

CBS Radio affiliates, at crisis conference, adopt resolution asking networks to rescind 10% cut of year before and boost daytime radio rates by 20%.

Radio Writers Guild calls strike against ABC, NBC, CBS over issue of extra pay for writers on commercial programs.

July 28:

President Truman signs McFarland bill, first major overhaul of Communications Act of 1934, permitting FCC to issue cease-and-desist orders in addition to revoking licenses; prohibiting broadcasters from charging more for political advertising than for normal business ads; requiring FCC to act on case within three months of filing or six months after hearing is concluded, or to explain reason to Congress; forbidding staff personnel to recommend actions to commissioners; putting on FCC burden of proof that licensee is not qualified for renewal; permitting protests against grants to be

made up to 30 days after grant but requiring FCC to answer protests or petitions for rehearing within 15 days; forbidding commissioners who resign to practice before FCC for one year after resignation; deleting permission to FCC to revoke licenses of those found guilty in federal court of antitrust violations.

Department of Justice files suit against 12 motion picture producing and exhibiting firms charging conspiracy to restrain interstate commerce in 16 mm films in violation of Sherman Act in move to free films for use in television.

August 18:

CBS Radio affiliates approve discounts tantamount to 25% reduction in night-time rates and accept 15% cut in network compensation, but win restoration of 1951 10% cut for daytime serials and increase of 5.5% in their pay for carrying these shows; network also gives assurance that its card rates won't be cut for at least one year and that "deals" are out for good.

September 1:

Empire Coil Co. buys RCA's experimental UHF transmitter for commercial operation in Portland, OR.

September 8:

NBC cuts rates through new discounts, average of 25% at night, with affiliates taking straight 14% cut in compensation; raises daytime rate 11.1% to restore 10% cut of 1951, but revises discounts so increase to advertisers will be only 4% in morning and none in afternoon.

September 15:

Standard Radio Transcription Services announces plan to discontinue monthly library releases and offer library, in whole or part, to stations on outright sale basis.

September 22:

By rushing equipment across country from Bridgeport, CT, to Portland, OR, KPTV(TV) Portland goes on air as first commercial UHF TV station.

ABC Radio revises discounts to lower evening rates average of 25%, raises morning rates by 5%.

American Federation of Radio Artists and Television Authority merge into American Federation of Television and Radio Artists (AFTRA).

September 29:

Max Ule of Kenyon & Eckhardt is named head of committee to set up ideal standards for broadcast rating measurements, sub-committee of Advertising Research Foundation's committee on radio and TV ratings methods whose chairman is Dr. E.L. Deckinger of Blow Co.

October 6:

Merlin H. (Deac) Aylesworth, first president of NBC, dies at 66.

October 20:

MBS reduces nighttime rates 30% in TV areas, 10% in areas not yet served by TV.

NARTB and AAAA adopt standard contract form for spot-TV time purchases, make it available to agencies and stations.

October 27:

Harold A. Lafount, radio consultant to Bulova Watch Co., member of former Federal Radio Commission, dies at 72.

November 17:

CBS opens its Television City in Hollywood.

December 1:

Don Lee Broadcasting System announces single rate, 7 am to 1 pm.

December 15:

Niles Trammell resigns as NBC board chairman to become president of Biscayne Television Corp., applicant for channel 7 Miami; Brigadier General David Sarnoff assumes post in addition to remaining RCA board chairman.

1953

January 5:

BBDQ has broadcast billings of \$40 million in 1952, making it top agency customer of radio-TV for that year, *Broadcasting* survey discloses.

Frank White becomes NBC president, succeeding Joseph H. McConnell; Sylvester L. Weaver is elected to new post, vice chairman of NBC board; John K. Herbert becomes vice president in charge of radio and TV networks; McConnell is to be president of Colgate-Palmolive-Peet Co.

Bing Crosby Enterprises demonstrates its magnetic-tape TV recordings judged "more than 20 fold" improved over demonstration of year before.

February 2:

FCC revises rules for operating personnel; opens way for remote operation of transmitters.

February 9:

Both Senate Commerce Committee and FCC investigate TV shakedown racket; applicants whose sole interest is in collecting fancy fees for clearing way for serious applicants.

Federal Court in New York, in 2-to-1 decision, says FCC's give-away rules misconstrue lottery law and represent "censorship" of sort forbidden by First Amendment.

February 16:

Merger of American Broadcasting Co. and United Paramount Theaters is approved by FCC in 5-to-2 decision, Commissioner Hennock vigorously dissenting, Commissioner Webster wanting further study of UPT's qualifications.

February 23:

Westinghouse Radio Stations Inc. buys WPTZ(TV) Philadelphia from Philco Corp. for record price of \$8.5 million.

Philip Morris & Co. and CBS sign Lucille Ball and Desi Arnez to \$8-million, two-and-a-half year non-cancellable contract.

March 2:

Special commission on educational TV in New York State finds "no justification" for proposed 10-station educational TV network; states' educators are not using all time available on commercial stations.

Station Representatives Association (formerly National Association of Radio and Television Station Representatives) launches crusade for spot radio; asks stations to underwrite national promotional campaign with fees of one-half one-time one-minute rate per month.

ABC stations in New York drop WJZ call for WABC-AM-FM-TV.

March 9:

NARTB votes to give first Keynote Award to Brigadier General David Sarnoff, RCA-NBC board chairman; award, created to honor outstanding service to broadcasting industry, will be presented at NARTB convention.

March 23:

Both Senate and House Commerce Committees prepare to investigate color-TV situation and whether failure of manufacturers to turn out color sets (under CBS standards) is result of conspiracy.

March 30:

Empire Coil Co. and Wrathall-Carman-Smith join NBC, CBS and AB-PT as owners of five TV stations, maximum rules permit, as FCC approves construction permits; Storer Broadcasting Co. will be in group if its tentative purchase agreement of WBRC-AM-TV Birmingham, AL, goes through.

April 20:

Rosel H. Hyde is given one-year appointment as FCC chairman, first Republican chairman since FCC was created in 1934.

May 4:

Ending years-old argument, ASCAP accepts broadcasters' position on network co-op programs; agrees on payment at local instead of national rate.

Listener protests over bait-switch advertising air draw attention of both FCC and FTC.

May 11:

Expansion of Vitapix Corp. into nationwide, TV station-owned film distributing syndicate is announced by John E. Fetzer, WKZO-TV Kalamazoo, MI, board chairman; Frank E. Mullen, former NBC executive vice president, is elected president of Vitapix; 40 stations are goal.

June 1:

David Sarnoff outlines RCA-NBC history and future plans in two-hour address to NBC-TV affiliates, who reaffirm "complete allegiance" to NBC; incipient revolt seems quelled with no rush to follow WTAR-AM-TV Norfolk to CBS.

June 8:

WWDC-FM Washington and Capital Transit Co. discontinue four-year-old service.

Worldwide radio covers Queen Elizabeth's coronation; race of NBC and CBS plans with TV films ends in victory for ABC-TV, which took feed from Canadian Broadcasting Corp. and shared it with NBC-TV.

June 22:

Two-hour Ford 50th Anniversary program, telecast on both CBS-TV and NBC-TV, makes television history, with Mary Martin-Ethel Merman songfest its high peak.

Lewis Allen Weiss, former MBS board chairman and top Don Lee executive, dies at 60.

James C. Petrillo, AFM president, tell TV networks he will not tolerate AFTRA infringements on his union's domain; AFTRA insists that musicians who sing and act as MC's must be its members.

June 29:

RCA-NBC asks FCC to approve compatible color standards for RCA dot-sequential color-TV system on commercial basis.

July 6:

MBS executives meet with affiliates committee to plan revision of operations to improve programming, increase sales.

July 13:

Box Office Television Inc. signs five-year contract for home football games of Notre Dame for closed-circuit theater television.

Broadcasting survey shows non-network film programs occupying quarter of time of TV-network interconnected affiliates, one-half time of nonconnected affiliates and three-fifths time of nonaffiliated stations.

July 20:

NBC separates sales, programming and promotion of its radio and TV networks; Vice President William H. Fineshriber Jr. heads radio network; Vice President John K. Herbert heads TV network; both report to President Frank White.

FCC revamps its TV processing procedure to give first priority to biggest market with least TV service.

July 27:

FCC proposes extension of television station licenses from one to three years.

National Television Systems Committee files petition with FCC to establish its compatible color-TV standards to supersede CBS field-sequential color system approved by FCC in 1950; CBS-TV announces plan to start color-casting with NTSC system beginning in September.

August 3:

President names Theodore C. Streibert, former WOR-AM New York president, to head new U.S. Information Agency.

Frank White resigns NBC presidency because of ill health; General Sarnoff to serve as president until new one is chosen.

August 10:

Four UHF station permittees ask FCC to authorize subscription TV as their only means of meeting strong VHF competition.

Court of Appeals upholds FCC's table of TV allocations, ruling that commission has authority to establish nationwide TV allocation plan.

August 31:

MBS gets FCC approval for its new affiliation plan; prepares to put it into effect Oct. 1.

Kenyon & Eckhardt survey of merchandising services offered, free or for fee, by nation's TV stations and networks is published in *Telecasting Yearbook*; first such study ever made.

September 7:

Television Programs of America, television-film production and distribution firm, is formed by veteran Hollywood producer Edward Small, as board chairman; Milton Gordon, financial expert, as president; Michael M. Sillerman, resigned as Ziv TV sales executive, as executive vice president.

September 21:

General Sarnoff presents NBC's plans to rehabilitate radio and to keep NBC Radio number-one network; affiliates give NBC unanimous vote of confidence.

Broadcasters Committee for Subscription TV is formed by group of 20 station operators and grantees.

Sylvania Electric Products Inc. asks FCC for permission to establish satellite TV stations in communities too small to support regular TV service.

September 28:

NBC Spot Sales introduces "Electronic Spot Buying," with timebuyers enabled to monitor TV and radio programs on stations represented by NBC via closed circuit.

With end of daylight saving time, CBS-TV, NBC-TV inaugurate "hot kinescope" systems to put programs on air on West Coast at same clock hour as in East.

October 5:

Jack Gross and Phil Krasne become full owners of United Television Programs; buy one-third held by Sam Costello and Ben Frye of Studio Films and one-third

held by Milt Blink of Standard Radio Transcription Services and Jerry King.

John L. Sinn, president, Ziv Television Programs, announces sale of Spanish-language versions of five program series to advertisers for use in Mexico as first step in multi-lingual global-TV program-distribution plan.

Emerson Radio & Phonograph Co. exhibits what it calls first compatible color-TV receiver; puts probable price at \$700.

October 19:

UHF stations form own trade association Ultra High Frequency Association.

FCC rules that examiner has right to enlarge issues of hearing to determine if applicant has financial resources to carry out his program proposals.

FM multiplexing system permitting simultaneous transmission of two programs on single 200 kc FM band is demonstrated by Dr. Edwin H. Armstrong, inventor of FM.

October 26:

FCC starts another investigation of Edward Lamb (WTOD[AM] Toledo, OH; WIKK[AM] and WICU-TV Erie, PA; WMAC-TV Massillon, OH; WHOQ[AM] Orlando, FL and purchaser of CP for WTVQ-TV Pittsburgh, subject to FCC approval); authorship of *The Planned Economy of Soviet Russia* in early 1930s and alleged association with organizations subsequently listed as subversive by attorney general stimulated earlier investigations of his fitness to be licensee.

November 2:

Extending divorce of radio and television, ABC names Oliver Treyz director of its radio network; Slocum Chapin, director of its TV network.

November 9:

MBS executives meet with affiliates advisory committee; agree to drop plan of paying for time in programs rather than dollars at end of year.

Bureau of Budget orders FCC and other licensing agencies to draw up schedules of fees that broadcasters and others should pay for privilege of holding government licenses.

WSM-TV Nashville asks FCC to authorize commercial establishment of booster or satellite TV stations.

FCC finalizes extension of TV license-renewal period from one to three years over renewed protest of Commissioner Hennock.

November 16:

Dissolution of NARTB, divorce of BMI from its broadcaster ownership and \$150 million in damages are asked by 33 writer members of ASCAP, banded together as Songwriters of America, in suit filed in Federal Court in New York.

Federal Judge Allan K. Grim rules professional football team may ban telecasts of other teams playing in its area when it is playing at home, but not when it is away; ban on radio broadcasts is held completely illegal.

November 23:

"Sound on Fax," audio transmission of tape recordings of news events together with pictures over International News Service facsimile circuit, is introduced by INS.

November 30:

FCC sets five TV, seven AM and seven FM as maximum number of stations any one entity can own.

December 7:

Sylvester L. (Pat) Weaver is elected NBC president, Robert W. Sarnoff becomes executive vice president.

RCA demonstrates monochrome and color-TV programs recorded on magnetic tape; General Sarnoff, RCA-NBC board chairman, reports "principal elements tested and confirmed," expects two years for finishing touches needed before system is ready for market.

International Telemeter Corp. (Paramount Pictures subsidiary) starts Palm Springs, CA, test of its subscription-TV system.

Bureau of Internal Revenue gives relief to TV broadcasters' tax burdens in new ruling taking into account rapid growth of industry during 1946-49 base period.

December 21:

FCC approves compatible color-TV standards; manufacturers praise action but warn not to expect sets immediately.

Justice Department investigates network's right to package program and restrict use of its own facilities.

December 28:

All-Industry Local TV Music Committee polls stations on submitting to ASCAP proposal for new blanket li-

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censes for TV at roughly radio minus 10% rather than former radio-plus-10% formula.

FCC proposes to amend its multiple-ownership rules to permit single ownership of seven TV stations, provided at least two are UHF.

1954

January 4:

RCA announces first all-electronic color tube, put on market as commercial product available to set manufacturers.

February 1:

Robert E. Lee, newly-confirmed for full seven-year term on FCC, says he is "sorry so many senators were against the nomination," but "I'm not mad at anybody."

February 8:

Two separate antitrust probes are under way at Department of Justice-suit involving alleged monopoly in release of 16-mm movies for TV and preliminary inquiry into advertising business practices.

Major Edwin Howard Armstrong, who developed FM system of broadcasting, dies at 63, suicide.

March 15:

Senator Joseph McCarthy demands equal time of CBS and NBC to answer Adlai Stevenson's March 6 speech, which was carried without charge. Two networks resist and win President Eisenhower's blessing in face of senator's condemnation and threat to teach them law.

March 22:

"Equal-time" issue continues to plague networks in wake of tempest stirred up by Senator McCarthy. Having carried 15-minute talk by President Eisenhower, networks, which failed to give equivalent time to Democratic National Committee for reply, are accused by Democratic National Chairman Stephen A. Mitchell of giving minority party "dimout" treatment.

March 29:

NBC's plans for TV "spectaculars," series of 90-minute programs, are sketched to network's affiliates by NBC President Sylvester L. (Pat) Weaver.

General Foods withdraws nearly all its \$3-million advertising allotment from Foote, Cone & Belding in move to consolidate its advertising in company's two other agencies, Young & Rubicam and Benton & Bowles.

RCA begins color-TV receiver production as first 15-inch, open-face console, to sell at \$1,000, comes off Bloomington, Ind., factory line.

April 5:

ABC and Walt Disney sign long-term contract under which Disney studios will produce at least 26 hour-long programs per year for ABC-TV.

April 12:

By 8-to-0 ruling, U.S. Supreme Court turns down FCC appeal from 1953 three-judge special New York court decision holding that one of commission's key provisions in its lottery regulations is invalid; court finds FCC exceeded its authority in attempting to define listening to radio program or watching TV show as "consideration" in meaning of lottery statute.

May 10:

New TV sales-promotion project, Television Advertising Bureau, promises it will be operating in time to influence fall-winter planning by advertisers and agencies. Richard A. Moore, KTTV-TV Los Angeles, chairman of organizing committee, announces 38 stations have joined.

May 24:

Senate subcommittee hears pleas from UHF operators, who ask "hiatus" in VHF grants, other relief, including deintermixture; FCC defends intermixture, says move to all UHF unwise, sees programming help in films and tapes; Commissioner Frieda Henneck calls for VHF freeze, power cutbacks; manufacturers association asks elimination of 10% excise tax on all-channel sets.

May 31:

CBS Radio reduces nighttime rates about 20%, effective in fall, in effect establishing single day-night rate for network; gives affiliates 70-second station breaks in evening hours; agrees not to follow NBC Radio plan to sell spots on network; affiliates accept proposals.

Mutual proposes to affiliates plan for network to sell spots within half-hour morning and half-hour afternoon program, affiliates to carry first spot in each period without pay, to be paid for others.

July 5:

TVAB and NARTB television factions merge to nip intra-industry feud in bud; form TVB.

July 12:

SRA opposes admission of networks to TVB. Clear Channel Broadcasting Service opposes FCC's daytime skywave proposal.

August 9:

FCC proposes UHF TV satellite and "budget" stations, in move to reduce cost of UHF station operation. Chairman John W. Bricker (R-OH) of Senate Commerce Committee formally announces impending probe of TV networks, UHF-VHF problems.

August 16:

Quality Radio Group (power radio stations) is organized to produce, sell night radio shows.

August 23:

House Commerce Committee issues report rebuking broadcasters for beer-wine ads, calls for industry data, report on remedial actions.

August 30:

CBS President Frank Stanton broadcasts first network editorial, urging radio-TV right to cover congressional hearings.

September 20:

FCC boosts TV ownership limits; seven TV stations allowed, five VHF, two UHF.

FCC opens license-renewal hearing against Edward Lamb, WICU-TV Erie, PA, on charges Lamb lied about Communist affiliations.

Skiatron TV Inc. petitions FCC for approval of its pay-TV system.

October 4:

George C. McConaughy appointed to FCC as chairman.

November 1:

President Eisenhower's cabinet becomes first to be televised. WCKY Cincinnati's L.B. Wilson, 63, pioneer broadcaster, dies.

November 15:

Broadcasters give overwhelming support to FCC's proposal to permit TV stations to build and operate their own intercity relays.

November 22:

FCC makes VHF satellite grant to KTRE-TV Lufkin, TX, extending its satellite policy to VHF.

November 29:

CBS-TV offers Extended Market Plan service to small-market TV stations. Network will pay affiliates 30% of gross time charges, less BMI and ASCAP deductions, and will offer stations as a group to advertisers with 10% discount.

December 6:

Westinghouse Broadcasting Co. buys WDTV-TV Pittsburgh from Allen B. DuMont Labs for \$9,750,000, all-time high for TV station.

Zenith Radio Corp. petitions FCC on pay TV, asking that "Phonevision" be authorized without rulemaking proceeding.

Senator Warren G. Magnuson (D-Wash.) says he will accept chairmanship of Senate Commerce Committee and continue TV networks probe.

December 13:

Marschalk & Pratt to merge with McCann-Erickson, become division of M-E, effective Jan. 1.

WBRE-TV Wilkes-Barre, PA (28) ready to become first UHF station to use 1,000 kw maximum effective radiated power authorized by FCC.

December 20:

C.E. Hooper, 56, pioneer in radio-TV ratings, dies in boating accident.

December 27:

Advertising Research Foundation study represents first move to standardize radio-TV ratings among various rating services.

1955

January 3:

DuMont announces it has developed combination live-film network system and predicts it will "set the industry on its ear."

January 17:

Sen. John O. Pastore (D-RI) named to head Senate Commerce Committee's Communications Subcommittee.

January 24:

President Eisenhower opens his news conference to TV-film coverage for the first time.

January 31:

Radio's 1954 time sales of \$453,000 to \$385,000 show 5% decline from previous year; first dip in radio sales since 1938.

February 7:

Senate Commerce Committee issues counsel Harry M. Plotkin's report calling for radical network restrictions and reduction of multiple ownerships. Senator Magnuson says committee will investigate UHF troubles, network power plays, station ownership and military spectrum use.

CBS's Stanton says if Plotkin proposals are adopted, network TV would be gravely crippled; summons 30 CBS-TV affiliates to plan strategy on Senate probe.

February 14:

Key witness, Marie Natvig, in license-renewal hearings for WICU-TV Erie, PA, states she was "brainwashed" into giving false testimony linking Edward Lamb with Communist party.

February 21:

Senator John W. Bricker (R-Ohio), ranking Republican member of Senate Commerce Committee, says networks might be made subject to public utility-type regulation in releasing report of minority counsel, Robert F. Jones.

February 28:

U.S. Court of Appeals, on Storer appeal, rules that FCC cannot set arbitrary limit on number of stations one entity can own.

Bing Crosby Enterprises demonstrates color videotape recording system.

March 7:

Hal Roach Jr. buys father's studios in \$10-million deal.

March 14:

Procter & Gamble leads 1954 radio-TV buyers with \$36 million; Colgate-Palmolive second with \$19 million.

NBC reaches maximum of five V's and two U's with purchase of WBUF-TV Buffalo, NY.

Estimated 65 million persons watch "Peter Pan" on NBC-TV, audience Broadway predicted it would take 65 years to reach.

March 21:

General Electric and National Telefilm Associates play key roles in formation of first film "network," National Affiliated Television Stations Inc.; will give assistance to ailing TV stations.

NBC-TV's \$3.7-million Color City in Burbank, CA, opens.

March 28:

Institute of Radio Engineers convention in New York witnesses disclosure of transistorized radio, tricolor vidicon, improved UHF transmitting antenna and earth satellite relay station for transoceanic TV.

Simon video-film camera, capable of simultaneous motion picture filming and live telecasting, completed after four years in development.

DuMont introduces its Electronicam live-film system. FCC authorizes functional music or other secondary programming via multiplex for FM stations.

April 11:

Pay-TV controversy raises more public reaction than any issue since color hearing in 1950; Zenith cancels advertising on CBS-TV charging network censored commercials, which is denied by CBS.

Coty sues Revlon, Weintraub, CBS charging theft of TV commercial copy; Hazel Bishop says same copy was created for its lipstick, not Coty or Revlon.

White House announces President Eisenhower will address May 22-26 NARTB convention in Washington, making him first chief executive to address broadcasters in person.

Broadcasting survey shows that film now occupies more than third of total TV broadcast time.

Witnesses appearing before Senate Juvenile Delinquency Subcommittee call for probe to determine if TV is factor in delinquency.

April 18:

DuMont switches to film network, using Electronicam, reserving live relays for special events and sports.

NARTB TV board takes strong stand against pay-TV, tower restrictions.

April 25:

Adrian Murphy retires as president of CBS Radio; replaced by West Coast vice president, Arthur Hull Hayes.

May 9:

FCC launches probe into KPIX(TV) San Francisco damage, reported coincident with a walkout of NABET engineers at station.

Liquidation of DuMont TV Network demanded by group of stockholders, headed by Carl M. Loeb.

May 16:

RCA-NBC, Minnesota Mining participate in first transmission of color TV program on magnetic tape over commercial TV network facilities.

May 23:

NBC swaps its WNBK(TV) and WTAM AM-FM Cleveland and \$3 million to Westinghouse for WPTZ(TV) and KYW(AM) Philadelphia.

DuMont unveils Vitascan system for originating live color without use of color TV cameras.

May 30:

President Eisenhower nominates Richard Mack to succeed Frieda Hennock on FCC.

Affiliates stymie CBS Radio plan for one-rate structure.

June 13:

Supreme Court upholds FCC right to make grants according to needs of cities involved. Under decision, WHOL(AM) Allentown, PA, must cease operating to make way for WEEX(AM) Easton, PA.

June 20:

ABC-TV billings for 1954 are 68% above total gross in 1954, with major reasons Walt Disney and fade-away of DuMont.

Senate unanimously confirms Richard Mack for FCC. Montana antenna system refuses to stop rebroadcasting KXLF-TV Butte signals.

June 27:

NARTB board strengthens radio code; plans enforcement similar to that of TV.

FCC forbids stations in one city from entering into network affiliation pacts which prevent stations in nearby cities from carrying the same programs.

July 4:

CBS reaches agreement with radio affiliates for single day-night network rate, affiliates to take 20% cut in compensation; deal must still be negotiated individually with affiliates.

NBC-TV revamps daytime programming; will have "service" in morning, "entertainment" in afternoon.

July 11:

Contract between DuMont and Jackie Gleason Enterprises calls for Gleason's "The Honeymooners" to be done as Electronicam film program for CBS-TV 30-minute Saturday night series.

CBS buys second UHF station, WGTH-TV Hartford, CT, from General Teleradio for \$650,000.

July 18:

CBS Radio affiliates accept network's single-rate plan.

Paul W. White, former CBS vice president and news chief, dies at 53.

July 25:

FCC names committee to conduct study of network operations.

FCC Commissioner John C. Doerfer proposes changing New York City's seven TV stations from VHF to UHF and perhaps making some change in other major markets on theory that if UHF is capable of delivering good service, big city is place to put it to work.

General Teleradio buys RKO Radio Pictures for \$25 million.

House Un-American Activities Committee announces it will hold hearings on alleged Communist infiltration of radio-TV and other entertainment fields.

August 1:

Westinghouse Electric Co. will sponsor 1956 presidential campaign coverage from conventions to election on CBS Radio and CBS-TV at \$5-million cost.

Combination diary-recorder method of audience measurement comes close to meeting "ideal" established by Advertising Research Foundation's Radio-Television Ratings Review Committee.

August 8:

Plan to liberalize TV mileage separation and drop in channels between existing stations, providing for 200 more VHF stations, is proposed by Washington law firm of Welch, Mott & Morgan and consulting engineer John H. Mullaney.

Aluminum Co. of America buys all availabilities on eight NBC-TV programs for a one-day saturation campaign on Dec. 6 for \$140,000.

August 15:

DuMont TV Network to cease operations if stockholders of Allen B. DuMont Labs ratify "spin-off" proposal to separate manufacturing and broadcasting functions into individual organizations.

August 22:

U.S. Census Bureau says 32 million homes, 67% of all U.S. households, have TV.

August 29:

Senate Juvenile Delinquency Subcommittee headed by Senator Estes Kefauver (D-Tenn.) recommends that FCC establish program censorship, that all broadcasters join NARTB and all TV film producers be urged to subscribe to the TV code.

TV proves its ability to cover court proceedings unobtrusively and decorously in test performance at American Bar Association meeting in Philadelphia.

September 5:

Claiming interference in Havana, Cuban broadcaster suggests that Miami be made all-UHF city.

September 12:

NBC Radio proposes to extend Monitor to weekdays, reduce station compensation by 25% and open up additional evening programs for network sale of participations.

September 19:

Republic Pictures signs government consent decree to make its feature pictures, in 16-mm prints, available to TV and other non-theater purchasers.

September 26:

FCC Commissioner Robert E. Lee proposes that commission give up on UHF and expand VHF by relaxing rules and getting more spectrum.

Commercial television starts in England as Independent Television Authority puts its London station on air.

October 10:

FCC asks Office of Defense Mobilization to give some of its VHF channels to broadcasting, taking UHF bands in return; CBS proposes drop-in plan to provide at least three competitive TV services for nation's top-100 markets; ABC suggests retaining UHF, deintermixing where practicable and adding VHF frequencies wherever possible to give at least three VHF channels to major markets.

October 17:

MBS cuts personnel 25% in "belt-tightening" program.

Under present economic conditions 600 TV stations are maximum nation can support, according to analysis prepared by Sidney S. Alexander, economic advisor to CBS.

Coca-Cola shifts its \$18-million-a-year advertising budget to McCann-Erickson after 49 years with D'Arcy agency.

FCC grants first permits for FM stations to engage in functional-music operations to WWDC-FM Washington and WPEN-FM Philadelphia.

U.S. Supreme Court refuses to review decision of New Mexico Supreme Court that state school tax of 2% on gross incomes is legal on local revenues of broadcast stations; KOB(AM) Albuquerque has fought tax for 10 years on basis that broadcasting is interstate commerce and so exempt from state and local taxes.

ABC Radio affiliates praise network's plan for evening programming based on personalized-listening concept, plan calls for two and a half hours to be programmed and sold in five-minute segments.

DuMont Broadcasting Corp., is organized with Bernard L. Goodwin, vice president and general manager of music publishing subsidiaries of Paramount Pictures, as president.

October 31:

Jack Wrather, John L. Loeb and Richard Buckley buy WNEW(AM) New York for \$4 million, top price to date for radio station.

November 7:

NBC board appropriates \$9 million for color-TV; to build new studios in Brooklyn, NY, and Burbank, CA, and turn WNBQ(TV) Chicago into world's first all-color station.

Sigma Delta Chi marks KDKA(AM) Pittsburgh as "historic site in journalism" in plaque presentation on 35th anniversary of station's beginning of regular broadcasting.

November 14:

FCC denies all deintermixture proposals pending full reconsideration of TV allocations plans.

Chris J. Whitting is appointed general manager of Consumer Products Division of Westinghouse Electric

Corp.; Donald H. McGannon succeeds him as president of Westinghouse Broadcasting Co.

November 21:

Forward scatter propagation is seen as potential medium for development of inter-continental television by scientists at Washington conference; R.P. Haviland, GE research engineer, suggests use of man-made satellites as TV relay points for transoceanic telecasts.

November 28:

General Teleradio and RKO Radio Pictures merge as RKO Teleradio Pictures; General Tire & Rubber Co. buys out R.H. Macy & Co.'s 10% interest to become sole owner.

December 5:

1954 was first year that broadcasting revenues passed billion-dollar mark, FCC reports, with radio-TV total of \$1,042.5 million; also first year that TV passed radio, with \$595 million for video to \$449.5 million for audio broadcasting.

FCC rescinds decision of July to permit VHF TV stations in Zone 1 to broadcast with maximum power from antennas 1,250 feet high, setting maximum height for maximum power back to 1,000 feet.

December 12:

U.S. District Court upholds right of motion picture companies to withhold films from TV.

ABC-TV buys 100 feature films from J. Arthur Rank for its Afternoon Film Festival.

Robert W. Sarnoff is elected NBC president; Sylvester L. Weaver becomes board chairman.

Initial decision favors renewal of license for WICU(TV) Erie, PA, owned by Edward Lamb.

KWTX-TV Waco, TX, is first TV station to cover murder trial with live telecasting; wins praise for inconspicuous presence.

1956**January 2:**

Television breaks into Hollywood vaults. RKO Teleradio Pictures sells 740 films and 1,000 short subjects to C&C Super Corp. (which was later to release them, mostly in barter deals, to TV). Columbia Pictures releases 104 features to TV through subsidiary, Screen Gems. CBS negotiates to buy Terrytoons for \$5 million. Paramount Pictures negotiates to sell 1,600 short subjects for TV release.

FCC approves Westinghouse-NBC radio-TV stations swap.

January 16:

NARTB group devises uniform station-film contract. Congress passes Section 309(c), "economic protest" amendment to Communications Act.

January 23:

Broadcasting survey finds agencies want guaranteed radio-TV circulation, but doubt it's possible.

January 30:

Democrats name Norman, Craig & Kummel as agency; GOP keeps BBDO.

Magnuson Committee opens TV hearing with testimony from FCC on allocations, deintermixture, pay TV.

February 6:

AAAA enters consent decree with Justice Department, agrees not to require 15% agency commission. Biow-Beirn-Toigo loses \$6 million Philip Morris account to N.W. Ayer & Son.

House Transportation and Communications (Harris) Subcommittee opens hearings on several communications bills with testimony from FCC on newspaper ownership of TV stations, equal political time, antenna farms, broadcaster libel relief; from CBS on Stanton proposal to amend Section 315 of Communications Act.

February 20:

MBS guarantees circulation to advertisers based on Nielsen ratings.

NARTB asks FCC for remote operation for all radio stations.

Senate and House Commerce Committees hear usual pro, con testimony on bills to ban alcohol ads.

March 5:

President Eisenhower uses radio-TV to announce intention to run. Democrats ask for equal time.

PRM, investment firm, buys Warner Bros. library of 850 feature movies, 1,500 shorts for \$21 million.

Colorado Supreme Court favors radio-TV court coverage in historic recommendation.

Magnuson Committee hears Justice Department antitrust head on pending probes of WBC-NBC swap, option time and must buys, network control of programs; UHF's in criticisms of FCC allocations and requests for deintermixture; and others.

House Antitrust (Celler) Subcommittee opens broadcast-industry probe with testimony by Justice Department antitrust head pending probe of WBC-NBC stations swap.

March 12:

Free & Peters becomes Peters, Griffin, Woodward Inc.

March 19:

Hubbel Robinson Jr. and Merle S. Jones elevated to CBS-TV executive vice presidents.

House Small Business (Evins) Subcommittee charges that FCC admitted influence by networks.

March 26:

Evins subcommittee subpoenas CBS, RCA-NBC records, quizzes two broadcasters on "influence" in FCC decisions.

April 2:

Magnuson Committee hears Richard Moore, KTTV(TV) Los Angeles, charge that TV network option time, must buy, violate antitrust laws; ABC, CBS, NBC testify on allocations.

FCC proposes antenna farms.
ABC breaks into profit column in 1955, AB-PT annual report says.

April 9:

Broadcasting survey finds auto advertisers think TV effective in follow-up of earlier criticism of TV effectiveness by Ernest Jones, president of MacManus, John & Adams (agency for Pontiac).

April 16:

ODM denies additional VHF spectrum space to broadcasting.

April 23:

More than 4,500 broadcasters and others attend NARTB Chicago convention, keynoted by ABC President Robert E. Kintner. Ampex Corp's. new TV tape recorder (\$4 million in orders) steals show; NBC's WNBQ(TV) Chicago goes full color; MBS unveils new sales plan; FM stations plan group separate from NARTB; VHF's plan protective group to maintain maximum power.

Senator John W. Bricker (R-Ohio), ranking Republican on Senate Commerce Committee, reveals confidential FCC figures on CBS and NBC revenues through 1954 in report, "The Network Monopoly."

Crowell-Collier Publishing Co. buys four radio and three TV stations in \$16 million-plus agreement to become third-largest non-network multiple owner.

John B. Poor named MBS president.

May 7:

FCC reported studying plan to make U.S.- TV west of Mississippi River all- VHF, east of river all-UHF.

May 21:

National Telefilm Associates buys UM&M Corp., leases 52 20th Century-Fox features.

May 28:

McCann-Erickson gets \$12 million Chesterfield account.

U.S. Supreme Court upholds FCC's multiple ownership rule in Storer case decision.

June 4:

Power TV stations, mostly VHF's organize Association of Maximum Service Telecasters to resist curbs on maximum coverage.

June 18:

Magnuson Committee hears testimony against regulation of networks by FCC from network presidents, Frank Stanton of CBS, Robert W. Sarnoff of NBC, Robert E. Kintner of ABC. They defend option time, must buy and other network practices as wholly legal and not monopolistic; say present networking system works to advantage of stations, advertisers and public; that network regulation would endanger networks and television; that present TV allocations should be corrected.

June 25:

Federal grand jury begins probe of Westinghouse-NBC stations swap, summons NBC and WBC officials for testimony.

Fund for Republic Report charges "blacklisting" in radio-TV by powerful individuals.

July 2:

FCC uncovers plan for long-range shift of TV to all-UHF; for present, proposes deintermixture in 13 markets.

Celler Subcommittee resumes hearings in probe of broadcast industry with testimony from FCC on West-

inghouse-NBC swap; reveals FCC staff report indicating possibility of "force" on part of NBC.

July 16:

Westinghouse Broadcasting Corp. radio stations drop NBC Radio affiliation.

Celler Subcommittee hears FCC on alleged monopoly of TV by networks; reveals confidential FCC figures on TV network returns for 1955.

CBS Inc. shuts down TV set-making division, CBS-Columbia.

July 23:

Magnuson Committee issues report supporting FCC on allocation proposals, urges speed to help UHF. Two members of committee dissent, urging FCC to keep present plan.

New Gates Radio Co. tape-disk system promises entirely automatic radio-station operation.

July 30:

ABC submits plan to FCC and Congress for equal TV facilities in top-200 markets.

August 27:

725 MGM features leased to CBS, King Broadcasting Co.'s two TV outlets and Triangle Publications' four TV stations for estimated \$16-\$20 million.

September 3:

Sindlinger & Co. says TV lost viewers because of political-convention coverage; Trendex says TV viewing exceeded that for regular programs.

Network officials say they lost \$4.1-\$5.1 million because of convention coverage.

NBC-TV plans to increase color schedule 500% in fall.

September 10:

Big push for release of post-1948 movies to TV begins as men from 10 major studios huddle in Hollywood to explore united plan.

NBC Board Chairman Sylvester L. (Pat) Weaver resigns, leaving President Robert W. Sarnoff in charge. Four executive vice presidents named.

September 17:

NTA Film Network reports lineup of 104 affiliate TV stations, plans Oct. 15 start.

September 24:

Celler Subcommittee hears ASCAP witnesses say networks and BMI dominate nation's music. BMI denies and is echoed by ABC President Robert E. Kintner, who also defends network practices. Subcommittee reveals network's affiliation contracts.

FCC meets with industry representatives to discuss "crash" program to save UHF.

October 8:

RCA scientists present General Sarnoff with "gifts" requested on his 45th anniversary: magnetic-tape player for TV programs, electronic air conditioner and electronic amplifier of light.

October 15:

Annual Videotown survey shows drop in viewing time, first in nine years.

October 22:

AB-PT President Leonard Goldenson assumes charge of broadcast operations after resignation of Robert E. Kintner as ABC president; Oliver Treyz rejoins ABC as head of its TV network.

Norman Cash is elected president of Television Bureau of Broadcasting to succeed Oliver Treyz.

October 29:

Association of National Advertisers launches study to analyze agency functions, determine validity of traditional 15% commission.

November 5:

Robert F. Kintner joins NBC as executive vice president.

Jack Von Volkenburg resigns as president of CBS-TV; Merle Jones, executive vice president, succeeds him.

National Telefilm Associates acquires TV rights to 20th Century-Fox Film Corp. library of 390 feature motion pictures, sells that film company half-interest in NTA Film Network.

Networks give Adlai Stevenson, Democratic candidate for President, time to answer President Eisenhower's broadcast in Middle East crisis, as FCC delays ruling.

November 12:

House Antitrust Subcommittee discloses discounts given to individual advertisers by CBS-TV, NBC-TV.

November 19:

People devote more time to television than to newspapers, TVB research reveals.

Peters, Griffin, Woodward, station representative, installs Univac computer to provide fast answers to queries about stations' programs, rates, availabilities.

Radio Free Europe denies charges it instigated Hungarian revolt.

Broadcast Promotion Association is organized.

November 26:

Justify extensions or turn in construction permits, FCC tells 85 non-operating UHF TV grantees.

Crowell-Collier Publishing Co. cancels \$16 million purchase of Bitner stations, forfeits \$100,000 earnest money.

December 10:

Justice Department files antitrust suit against NBC and RCA, charging coercion of Westinghouse Broadcasting Co. in swap of Philadelphia and Cleveland stations.

NBC celebrates 30th anniversary.
Paul W. Kesten, long-time CBS executive, dies at 58.

December 17:

CBS News adopt "magnetic stripe" recording process to upgrade sound quality of newfilm.

December 24:

Time Inc., buys Bitner stations for \$15,750,000.
AB-PT borrows \$60 million to pay off \$37-million indebtedness and improve competitive position in television.

1957

January 14:

Roscoe L. Barrow, head of FCC's Network Study Staff, warns of growing concentration of control of television.

January 21:

Philco Corp. files \$150-million triple-damage antitrust suit against RCA, General Electric Co. and AT&T.
John L. Burns is named RCA president.
Arturo Toscanini, conductor of NBC Symphony, 1937-1954, dies.

February 4:

WDAY-TV Fargo, ND, complies with federal law forbidding censorship of political candidates, is hit by \$150,000 libel suit.

February 11:

William Esty Co. asks radio stations for logs of morning hours, to check on commercial volume.
U.S. and Mexico agree on use of standard frequencies.

February 18:

Videotape recorders are seen as solution to TV networks' daylight savings time problems.
Oklahoma judges favor admitting TV cameras into courtrooms.

February 25:

CBS Radio will raise daytime rates 5%, cut nighttime rates one-third, if affiliates approve.

March 4:

Warner-Lambert Pharmaceutical Co. and P. Lorillard Co. will co-sponsor 90-minute broadcasts of feature films on 128 TV stations of NTA Film Network.
Gene Buck, ASCAP president 1924-1942 and leader in fight for ever-higher revenue from radio, dies at 71.
FCC adds new VHF stations in 10 markets, tells five VHF broadcasters to shift to UHF.

March 25:

DuMont buys WNEW(AM) New York for \$7.5 million, highest price ever paid for radio station.
International Telemeter Corp., subsidiary of Paramount Pictures, demonstrates pay-as-you-see system, invites immediate purchase for wired use, on-air when FCC approves.
FCC bans economic-injury appeals, disclaiming authority to consider effects of broadcast grant on existing station, in reversal of 15-year policy.

April 1:

Military seeks channels 2-6 from TV; some 200 VHF stations might have to move to ultra highs.
Justice Department sues Loew's for block-booking MGM feature films to TV.

April 8:

Mutual adopts music-news-sports format.
UHF can be profitable; WWLP(TV) Springfield, MA, opens books to prove it.

April 22:

ABC-TV drops must-buy requirements for network-owned stations.

April 29:

IRS rules network affiliations can't be depreciated; won't allow Westinghouse claim for \$5 million write off for NBC affiliation of WPTZ(TV) Philadelphia.

CBS-TV loses Tony award broadcast in IBEW-IATSE hassle over lighting jurisdiction, may sue IBEW.

Corinthian Broadcasting Corp. is formed to handle Whitney radio-TV properties; C. Wrede Petersmeyer is president.

May 6:

J.M. Mathes, agency president, pioneer in sponsored radio programming, dies at 68.

May 13:

Strong argument for radio-TV access to courts is offered by film of Denver murder trial.

May 20:

TV commercials that knock competitors bring FTC complaint, \$5-million damage suit.

Stan Freberg's zany radio spots sell Zee towels, start trend.

May 27:

FCC postpones pay-TV tests until basic questions are answered.

Fur flies when Mickey Cohen, self-styled reformed gangster, blasts L.A. Police on ABC-TV's Mike Wallace interview.

June 3:

ABC Radio changes name to American Radio Network, shortens broadcast day.

June 10:

Celler report finds TV hampered by station scarcity and FCC failure to correct time-option and must-buy practices. Tobacco advertisers say report of American Cancer Society linking smoking with death, will have little effect on cigarette advertising.

June 17:

Nine Philadelphia radio stations are fined \$1,000 each for agreeing not to cut rates, held antitrust law violation.

Edward Lamb cleared of Communist connections after three-year fight, gets renewal for WICU(TV) Erie, PA.

June 24:

Cy Langlois, early producer of syndicated transcribed radio programs, dies at 64.

July 1:

Senate Commerce Committee also attacks optimum-time and must-buy TV network practices.

American Airlines takes flier in stereo.

John C. Doerfer moves up to FCC chairmanship; George McConaughy leaves post with parting shot at congressional critics.

July 15:

Let Congress decide about pay TV, Representative Celler tells FCC.

Daytime broadcasters block Senate approval of NARBA.

July 29:

Benton & Bowles plan for General Foods and Bristol Myers to share 52-week TV-spot schedule arouses concern.

Network changes in Stephen Foster song lyrics stir up South.

California group buys MBS for \$550,000.

August 12:

Association of National Advertisers decries 52-week contracts of TV networks.

August 19:

Ideal Toy Co. puts Shirley Temple movies on TV to sell Shirley Temple dolls to new generation.

AT&T scatter circuit jumps 185-mile water hole to take U.S. TV to Cuba.

September 9:

Test of pay TV starts in Bartlesville, OK; theater owner sends movies to home audience via wire for flat monthly fee.

September 16:

How well is spectrum being used? Manufacturers and broadcasters urge sweeping study.

Zenith wins patent suit against RCA after 11 years in five courts; settlement put at \$9-11 million.

September 23:

FCC invites bids for three-year experiments with on-air pay TV; leaves Congress six months to get into act.

NARTB presents TV circulation-audit plan at regional meetings.

Muzak Corp., wired-radio giant, is sold to Jack Wrather-John Loef for \$4,350,000.

September 30:

Wayne Coy, former FCC chairman, dies at 53.

Community antenna operators look at pay TV, worry about public-utility classification.

FM broadcasters hold first multiplex meeting, discuss present problems (positively), future profits (perhaps).

October 7:

FCC Network Study Staff recommends 37 changes in TV network practice (Barrow Report).

Automation joins Peters, Griffin, Woodward staff; Univac-type computer expedites time-selling services.

October 14:

Sputnik sparks speculation about communication satellites.

October 21:

Networks don't want pay TV, but they say if it comes they'll be in it.

October 28:

Warwick & Leglar gets court injunction preventing Schick and its new agency from using idea dreamed up by W&L when Schick was its account.

WFIL(AM) Philadelphia lets panel of representative listeners determine music format.

RCA shows new color videotape recorder.

November 4:

American Bar Association committee recommends retention of Canon 35, barring cameras and microphones from courtrooms.

November 25:

FCC studies subliminal perception as stations experiment.

December 2:

St. Louis ponders ad tax as Baltimore broadcasters go to court to fight levy in that city.

AFL-CIO President George Meany rules program directors can direct technical crew members.

December 16:

Kolynos quits Grey Advertising after agency president tells TV interviewer he used another brand of toothpaste.

FCC approves Conelrad use for storm warnings.

December 23:

CBS pays \$20 million for WCAU-AM-FM TV Philadelphia, biggest price for broadcast property.

Arbitron, instantaneous electronic rating service, is unveiled by ARB.

Kudner loses \$23-million Buick account after 22 years.

December 30:

Chroma Key unlocks TV magic.

1958**January 6:**

Voice of America finds truth best propaganda.

January 13:

TV audiences aren't rising with TV prices, agencies complain.

January 20:

Invisible (subliminal) TV put under spotlight in Los Angeles and Washington.

January 27:

Bernard Schwartz, counsel to House Legislative Oversight Subcommittee, charges FCC commissioners with malfeasance.

Dodgers, moving to Los Angeles, permit radio coverage, ban TV.

Unions protest use of Republic Pictures' films on NBC-owned TV stations without payment to actors, writers.

February 3:

Pressure groups, professional and trade as well as ethnic, have forced much comedy off air, Groucho Marx charges.

February 10:

Paramount Pictures, last holdout from TV, releases pre-'48 library for \$50-million.

House Commerce Committee tells FCC not to authorize pre-'48 tests until Congress approves.

"Patron" plan lets business firms underwrite ETV programs without violating no-sponsor rule.

February 17:

FBI investigates charges that FCC Commissioner Richard Mack sold vote on Ch. 10 Miami grant; Schwartz is fired as Oversight Counsel.

February 24:

"Burns and Allen" TV series comes to end as Gracie retires.

Oliver Treyz is elected president of ABC-TV.

AFM strikes Hollywood movie makers in dispute over fees for release of films to TV.

March 3:

Frey Report provides basis for realistic appraisal of agency services, compensation by individual advertisers.

Lever Bros. drops Pepsodent spot-radio advertising, bulks up spot TV.

FCC agrees not to act on pay-TV applications until month after Congress adjourns.

March 10:

Barrow proposals would not put networks out of business, top executives tell FCC.

Maryland outlaws city-county ad taxes, ending Baltimore levy at end of 1958.

Richard Mack resigns from FCC.

March 17:

ABC officials ponder dropping radio network.

CBS divides television operations: Merle Jones heads TV station division; Lou Cowan, TV network.

March 31:

Rebel musicians form Musicians Guild of America as competitor of AFM.

April 7:

Court dismisses libel suit against WDAY-TV Fargo, ND, rules station can't be punished for obeying federal law forbidding censorship of political candidates.

FCC disclaims jurisdiction over CATV.

April 21:

FCC proposes to duplicate half of 24 Class 1-A clear-channel frequencies.

April 28:

Federal court remands ch. 10 Miami case to FCC for rehearing.

May 12:

Videotape creates new problems of union jurisdiction. CATV is tough competition for small-market TV stations.

May 19:

Commander Eugene McDonald Jr., board chairman of Zenith Radio and ardent advocate of pay TV, dies at 72.

May 26:

ANA opens war on TV triple-spotting.

Bartlesville, OK, experiment in wired pay-TV fails.

Elmer Davis, news commentator, wartime head of OWI, dies at 68.

June 2:

FCC studies plan to consolidate TV in one 25-channel band.

ANA completes three-year, \$200,000, advertising management study.

United Press and International News Service merge into UPI.

June 9:

Justice Department calls option time, program tie-ins illegal; waits for FCC to act.

House Legislative Oversight Subcommittee looks at ex-parte pressures on FCC.

June 16:

NBC shuts down Buffalo UHF station, in face of VHF competition.

June 23:

CBS-TV acts to end triple-spotting; BAR reports on extent of practice.

NAB bans "men in white" commercials, subliminal perception.

Uncooperative witnesses before House Committee on Un-American Activities lose jobs in television.

June 30:

Timebuyers say they don't like "top-40" stations, fail to explain why these stations get so much business.

AFM-Desilu contract boosts employment of musicians on TV-film shows, sets flat rate for re-runs.

July 7:

NBC-TV, CBS-TV affiliates videotape news pictures off network lines.

July 14:

Musicians Guild beats AFM in NLRB election, wins right to represent movie musicians.
 FCC must consider economic impact in new-station grants, court of appeals rules.

Maryland court rules Baltimore ad tax unconstitutional.

Court rejects invasion-of-privacy plea of Tony Accardo, lets TV cameras cover his testimony.

Independent Television Corp. is formed by Jack Wrather Organization, Associated TV Ltd. and others, as international distributor of TV programs.

Robert Sarnoff is elected NBC board chairman; Robert Kintner succeeds as president.

July 21:

"Operation Daybreak," daytime TV plan developed by ABC-TV and Young & Rubicam, is damned by other networks but accepted by ABC-TV affiliates.

July 28:

CBS-TV liberalizes policies on exchange commercials, product protection for daytime advertisers.

World's first "Telecopter," airborne TV-mobile unit, introduced at KTLA(TV) Los Angeles.

August 4:

New federal censorship code, similar to that of World War II, is ready.

TV stations may operate private intercity relays, regardless of availability of common carriers, FCC rules, reversing previous stand.

Appeals Court upholds FCC grant of ch. 5 Boston to Herald Traveler (WHDH) but remands case for investigation of undue influence.

August 11:

TV Q-Ratings are offered as measure of program appeal.

UHF has lost ground in last two years, Nielsen finds.

September 1:

New York district attorney investigates "Twenty-One" after contestant claims fakery.

Music guild signs contract with motion-picture producers; AFM charges "sellout."

September 8:

Oklahoma Court holds radio-TV entitled to same courtroom rights as press.

Ampex introduces TV tape splicer.
 Ed Craney, Montana broadcaster, goes to court to stop CATV from picking up TV programs off air without permission.

September 15:

Hal Roach Studios buys Mutual Broadcasting System; A.L. Guterma, chairman of F.L. Jacobs Co., majority stockholder in Scranton Corp., which earlier bought Roach property, becomes MBS president.

NBC-TV bans network "clipping," eliminating triple-spotting in station breaks.

September 22:

Independent Television Corp. buys Television Programs of America for \$11.35 million.

September 29:

Federal grand jury indicts former FCC Commissioner Richard Mack, charged with selling vote in ch. 10 Miami grant. Thurman Whiteside accused of buying it.

BBDO converts live commercials to videotape.

October 13:

CBS-TV broadcasts "The Plot to Kill Stalin," USSR closes CBS News' Moscow bureau.

October 20:

WOMT(AM) Manitowoc, WI, says it will take liquor advertising, shakes up NAB.

"Twenty-One" is canceled as ratings drop.

U.S. Court of Appeals uphold right of Loyola University, New Orleans, to own TV station, despite ties with Rome.

November 3:

CBS Radio offers affiliates pay in programs for local sale instead of cash.

RCA signs consent decree, accepts fine of \$100,000, agrees to set up nonroyalty patent pool in color TV, ending four-year antitrust suit.

November 10:

Albert Freeman, producer of "Twenty-One," is indicted for perjury.

November 24:

President Eisenhower names advisory committee in telecommunications, asks for rush report on role of government in spectrum management.

December 1:

Option-time question divides FCC.

Westinghouse forms Television Advertising Representatives to represent its five owned TV stations.

James Byron, news director of WBAP-AM-TV Fort Worth, is first broadcaster-president of Sigma Delta Chi, national professional journalism society.

December 8:

Major leagues reject players' pitch for share in TV profits.

December 22:

Orbiting Atlas missile relays President's "peace on earth" message from sky to ground.

MCA takes over Universal Studios.

1959

January 5:

Public describes ideal radio station format in motivational research study for KPRC(AM) Houston.

Edward J. Noble, who bought Blue Network from RCA, changed name to ABC, merged it with United Paramount Theaters, dies at 76.

January 12:

Young & Rubicam combines program and media operations into expanded radio-TV department.

"Must-buys" now dropped by all TV networks as NVC-TV falls in line.

FCC invites comments on space-communications allocation.

Commercial TV broadcasters contribute time, facilities, know-how to ETV.

February 2:

TV films; big firms prosper as small ones get squeezed out.

FCC proposes rule limiting TV-network spot representation to own stations.

February 23:

Lar Daly, perennial splinter candidate, is accorded equal time under Section 315 of Communications Act.

Supreme Court rules that NBC must stand trial for alleged coercion in station swap with Westinghouse.

March 9:

Multiple spotting widespread in medium-sized markets, BAR monitors find; Y&R condemns practice.

March 16:

TASO conclusion: UHF can't compete with VHF.

March 23:

FM Association of Broadcasters succeeds FMDA.

March 30:

Malcolm Smith group buys BMS.
 FCC issues new rules for pay-TV test; House Commerce Committee approves action by 11-10 vote.

April 6:

Plethora of plans for revising allocations of whole radio spectrum emerge as FCC wrestles with UHF-VHF problem and mobile users clamor for more space.

April 13:

Subliminal advertising works, but not as well as visible ads, Indiana study shows.

FCC lets local stations apply for daytime maximum power of 1 kw; adopts deadline cutoff policy to speed processing of new AM applications.

April 20:

Fall TV network programming takes shape early.
 FCC agrees to license on-channel VHF boosters if Congress passes enabling legislation.

April 27:

Sixty-eight TV stations defy code, refuse to drop Preparation H commercials.

News services report they now have more station subscribers than newspaper clients.

May 4:

NAB TV board revokes code membership of handful of stations that refuse to comply with code rules.

June 22:

Radio broadcasters and ASCAP agree on new license terms.

NAB TV code board cracks down on Preparation H; 19 stations are dropped; 17 resign.

NBC-TV broadcasts news film sent from London through undersea cable, using slow-scan process.

July 6:

FCC rejects plea of daytime stations for extended air time.

Mutual files bankruptcy petition; Robert Hurleigh tries to keep network on air.

Supreme Court ends danger of libel suits arising from broadcasts by political candidates.

Broadcasters urge FCC regulation of CATV protest unfair competition.

Wall Street investment firms buy 80% of Ziv Television Programs for \$14 million.

July 26:

Big businessman, Al McCarthy, steps in to rescue MBS.

August 3:

Congress wants look at quiz-show scandal records held by New York grand jury.

Ampex's Grundy smuggles videotape recording of Nixon-Khrushchev debate out of Russia for broadcast on all three U.S. television networks.

August 31:

How big is payola? Can disk jockeys be bought? *Broadcasting* special report surveys sorry situation.

September 7:

Congress amends Section 315; exempts newscasts from equal-time requirement, but writes "fairness doctrine" into the law.

Broadcasters fight antitrust exemption for professional sports which would permit blackout for 20 million homes.

Mission of Television Information Office is defined.
 Grand jury indicts Alexander Guterma and associate for using MBS as propaganda tool for Dominican Republic.

September 14:

New labor bill protects broadcasters against black-mail picketing, secondary boycotts.

September 21:

TV Code Review Board issues guilty for personal-products advertising.

Federal judge upholds Armstrong patents in FM, finds Emerson Radio guilty of infringement.

September 28:

NBC signs consent decree, agrees to sell Philadelphia stations acquired from Westinghouse, not to add or exchange stations or increase representation without Department of Justice permission.

FCC proposes to add Class II unlimited stations to 23 of 25 Class I-A clear channels, invites comments.

Special Examiner Horace Stern finds nothing improper in grant of ch. 5 Boston to WHDH (*Boston Herald-Traveler*) and no reason to set case aside.

October 12:

WJR(AM) Detroit, drops network, beefs up staff and live programming, increases revenue.

FCC orders TV networks not to represent stations they don't own; 13 stations need new reps.

Quiz contestants tell House Legislative Oversight Subcommittee they got answers in advance; CBS-TV drops big-prize shows.

October 19:

Timebuyers prefer one-minute TV spots.
 Supreme Court upholds lower court ruling that FCC acted illegally in ordering that functional music must be multiplexed.

October 26:

TV networks start repolishing image as President Eisenhower calls quiz-show rigging "a terrible thing to do to the American public."

November 2:

RCA color tape recorder is fully compatible for playback on other VTR machines, company announces.

November 9:

NBC, CBS move to eliminate all program practices that might deceive public, as Van Doren's confession that his "Twenty-One" performance was rigged causes public outcry and House probe finds other quiz shows fixed.

November 16:

FCC orders sweeping inquiry into programming and advertising practices of radio-TV.

December 7:

FCC goes after illegal plugs at stations; FTC charges record companies, distributors bribing disk jockeys, networks tighten curbs on plugs, payola; NAB toughens code restrictions.

December 14:

Quiz and payola scandals, government probes haven't hurt time sales, station reps say.

Jim Aubrey succeeds Lou Cowan as president of CBS-TV Network.

NAB forms task force to handle industry's ethical and legal problems.

Judge takes \$150-million damage claim out of song-writers' suit against BMI, lets other charges go to trial.

December 21:

Public does not condone abuses but has not lost faith in radio-TV, researcher Elmo Roper finds.
RCA signs consent judgment with FTC, agrees not to pay disk jockeys to play records unless payment is publicly disclosed.

December 28:

Audio tape cartridge for home use is under development by 3M Co. and laboratories at CBS.
Directors Guild of America absorbs Screen Directors International Guild.

1960

January 4:

Fees from movies sold to TV loom large in Hollywood-union contract talks.

January 11:

FTC issues more payola complaints, composers, demand stations sell BMI stock or lose licenses.

Attorney General William P. Rogers says FCC and FTC have authority to clean up deceptive broadcasting, should use it more effectively.

ASCAP fees for radio stations drop 9% under new licenses.

FCC proposes reduction of co-channel mileage separation to permit VHF drop-ins.

January 18:

FCC Chairman Doerfer proposes prime-time cultural programming, rotated among TV networks.

FTC hits TV commercials of Lever Bros., Standard Brands, Colgate-Palmolive, Alcoa as phony.

January 25:

Networks agree to try Doerfer prime-time culture plan.

February 1:

Former FCC Commissioner Richard Mack enters a psychiatric institute as his second trial, and that of Thurman Whiteside, pends; first trial ended in hung jury.

February 15:

House Legislative Oversight Subcommittee opens payola hearing with KYW(AM) Cleveland and WBZ(AM) Boston as horrible examples.

Telemeter puts coin boxes into 2,000 Canadian homes for pay-TV test in Toronto suburb.

February 22:

FTC seeks to clarify law on misleading ads on case-by-case basis, exchanges information with FCC on payola.

Alexander Guterman, former MBS president, is sentenced to four years and 11 months in federal prison and fined \$160,000 for stock fraud.

February 29:

Gillette, NBC tie up radio-TV rights to World Series, All-Star Game through 1966.

NAB stand on FCC program surveillance has not changed, NAB President Harold E. Fellows tells state association presidents.

NBC purchases KTVU(TV) Oakland-San Francisco; KRON-TV, NBC-TV affiliate in San Francisco, protests. Senate passes NARBA, Mexican treaties.

March 7:

FCC Chairman John Doerfer admits riding to Florida on Storer plane, spending nights on Storer yacht.

House Legislative Oversight Subcommittee Chairman Oren Harris (D-Ark.) and FCC Chairman Doerfer stage impromptu debate at CBS-TV affiliates meeting. FCC cites four Boston-area stations for payola offenses.

SAG strikes major movie companies; settles with U-I on fees from sale of pictures to television.

March 14:

John Doerfer resigns; Frederick Ford is new FCC chairman.

Bulova time signals return to radio.

Harold E. Fellows, NAB president since 1951, dies of heart attack at 60.

March 21:

NBC sells Washington stations to RKO General, exchanges Philadelphia broadcast properties for RKO's in Boston.

April 4:

Satellite sends weather reports back to earth from 400-mile high orbit.

RKO-Zenith plan \$10 million test of on-air pay television in Hartford, CT.

April 25:

Advertisers vie to buy TV entertainment programs, shun public service shows.

Minnesota Mining & Manufacturing Co. is new MBS owner.

May 9:

FTC investigates ratings, use in-station advertising. Philco applies for ch. 3 Philadelphia, now occupied by NBC's WRCV-TV.

Sam Goldwyn offers movies to television.

May 16:

Color commercials have 3.5 times the impact of black-and-white, Cincinnati study finds.

FCC to establish Office of Complaints and Compliance as watchdog over broadcasters.

TV networks control 80% of shows for new season, up from 71% in 1959-60.

May 23:

N.W. Ayer joins drive for summer discounts in TV rates.

TV networks offer free time to major-party presidential candidates as Senate considers bill to require it.

New York grand jury issues eight payola indictments. By single vote, Senate kills bill to put CATV under FCC regulation.

May 30:

UPI adds "audio" news reports radio-station service.

June 13:

Station representatives urge stations to clear up rate muddle, after N.W. Ayer threatens to deal directly with stations.

Broadcasters have no common-law rights in their programs, Montana district judge rules, dismissing infringement suit of KXLF-TV Butte against Helena CATV system.

June 20:

Writers Guild of America strike ends after five months.

June 27:

Frieda Henneck Simons, first woman FCC commissioner, dies at 55, following brain surgery.

July 4:

Long-term contracts, tying top talent to one network for many years, are out of date; new contracts reflect changes in economics, public taste.

July 11:

Product protection dwindles on TV.
FCC makes Fresno, CA, all-UHF market, deletes ch. 12.

Hughes Aircraft unveils laser (light amplification by stimulated emission of radiation).

July 18:

FCC cancels grant of Miami ch. 10 to National Airlines, gives it to L.B. Wilson Inc.

July 25:

TV affiliates want 40-second station breaks.
Advertisers and agencies tamper with scripts and casting, writers declare.

August 1:

FCC announces new policy of keeping careful watch of station programming and efforts to find and meet needs of community.

August 15:

CBS Radio plans to cut entertainment programming, bolster news.

SAG members reject merger with AFTRA.

Echo 1, balloon satellite, relays signals from 1,000-mile-high orbit.

August 22:

End of daytime serials on network radio.

August 29:

Congress suspends equal-time requirement for presidential candidates.

September 5:

TV network programmers are hard at work on 1961-62 shows, even before 1960-61 season starts.

KYA(AM) San Francisco institutes single rate, bans multiple spotting, refuses barter and per-inquiry business to test viability of ethical radio.

September 12:

AFM wins back right to represent musicians in negotiations with movie producers, lost to MGA two years before.

September 19:

Special FCC examiner recommends disqualifying three applicants for Miami ch. 7, voiding grant to WCKT(TV).
President signs payola bill into law.

Federal Aviation Administration claims final say on broadcast towers as hazards; broadcasters favor FCC authority.

October 3:

Florida ex-governor, LeRoy Collins, is picked as new NAB president.

Opening Kennedy-Nixon debate gets biggest TV audience ever.

October 10:

Advertisers join agencies in "Interchange" program to improve advertising through self-criticism.

NAB TV code board interprets liquor-ad ban to include any commercials inducing use of liquor; cocktail-mix spots move to noncode station.

Courier I-B goes into orbit, stimulates talk of stationary satellites.

October 17:

TV producers tell FCC they control programs, admit they accede to policy taboos of sponsors, which may be extensive.

Thurman Whiteside is acquitted in Miami ch. 10 case; former FCC Commissioner Richard Mack is too ill to stand trial.

Crowell-Collier buys WMGM(AM) New York for \$11 million.

October 24:

Taft Schreiber refuses to tell FCC which shows MCA has interest in, after William Morris executives explain their company's operation.

Quiz contestants are indicted for perjury.

November 7:

Debates helped Kennedy, hurt Nixon, Sindlinger study shows.

Canadian pay TV families spend 80 cents per week to see movies at home.

Dr. W.R.G. Baker, noted GE engineer who headed group that set TV standards, dies at 67.

November 21:

James Hagerty, White House news secretary, picked to head ABC News as John Daly resigns.

FAA chief concedes FCC has final say on tall towers.

November 28:

Negotiators for networks, ad agencies, film producers reach agreement with AFTRA-SAG.

December 12:

ABC-TV, CBS-TV take 8:30-11 p.m. as evening option time.

Gene Autry, Bob Reynolds add baseball club to broadcast holdings.

FCC moves to stop station trafficking, proposes three years as minimum ownership period.

Richard Eaton stations are first to be given short-time license renewals, under new law establishing that penalty for violations of FCC rules.

December 19:

New SAG-AFTRA agreement gives actors equal pay for film and tape commercials.

December 26:

Airborne TV transmitters are ready to send instruction to Midwest schools.

1961

January 2:

James M. Landis, former dean of Harvard Law School, joins Kennedy staff to study regulatory agencies.

House Subcommittee on Legislative Oversight comes to end. In three and half years, it turned spotlight on quiz scandals, payola and ex-parte influence, caused downfall of Doerfer, Mack, Van Doren and cancellation of six TV station grants.

"Monitor South" plans economic reprisals against sponsors of programs distasteful to Southerners.

January 16:

Newton Minow, law partner of Adlai Stevenson, is picked as FCC chairman.

New FCC rules tighten restrictions on payoffs and strike applications.

January 23:

FCC must consider programming at renewal time, James Landis asserts.

January 30:

U.S. Court of Appeals approves FCC plan to revoke Boston ch. 5 grant to *Boston Herald-Traveler*, rehear case.

February 6:

Repeal of Section 315 urged by NAB, CBS, NBC; modification advocated by ABC, MBS.
Edward R. Murrow leaves CBS to head U.S. Information Agency.

February 27:

FCC approves three-year trial of subscription television on WHCT(TV) Hartford, CT.
20th Century-Fox sells 30 motion pictures to NBC for \$6 million, plans major expansion of TV film production.

March 6:

Baseball billings of \$75 million for year estimated by *Broadcasting*.
Viewers say they want culture, but it's pure entertainment that they watch, researchers discover.
WBC Productions formed to produce programs for Westinghouse-owned radio and television stations, syndication to others.

March 20:

Threatened by boycott, picketing, Liggett & Myers drops "The Untouchables."
NBC-TV cuts product-protection time to 10 minutes.

March 27:

KDWB(AM) Minneapolis-St. Paul draws first FCC fine, \$10,000 for alleged "willful and repeated" technical violations.

April 3:

Powell Crosley Jr., early radio-set manufacturer who established WLW(AM) Cincinnati in 1921, dies at 74.

April 17:

Political billings of radio and television in 1960 campaign totaled \$14 million.

April 24:

Kennedy plan to reorganize FCC with added power for chairman is opposed by commissioners.
FCC approves FM stereophonic broadcasting.

May 1:

Television audience is hard to please, demands better programming, Campbell-Ewald depth study shows.
Young & Rubicam asks NAB, FCC to persuade ABC-TV not to adopt 40-second breaks.

May 8:

Kennedy order on ethics for government officials bans gifts, fees, compensation for outside activities.

May 15:

Minow shakes up NAB convention with "vast wasteland" speech, warns broadcasters to improve programs or get off air; Collins urges editorializing as way to attain prestige.

May 22:

Y&R writes ban on triple-spotting into Gulf Oil contract with NBC-TV.

June 5:

FM multiplex stereo starts at deadline in Schenectady, NY, Chicago, Los Angeles.

June 12:

TV crime and violence increases, so does juvenile delinquency; witnesses at Senate hearing seek to prove connection.
Television Affiliates Corp. formed to make best local shows available to all member stations.
J. Harold Ryan, co-founder of Storer Broadcasting Co., former president of NAB, BMI, assistant director of censorship during World War II, dies at 75.

June 19:

NAB bans prime-time triple spotting, cuts commercial time in TV participation shows to four minutes per half hour, forbids personal product ads on radio as well as TV.
Programmers blame networks, advertisers, agencies for violence on television; network executives say no one has proved connection with juvenile delinquency.
House rejects President's plan to reorganize FCC.

June 26:

Writers tell FCC television's promise of golden age has hit dead end.
ABC-TV National Station Sales will represent network-owned stations.
FCC's Minow, NAB's Collins agree there's too much violence in television, disagree on remedy.
ARB issues county-by-county breakdown on nation's 47.9 million television homes.
Duane Jones, agency executive credited with development of box-top-premium technique in radio advertising of packaged products, dies at 63.

July 3:

Applicant for new FM station is denied grant for failure to determine local program needs.
President orders Federal Space Council to study ways to develop communications satellite system.

Federal court tells Salt Lake City stations they can't stop Idaho CATV operators from picking up their programs.

Civic group buys commercial WNTP-TV Newark, NJ, for use as New York-area educational station; New York commercial TV stations contribute \$2 million toward purchase.

July 17:

Off-network shows become popular TV syndication fare.

New policy of matching proposals of applicants with their performance is announced by FCC in granting one-year renewal to KORD(AM) Pasco, WA.

\$11-million sale of WGM New York to Crowell-Collier dies when option expires with no FCC approval.

July 31:

FCC proposes to abolish UHF allocations table, authorize dual VHF-UHF operation, delete VHF channels form seven intermixed cities, add third VHF channel to 10 cities.

FCC revokes Miami ch. 7 grant to Biscayne TV Corp., disqualifies two other applicants for ex-parte contracts, awards channel to Sunbeam TV Corp.

August 7:

Broadcast Clearing House is announced as central processing, billing service for spot radio and television.

August 14:

WINS(AM) to be New York key of MBS as WOR(AM) drops 27-year affiliation.

August 28:

Congress passes own FCC reorganization bill.

September 4:

Tax court tells Westinghouse NBC-TV affiliation contract of WPTZ(TV) Philadelphia can't be depreciated.

September 18:

FCC ignores House Commerce Committee request to delay decision, breaks down 13 of 25 Class 1-A frequencies, ending 16-year battle.

September 25:

Sports stars find TV commercials road to riches.
Minow suggests quality children's program, rotated among networks at same time each day.
Celler bill to let professional sports leagues negotiate package-television contracts passes House, Senate.

October 9:

FCC kills proposal to charge broadcasters 4% of gross revenue in annual license fees.
Ratings, cost-per-thousand are important considerations in program selection but not final factors, big advertisers tell FCC.

October 16:

Advertisers spent \$10.03 per family on TV spot in 1960, TVAR study shows; city expenditures vary from \$12.76 (Chicago) to \$2.73 (Evanville, IN-Henderson, KY).
Central Media Bureau is third to offer computerized service for spot buyers.
Grant of Miami ch. 10 to L.B. Wilson Inc. is final as Supreme Court denies appeal of National Airlines from lower court ruling.

October 23:

All-industry committee proposes new concept of music licensing to reduce ASCAP fees.
Frederic R. Gamble retires as AAAA president; John Crichton, editor of *Advertising Age*, succeeds him.
Importer of Hankey Bannister Scotch starts radio test.

October 30:

KTVU(TV) San Francisco calls off sale to NBC; NBC-RKO deal may be upset.
FCC finds CBS-TV compensation plan violates rules.

November 6:

GE, Westinghouse are asked to explain why broadcast licenses should be renewed after price-fixing convictions of corporate officers.
Rush for VHF drop-ins swamp FCC.
Ampex "electronic editor" permits inserts, additions to be made in videotape without physical splices.

November 13:

BBDO uses computer process for media selection.
AT&T offers cut rates to ETV, annoys some commercial broadcasters.

November 20:

ABC-TV engineers develop process for immediate playback of videotape recordings in slow motion.

December 25:

All-industry committee goes to court to get ASCAP music on films cleared at source.

1962

January 8:

FTC calls Rapid Shave sandpaper commercial "deliberate fraud" by Colgate-Palmolive and agency, Ted Bates.
FCC approves plan to restrict station trafficking.

January 15:

CBS-TV signs new agreement for exclusive broadcast rights to National Football League games in 1962-63.

NASA, FCC differ on satellite ownership, operation, supervision.

January 22:

A.P. Management Corp. sues Young & Rubicam, 15 station representatives, 22 stations for \$16 million, charging conspiracy to destroy APMC service-for-time business.

February 5:

NAB Board scuttles reorganization plan, approves study of radio "overpopulation," opposes network licensing, favors all-channel sets.

February 12:

Public has higher opinion of TV now than two years earlier, Roper survey shows.
FCC commissioners blame ABC counterprogramming for many TV program ills.

President Kennedy proposes publicly-held corporation to own, operate space communications system.

February 19:

FCC proposes application filing fees of \$250 for TV, \$150 for radio.

February 26:

FCC picks Chicago for first hearing on local TV programming.
Colonel Glenn's orbital space flight seen by 135 million on TV at cost of \$3 million to networks.

March 5:

Baseball broadcast billings hit \$83 million for season.
Young & Rubicam researchers find no evidence that program content influences commercial recall, impact.
FCC wants satellite owned by international common carriers, not public. "Unusually good" programming wins license renewals for 14 Westinghouse stations, despite antitrust violations of parent company.

March 12:

ASCAP offers reduced fees to TV stations if they'll drop BMI ownership.
Schwerin Research Corp. says, Y&R is wrong, that program mood does affect commercial recall.
A.P. Management Corp. wins preliminary injunction against Y&R, nine station representatives.
FCC warns stations on spread of double billing.

March 19:

FCC agrees to hold up deintermixture if all-channel set bill passes.
Radio, TV get almost as much music from BMI as from ASCAP.
KRLA(AM) Los Angeles and KLFT(AM) Golden Meadow, LA, lose licenses for alleged attempts to mislead FCC.
FCC finalizes rule requiring hearings on transfers of licenses held less than three years.

March 26:

Witnesses praise, damn Chicago television at FCC hearing.
TV negotiators refuse to give up BMI ownership for ASCAP cut rate.
Oliver Treyz, head of ABC-TV for five years, is fired, replaced by Tom Moore.

April 2:

ABC-TV promises color programming for fall.

April 9:

NAB, FCC will cooperate to solve radio's overpopulation problem.
ABC-TV turns Friday night 10:30-11 p.m. back to stations.

April 16:

Department of Justice files antitrust suit against CBS on grounds Incentive Compensation Plan forces TV affiliates to carry full network schedule.

April 30:

New AAAA creative code discourages "deliberately irritating" ads.

Conelrad ending, outmoded by guided missiles.
John Henry Faulk sues Aware Inc. for \$ 1 million, charges bulletin labeling him as Red sympathizer cost him broadcasting career.

May 7:

A.P. Management Corp. gets permanent injunction against Y&R and nine representatives, no money, as suit is settled.

May 14:

FCC imposes partial freeze on AM applications, re-examines criteria for FM grants.

May 21:

Network heads deny sex and violence in TV programs for own sake as Senate Juvenile Delinquency Subcommittee hearings go on.

May 28:

Networks get seats on NAB TV code review board. FCC Review Board established to review examiners' decisions and routine radio hearing cases.

June 4:

Some 300 stations tell Bates they'll provide 15-minute product protection; only seven say no.

Possible harm from smoking could endanger television's tobacco billings of \$114.6 million a year.

FCC orders CBS-TV to negotiate new affiliate compensation plan.

June 1:

B&B joins Bates in demand for 15-minute protection; Triangle stations back Westinghouse on 10-minute standard.

Edgar Kobak, former MBS president and earlier vice president of NBC, Lord & Thomas, Blue Network, dies at 67.

June 25:

American Cancer Society moves to stop tobacco sponsorship of college sportscasts.

CBS-TV amends compensation plan to meet FCC objections.

Associated Correspondents News Service inaugurates first Negro newswire.

June 18:

Walter J. Damm, head of WTMJ-AM-FM-TV Milwaukee for 36 years dies at 69; had been president of NAB, FMBA, TBA.

July 2:

FCC stays grant of ch. 10 Tampa-St. Petersburg to WTSP-TV to look at programming of owner's radio station.

Jury awards John Henry Faulk \$3.5 million in blacklist libel suit.

July 9:

AAAA asks 15-minute product protection.
MCA leaves talent-agency field to stay in TV production, acquires majority interest in Decca Records, which owns majority interest in Universal Pictures.
Toll TV starts in Hartford.
Ford Foundation gives \$8.5 million to educational broadcasting.

July 16:

Telstar, AT&T's orbiting satellite, provides glamorous debut for global TV.

New IRS rules give broadcasters quicker write-offs on equipment.

Owen D. Young, founder and first chairman of RCA, GE chairman for 17 years, dies at 87.

July 23:

NBC-TV cuts affiliate compensation 5%.

July 30:

Late-night television income triples in five years, accounts for 10% of all national TV billings.

FCC revises FM rules, specifies more classes, tightens mileage separations.

WDKD(AM) Kingstree, SC, loses license because of "vulgar" programs.

August 6:

Group headed by Alfred Stern, NBC vice president, buys 18 CATV systems for \$10 million, biggest cable sale to date.

August 13:

Ted Husing, pioneer sportscaster, dies at 60.
Six Hollywood studios produce 40% of TV's prime-time entertainment shows.

August 20:

TV networks look askance at GOP plans to buy five-minute segments lopped off prime-time programs.

IRE, AIEE agree to merge into Institute of Electrical & Electronic Engineers (IEEE).

August 27:

TV networks reject Republican attempt to buy five-minute political ads lopped off prime-time programs.

September 3:

President signs bill creating Communications Satellite Corp.

Networks pay \$14.4 million for football TV rights.

IRS rules that proceeds from sale of film or taped TV show are ordinary income, not capital gains.

September 17:

GE will sponsor Victor Borge in weekly hour on QXR Network of 40 FM stations, biggest buy in FM history.

FCC proposes that any TV sets made after April 30, 1964, must be all-channel, calls moratorium on deintermixture plans.

October 1:

FCC reaffirms 1957 grant of Boston ch. 5 to Herald-Traveler, issues four-month license.

Mobile-radio users seek UHF chs. 14, 15.
Texas judge admits radio-TV to Sol Estes trial.

Educational Radio Network starts with hookup of eight FM stations.

October 8:

Ayer asks stations to give circulation guarantees for Sealtest spots.

October 22:

Major advertisers use "bulk buying" technique for TV spot.

NBC goes ahead with broadcast of "The Tunnel," despite protests from U.S. State Dept., East Germany, West Germany, West Berlin.

November 5:

Network news chiefs charge Pentagon with managing news in Cuban crisis.

November 12:

Supreme Court upholds ban on block booking for feature films to TV.

November 26:

NAB President Collins expresses personal dislike of cigarette advertising that influences school-age children to start smoking; immediate reaction is negative.

December 3:

FCC staff wages campaign to force TV stations to schedule local discussion shows in prime time.

December 17:

NAB's Collins suggests restrictions on cigarette commercials designed to appeal to youngsters; code board sends proposal to NAB TV board.

Association for Competitive Television opens Washington office as watchdog for member UHF stations.

NASA puts RCA-built relay satellite into orbit.

December 24:

FCC releases proposed table of FM allocations.

1963**January 7:**

RCA pays Philco \$9 million for patent rights; Philco withdraws bid for ch. 3 Philadelphia.

Major rating firms sign FTC consent order, to agree to stop claiming 100% accuracy.

January 14:

AAAA offers pre-emption formula to reduce paperwork in spot buying.

FCC got more complaints, took more disciplinary actions in 1962 than in any previous year.

January 21:

NAB board gives LeRoy Collins three-year contract, more money, defers action on cigarette commercials.

FCC plans to add 650-700 UHF assignments to TV allocation table.

January 28:

Federal Communications Bar Association starts drive to rewrite Communications Act, replace FCC with new regulatory agency.

February 4:

FCC knows better than public what good station performance is, Commissioner Henry states at Omaha hearing, as witnesses praise that city's stations.

February 11:

Minow, leaving FCC for Encyclopedia Britannica post, recommends Henry as new chairman.

American Bar Association votes to retain Canon 35, prohibiting broadcast and photography equipment in courtrooms.

February 18:

National Community TV Association board sees federal control necessary to assure orderly growth of CATV.

Regional radio broadcasters form Association on Broadcast Standards.

Syncom, so-called stationary satellite, goes up, doesn't work.

March 11:

ASCAP offers reduced fees to TV stations if they will drop ownership in BMI.

House special subcommittee on investigations hears ratings called "fraud," "absurdity"; network executives say they are only one factor in determining program worth.

FCC tells staff to prepare order denying VHF drop-ins in seven two-station markets.

FCC refuses to approve arrangement for NBC to reimburse Philco for expenses if Philco withdraws application for ch. 3 Philadelphia, says Philco can compete for channel or withdraw without payment.

March 25:

Methodology of Pulse, Nielsen probed at House subcommittee hearing; Chairman Harris says Pulse service looks like "con game."

April 1:

House subcommittee tears into Nielsen testimony; agencies wonder how to produce believable ratings.

FCC prepares to adopt license fees of up to \$100 for TV, \$50 for radio.

Industry advisory committee recommends Emergency Broadcasting System, with stations broadcasting on regular frequencies with normal power, as Conelrad replacement.

FCC considers ways to limit amount of time given to commercials.

April 22:

Pulse's Roslow calls for industrywide "standards and auditing committee," as researchers, broadcasters seek solution to ratings problem.

April 29:

AAAA board bans ownership of ad media by member agencies.

Judge rules WDEF Chattanooga can amortize cost of acquiring license, reversing IRS decision.

May 6:

Broadcasters favor industry audit for ratings; RAB wants radio, TV research separated; FTC charges Nielsen with rating monopoly, asks for surrender of half its clients.

Georgia commercial broadcasters protest pure entertainment on state-owned ETV stations.

May 13:

New FCC order amends sponsorship rules to implement 1960 legislative ban of payola, plugola.

FCC finalizes license fees.

Telstar II off to good start.

May 20:

FCC proposes to include NAB codes in own rules.
New rules for radio, proposed by FCC, would break up some AM-FM duopolies, limit FM duplication of AM programs to 50%.

Astronaut Gordon Cooper sends back first TV pictures from space.

May 27:

Clutter cuts value of TV ad dollar in half, B&W's Burgard tells ANA.

Court of Appeals approves FCC refusal of additional facilities to Carter Mountain Transmission Corp., upholding commission's right to use licensing powers over common-carrier relays to protect TV stations from CATV inroads.

June 3:

FCC outlaws network option time.
FCC finally rejects plan for shortspaced VHF drop-ins, ABC seeks reconsideration.

CBS Radio terminates New York Philharmonic broadcasts after 33 years.

June 10:

Politicians spent \$20 million for radio in 1962 campaigns.

June 17:

FCC-FTC tell broadcasters to be ready to prove rating claims; agencies want ARF to have in-house rating audit; Politz enters audience measurement field.

Chronology 1931-1991

NBC-TV, MCA plan feature films to be shown first on TV, then in theaters.

June 24:

Cigarette companies halt on-campus advertising; Canadian companies drop TV ads before 9 p.m. NAB inaugurates Rating Council. House passes bill to suspend Section 315 for 1964 presidential, vice-presidential elections.

July 1:

Negroes campaign for more jobs in broadcasting; FCC studies ways to prohibit racial discrimination; Senator Strom Thurmond (D-SC) accuses networks of "slanting news" and "following the NAACP line."

July 15:

Tobacco Institute advises members not to sponsor shows appealing primarily to youthful audience.

July 29:

When broadcasts deal with racial problems, Negro viewpoint must be presented, FCC declares.

August 5:

Two IATSE locals reject NAACP demand to add Negro to every crew, call it "featherbedding." Emergency Broadcasting System replaces Conelrad.

August 12:

CORE starts drive for use of Negroes in commercials.

August 19:

NAB's Collins invites network heads to off-record meeting with selected agencies, advertisers, to upgrade TV commercial practices; they say no. Fall football billings total \$85 million; networks pay \$14 million for rights.

September 2:

Civil rights march on Washington gets full radio-TV coverage.

September 16:

Nine rating services seek Rating Council accreditation; some stations cancel ratings, others use them with disclaimers; NAFMB outlines FM rating needs; FCC, FTC keep heat on but don't specify rules.

Pat Weaver leaves McCann-Erickson to head STV, wired pay-TV enterprise.

September 30:

Screen Gems transfers Negro to "Hazel" series, avoids clash with NAACP.

Jack Benny, who left NBC for CBS in 1949, returns for NBC-TV series in fall of 1964.

FTC investigates SESAC; Justice Department intensifies probe of BMI.

October 7:

FCC reserves ch. 37 for exclusive use of radio astronomy for 10 years.

H&B America, RKO plan CATV merger to operate over 50 systems with 100,000 subscribers.

ABC-TV's big money quiz, "100 Grand," dies in three weeks for lack of audience.

October 14:

Westinghouse telecasts play by videotape on five stations, simultaneous with Broadway opening.

John Fetzer plans big league baseball on network TV in prime time.

October 21:

California theater owners pledge \$500,000 to fight pay TV.

October 28:

FCC proposes adding 411 assignments to UHF table, 374 for ETV.

November 4:

Investors go for pay-TV stock, buy out STV offering first day.

November 18:

FCC reaffirms drop denial.

November 25:

All commercials, all entertainment banned from radio-TV networks following John F. Kennedy assassination.

First trans-Pacific broadcast via satellite previews live-TV coverage of 1964 Olympics in Tokyo.

December 2:

President Johnson's wife gives up control of Texas stations, transfers holdings to trustees.

Four Minneapolis-St. Paul stations refuse to pay FCC fines for sponsor-identification omission.

December 16:

P&G won't pay for spots next to piggybacks, representatives are told.

FCC plan to adopt NAB code rules is all but dead. Broadcast Clearing House stops operations; of three firms started in 1916 to clear timebuying's "paper jungle," only Central Media Bureau is still in business.

December 23:

Broadcast Rating Council incorporates as nonprofit organization, sends proposed standards to rating services; AAAA is full member.

NCAA sells 1964 football rights to NBC-TV for \$13 million.

1964

January 6:

Milwaukee Advertising Laboratory founded by Milwaukee Journal, WTMJ-AM-FM-TV to evaluate advertising effectiveness.

January 13:

Nielsen "reluctantly" stops measuring radio-network audiences.

January 20:

Government, tobacco companies, broadcasters ponder next moves after report to U.S. surgeon general links cigarette smoking to lung cancer. FCC drops plan to adopt NAB codes into rules.

January 27:

CBS buys NFL rights for two years for \$28.2 million. Grand jury indicts Drug Research Corp., agency (Kastor, Hilton, Chesley, Clifford & Atherton) for fraudulent advertising of Regimen, reducing pill. NAB TV code board bans piggybacks, cigarette commercials appealing to youngsters.

FCC renews licenses of Pacifica stations whose programs had offended some listeners, states that judgment of broadcaster in deciding what public shall see and hear "is entitled to very great weight" and commission will step in only where facts "flagrantly call for such action."

February 3:

American Tobacco drops sports broadcasts; some radio stations ban cigarette ads.

Use of piggybacks upheld by Kenyon & Eckhardt, McCann-Erickson.

February 10:

Reynolds Tobacco cancels late-afternoon commercials on radio stations popular with teen-agers; CBS-TV orders de-emphasis of cigarette use on programs.

February 24:

Baseball rights cost \$13.5 million. McCann-Erickson initiates "instant upgrading" policy; will cancel TV spot schedule if other stations offer better values.

March 2:

House passes bill to prohibit FCC from setting commercial standards.

March 9:

New AFM contract reduces numbers of staff musicians at networks from 409 to 302, gives them 3% pay boost.

March 16:

Network affiliations are deductible, U.S. Tax Court rules, giving Corinthian victory over IRS after seven-year fight.

Barter is \$35-million-per-year business; SRA finds direct deals satisfactory but objects to time brokering at cut rates.

Toymakers accept NAB guidelines on TV commercials.

Supreme Court rules public officials can't sue for libel unless malice proved.

March 23:

NAB code officials explain stand on multiple-product spots to agencies, producers, station representatives; Corinthian stations ban piggybacks.

WQXR(AM) New York accepts liquor ads after 10:30 p.m.; NAB protests action.

March 30:

BBDO "Channel One" on-air experiments show piggybacks effective, billboards helpful, hitchhikes not harmful.

Senate bill would bar liquor advertising on radio-TV; Representative Harris (D-AK) tells WQXR Congress is concerned about broadcasting's ability to regulate itself.

April 6:

McKesson & Robbins switches WQXR spots from scotch to wine.

Twenty applicants seek 1110 kc in Los Angeles, lost by KRLA.

Broadcast Rating Council issues rules, authorizes audit of rating services.

Association of Motion Picture & Television Producers formed by merger of two producers' groups.

April 20:

United Church of Christ asks FCC to deny renewal to WJTV(TV) and WLBT(TV), both Jackson, MS, for alleged discrimination against Negroes.

April 27:

FCC tells Gordon McLendon to give 57 hours of free time on his Texas stations to Senator Ralph Yarborough, his opponent for Democratic nomination to Senate.

May 18:

ABC-TV, CBS-TV pull out of Emmy awards in hassle over method of picking winners.

May 25:

NAB TV code board bans titles, teasers, credits, hopes to knock 30 seconds of clutter out of each half-hour.

June 1:

Common carriers buy 5 million shares of Comsat stock; AT&T gets most, then ITT, General Telephone, RCA.

June 15:

Federal court upholds FCC revocation of license of KWK(AM) St. Louis.

ABC, CBS, NBC set up Network Election Service, central vote-counting system; AP, UPI join election-day pool.

June 22:

House gets bill to prohibit broadcasting of early Eastern election returns while polls are still open in West.

June 29:

NAB President Collins resigns to accept federal post as conciliator in civil rights disputes.

FTC orders health warning on all cigarette packages as of Jan. 1, 1965, in all advertising as of July 1, 1965; tobacco industry plans court fight, if necessary.

Capital Cable of Austin (TX) agrees to purchase TV Cable of Austin, ending CATV dispute in that city.

Closed-circuit pay TV takes lot of hardware: picture story of STV's Los Angeles set-up.

July 6:

GE stations get license renewals after General Electric Broadcasting Co. is formed to operate them.

FCC lifts two-year-old AM freeze; order sets rigid technical standards, limits FM duplication of AM programming to 50% of time in cities of 100,000 or more.

July 13:

New SAG contracts with movie, TV film producers give actors more residual pay.

July 20:

STV starts pay-TV service by wire to 2,500 homes in Los Angeles; in Hartford, CT, RKO General completes two years of on-air pay TV, believes it can be made profitable, has found people most willing to pay for movies, sports, have little interest in culture.

Barry Goldwater, Republican candidate for President, challenges President Johnson to TV debates, is highly critical of CBS News's convention coverage.

San Francisco federal court reverses ruling of Idaho judge that CATV systems can't duplicate network or film programs of TV stations, suggests that broadcasters seek copyright protection.

July 27:

Oak Knoll Broadcasting Corp., non-profit organization, gets grant for interim operation of KLRA(AM) Pasadena-Los Angeles until permanent license is issued to one of 19 applicants.

August 3:

FCC renews NBC licenses for WRCA-AM-TV Philadelphia, on condition they be exchanged for Westinghouse stations in Cleveland, reversing deal made in 1956.

August 10:

SAG negotiates first contract for actors on videotaped shows with Universal; first for performers on pay TV with STV.

Ranger 7 sends back close-up pictures of moon.

August 17:

Spot billings per TV family average \$11.80, TVAR finds.

More than 300 stations get fallout shelters for transmitter engineers, supplied by federal government.

August 24:

FCC tax laws, prosperity spur broadcasters to diversify; *Broadcasting* lists holdings of some 40 companies. No "Great Debates" in 1964; Senate kills bill to suspend equal-time law.

August 31:

Gracie Allen, co-star of "Burns and Allen" on radio-TV for more than 20 years, dies at 58, after heart attack. Most stations accept piggybacks at regular rates as controversy dies out.

September 21:

Republicans protest Democratic spots linking little girl and nuclear cloud as unfair scare tactics.

October 5:

FCC turns down RKO, Philco pleas for reconsideration, after NBC, WBC file applications to trade back Philadelphia, Cleveland stations. FCC rules stations carrying presidential news conferences are subject to equal time demands of other candidates.

October 19:

ABC urges FCC to regulate CATV. FCC fines KLTW(TV) Tyler, TX, \$250 for rebroadcasting football game without consent of originating station, reprimands KSLA-TV Shreveport, LA, for refusing permission. Television Audit Corp. claims to measure audience from planes. Heart attack kills Eddie Cantor, 72, top radio star of 1930's.

October 26:

GOP film, "Choice," depicting crime, mob violence, sex, scandals in government, set to go on NBC-TV in many localities, when candidate Goldwater has it dropped as not "appropriate." Herbert Hoover, 31st President, dies at 90. As secretary of commerce in early 1920's, he guided development of American system of broadcasting.

November 2:

Campaign costs for radio-TV put at \$40 million. WIFE-AM-FM draws one-year renewal for "improper use of ratings." Dodd committee interim report calls relationships between TV violence and juvenile delinquency "conclusively established."

November 9:

STV loses at polls, starts court fight to have California law declared unconstitutional, closes operations in Los Angeles, San Francisco; plans for systems elsewhere held up.

November 16:

Monday night baseball network on TV loses out; maybe Saturday afternoons.

December 14:

CBS sues Teleprompter for CATV pickups of CBS-TV programs without permission of copyright owners. Presidential commission recommends massive anti-smoking drive, spearheaded by TV documentaries. Justice Department files antitrust suit to require broadcasters to give up ownership of BMI.

December 21:

ABC-TV signs 18 major league ball clubs for 25 Saturday afternoon games, two holiday games.

1965

January 4:

Frederick W. Ford leaves FCC for \$50,000-a-year NCTA presidency. Shell Oil "public service grant" provides two nightly newscasts for WNDT(TV) Newark-New York non-commercial station, each preceded and followed by credit to Shell; commercial broadcasters wonder when commercial is not commercial.

January 25:

Corinthian stations change policy, will accept piggybacks. FCC considers TV network control of prime-time programming to 50%, barring networks from syndication field. Some 65 million watch President Lyndon B. Johnson inaugurated on TV.

February 1:

Vincent T. Wasilewski, NAB executive vice president, named president at \$50,000 per year; board also votes to have full-time chairman at same salary.

NAB, NCTA split over CATV protection for local television stations, FCC procedures for insuring it.

February 8:

AMST calls on FCC to take immediate jurisdiction over CATV. BBDO, SSC&B test new system of agency compensation; formula assures agencies profit on accounts, assures clients that agency profits won't be excessive. White House TV studio gets first live use for presidential news conference.

February 22:

Texas businessman urges conservatives to buy CBS stock, gain control of network news policies. Philip G. Loucks, Washington broadcast-communications lawyer, managing director of NAB, 1930-35, dies at 65.

March 8:

James T. Aubrey Jr. is suddenly out as president of CBS-TV; John A. Schneider succeeds him. Supreme Court won't review award of \$550,000 (reduced from \$3.5 million) to John Henry Faulk in suit against Aware Inc., Vincent Hartnett, award director; also refuses to hear KWK(AM) St. Louis appeal for reversal of license revocation.

March 15:

Montana bill to have state set performing rights rates for music used in state has broadcasters, licensing organizations in uproar; special report on music for radio-TV, who supplies it and for how much.

March 22:

New York State Supreme Court orders Kemper Insurance Group to pay AB-PT for time Kemper tried to cancel following Alger Hiss appearance on news special on Richard Nixon. WINS(AM) New York switches to all-news format.

April 5:

Film dominates TV network prime time, supplies 84.1% of scheduled shows. CBS-TV will have seven one-minute prime time breaks in fall, has two now. FCC approves plan of WNDT(TV) New York non-commercial station, for programming underwritten by business organizations that get name credits.

April 12:

Early Bird, first commercial communications satellite, goes into stationary orbit, opens trans-Atlantic circuits for TV use. Supreme Court affirms FTC decision against Colgate-Palmolive, Bates, in "sandpaper" case rules mock-ups OK if it's not implied they're real thing.

April 26:

FCC asserts authority over all CATV, proposes requiring cable systems to carry local programs and stop importation of those from distant stations, freezes CATV microwave applications in major markets.

May 3:

AAAA offers to help FCC solve problem of overloud commercials. Edward R. Murrow, dead of cancer at 57, honored as man who did most to set standards for broadcast journalism.

May 10:

Federal court finds Kastor, Hilton, Chesley, Clifford & Atherton guilty of preparing fraudulent advertising for Regimen; it is first agency ever convicted on such charge.

May 17:

ABC tells FCC it wants to operate own domestic satellite. Three surveys show election returns, predictions had no effect on votes of those who heard them before going to polls. John F. Dille Jr., Indiana broadcaster-publisher-CATV owner, elected NAB board chairman, now full-time salaried job.

May 24:

California superior court finds ban on pay TV unconstitutional.

May 31:

Comsat files fee schedules. Telemeter ends five-year test of closed-circuit pay TV in Canada, calls it successful.

June 7:

Owners of 27 TV stations break with NAB-AMST on CATV, support bill limiting FCC authority.

June 14:

Supreme Court, in 5-to-4 decision, rules presence of TV cameras in court prevented fair trial of Billie Sol Estes. Gemini 4 flight coverage costs networks \$6 million. FCC rejects plea of atheist Madalyn Murray that 15 Honolulu stations be ordered to sell her time at "preferential rates afforded to religion." FCC issues new table of UHF assignments, proposes low-powered TV stations for smaller markets.

June 21:

P&G drops fight against piggybacks. NBC gives Philadelphia stations to WBC, gets Cleveland stations; WBC makes KYW Philadelphia all-news. Clutter doesn't seem to hurt commercial recall, Needham, Harper & Steers, researchers find. H.V. Kaltenborn, dean of news commentators, dies at 85.

June 28:

FCC issues proposed rule limiting new group owners to two VHF stations in top-50 markets, makes it effective immediately. NAB radio code lifts ban on personal products, if ad is in good taste.

July 12:

FTC issues guides on ratings claims by stations.

July 19:

Cigarette bill passed by Congress calls for health warning on package, not in advertising.

August 2:

FCC decides not to ban TV-CATV crossownership.

August 23:

Los Angeles broadcasters use helicopters to cover Watts riots after mobile units destroyed, newsmen beaten. Court of Appeals overturns Tax Court ruling, upholds IRS stand that network affiliation contracts are not depreciable assets for tax purposes.

August 30:

United Church of Christ asks court to overturn license renewal of WLBT(TV) Jackson, MI.

September 6:

Robert W. Sarnoff named president of RCA.

October 4:

KABL(AM) Oakland, CA, KISN(AM) Vancouver, WA, face FCC fines for failure to identify properly communities they are licensed to serve.

October 11:

FTC orders J.B. Williams Co. to stop misrepresenting Geritol's effectiveness. Pope's historic visit to U.S. seen in 90% of nation's homes: Dr. Carl McIntire, radio evangelist, seeks free time to reply to what he calls "religious propaganda."

October 18:

Color set sales for first nine months of 1965 double those of same period year before. FCC creates new class of service for non-common carrier operators serving CATV, Community Antenna Relay, puts it in 12,700-13,200 mc band. NCAA drops NBC-TV, signs four-year \$32 million contract with ABC-TV.

October 25:

FCC outlaws double-billing. NBC gets rights for World Series, All-Star Game, Game of Week for 1967-68 for \$30 million. Directors Guild of America absorbs Screen Directors International Guild.

November 1:

TV nighttime audience off slightly from previous year, Nielsen reports; TVQ finds interest less. Ralph Blumberg sells WBOX(AM) Bogalusa, LA, after Klan boycott reduced monthly income from \$4,000 to \$400; receives RTNDA's Paul White award for courageous civil rights stand.

November 8:

Four Los Angeles businessmen for Fidelity Television apply for ch. 9 there, on which RKO General's KHJ-TV has operated since 1951.

November 15:

Court upholds FTC complaint against General Motors, Libby-Owens-Ford for misrepresentation in commercials shot through open door, purported to be through safety glass. Carnegie Corp. forms blue ribbon commission to study ETV.

November 22:

Dr. Allen B. DuMont, pioneer TV inventor, manufacturer, broadcaster, dies at 64.

November 29:

NASA seeks feasibility study of broadcasting satellite radio signals directly to home receivers.

December 6:

FCC approves transfer of WLBT(TV) Jackson, MI, to Lamar Life Insurance Co.; United Church of Christ, arguing for review of WLBT's license renewal, asks appeals court to give aggrieved members of public rights to be heard in license renewal proceedings.

UPI takes over Radio Press International, chief rival in audio news service field.

ABC plans merger with ITT.

New York City issues three CATV franchises: Sterling Information Services gets Manhattan south of 86th St. on East Side, 79th St. on West Side; Teleprompter gets northern Manhattan; CATV Enterprise gets Riverdale.

December 20:

NAB TV code board puts new restraints on ads that criticize competitors.

Five radio stations get short-term renewals for carrying more advertising than they proposed.

Gordon McLendon asks FCC to approve his acquisition of KGLA(FM) Los Angeles to be used as classified-ad station with no other programming.

Walter D. Scott named NBC president, chief executive officer; Robert Kintner to become board chairman, duties not defined.

1966

January 3:

Kastor, Hilton, Chesley, Clifford & Atherton gets new president, Emerson Foote; new name, Kastor, Foote, Hilton & Atherton; decides not to appeal Regimen verdict.

Representative Harley Staggers (D-WV) succeeds Oren Harris (D-AK) as chairman, House Commerce Committee.

Ford Foundation reports gifts of \$16.5 million, to ETV in year.

January 10:

CBS-TV prices commercial minutes in football telecasts at \$70,000 each.

James Lawrence Fly, 67, FCC chairman, 1939-44, dies of cancer.

January 17:

People in second-set TV homes don't watch more, do watch differently, McHugh & Hoffman survey shows.

January 24:

Some ABC-TV affiliates protest fourth commercial on "Batman"; WJZ-TV Baltimore won't take it.

Cable association campaign floods Congress with protests of FCC regulation of CATV.

FCC erred in fining Minneapolis-St. Paul stations for sponsor identification lapse, U.S. district court rules, dismisses government suit to collect.

February 7:

CBS-TV sets flat prices for time, drops all discounts but one for 52-week continuity.

Ratings provide reasonably accurate audience estimates, Committee on National Television Audience Measurements reports.

Supreme Court refuses Corinthian petition to review lower-court ruling that TV network affiliations cannot be amortized.

February 14:

John A. Schneider named to new post, CBS group vice president for broadcasting; John T. Reynolds succeeds him as president of CBS-TV network.

February 21:

FCC sets rules for CATV for systems not using microwave as well as those that do, requiring carriage of all local station signals, same-day nonduplication, no importation of distant signals by top market systems except with FCC permission; reaction violent.

Fred W. Friendly quits as president of CBS News, when new boss Schneider cancels coverage of Senate hearing on Vietnam; Richard Salant named acting news head.

February 28:

Robert E. Kintner leaves NBC.

Each radio network has cumulative audience of 30 million each week, NBC Radio's new measurement method shows.

Supreme Court refuses to review 770 kc battle of WABC(AM) New York and KOB(AM) Albuquerque, NM, returns 25-year-old case to FCC.

March 7:

FCC proposal to limit network control of TV programs unneeded, study made by Arthur H. Little asserts.

Bristol-Myers seeks 15-second spots for Ban.

California Supreme Court rules measure outlawing pay TV in state is unconstitutional.

Feature films are best buy for advertisers, BBDO study shows.

Britain chooses PAL system of color TV.

March 14:

FCC gives one year renewal to WGMA(AM) Hollywood, FL, provided quiz-tainted owners sell it within 60 days.

March 21:

Network coverage of Gemini 8 splashdown brings thousand of calls from angry viewers who missed regular programs.

George C. McConaughy, 69, former FCC chairman, dies of cancer.

CBS-TV affiliates have choice of keeping present compensation or switching to new plan.

March 28:

Representatives of audience have right to be heard, court tells FCC in ordering rehearing of license renewal of WLBT(TV) Jackson, MI, requested by UCC.

March 29:

Rex Sparger, government investigator during 1961-63 ratings probe, admits rigging Nielsen ratings of four network shows.

S.L. (Pat) Weaver resigns as head of STV, as company announces plans to acquire Shasta Telecasting.

April 4:

FTC announces that cigarette companies may advertise tar, nicotine content; Lorillard withdraws from cigarette advertising code.

ABC-ITT merger application filed with FCC.

April 11:

Chairman E. William Henry resigns from FCC.

FCC proposes incorporating fairness doctrine provisions regarding personal attack, editorials for or against candidates into commission rules.

Fred W. Friendly named Edward R. Murrow professor of journalism at Columbia graduate school of journalism, adviser to Ford Foundation; Richard Salant succeeds him as president of CBS News.

Appeals court upholds FCC contention that CATV is not common carrier.

April 18:

ABC-TV gets rights to summer Olympics for \$4.5 million, already has winter Olympics rights.

Westinghouse Broadcasting offers alternate to FCC's proposal for limiting network control of prime time TV programs to 50%: limit amount of programming affiliates in major markets may take from networks; most advertisers, agencies oppose 50-50 plan.

ANA finds 15% media commission most popular agency compensation plan, but fee system growing.

Domestic satellite is technically feasible, could save networks \$20-35 million per year of \$55-million line charges, Comsat hears, but first questions of ownership, operation, service must be answered.

April 25:

TV network news, documentary programs, traditional loss leaders, near breakeven point.

Court upholds WHAS Louisville, KY, refusal to pay FCC fine for failure to identify political sponsor.

ABC-TV uses "Ben Casey" as example in answering FCC on why shows are dropped.

Ratings fell off, so did sponsor interest, so did live station clearance, but costs kept rising.

May 2:

FTC plans probe of network rate structures.

Many off-network TV programs, chiefly monochrome, go into syndication.

May 9:

NBC affiliates celebrate network's 40th anniversary year at Honolulu meeting.

May 16:

NAB radio code board bans feminine-hygiene products, adopts rule permitting comparisons of competitive products but banning disparagement.

Mutual Industries Inc. pays \$100,000 for option to buy MBS from 3M Co. for \$3.1 million.

May 30:

U.S. district court finds Fortnightly CATV systems guilty of infringing United Artists' rights in films licensed to five stations picked up by Fortnightly systems.

WNJU-TV Newark-Linden, NJ, accepts commercials for Rum Superior of Puerto Rico, first hard liquor advertising on TV.

June 6:

Network TV audience sees live close-up pictures of moon sent back by Surveyor I as they come into Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

June 13:

WICU-TV Chicago says it will take liquor ads; senators warn NAB to enforce code or expect legislation.

TV code board relaxes stand on comparative commercials to agree with radio code.

June 20:

WICU-TV Chicago changes mind, won't take liquor advertising.

Twelve broadcast licensees, owners of 49 stations, plus Radio-Television News Directors Association, propose to attack constitutionality of FCC fairness rulemaking, say they'll push fight to Supreme Court if necessary.

New writers' contract with film producers raises minimum payment for scripts, restores rerun system writers struck to change in 1960, eliminates clause denying screen credit to writers taking Fifth Amendment refuge under questioning.

June 27:

President Johnson reappoints Rosel Hyde to FCC, names him chairman, nominates Nicholas Johnson, maritime administrator, to FCC vacancy.

Common carriers win hard fought battle as FCC rules Comsat can deal only with them; FCC approves Comsat application to participate in construction of six satellites to be owned by Intelsat.

BMI, radio bargaining committee agree on 12.5% increase in music fees.

NAB board re-elects John F. Dille Jr. as chairman, approves appropriation of up to \$10,000 to help WGCB(AM) Red Lion, PA, in fight against fairness doctrine, rejects proposal to create CATV division of NAB.

Concentration of control does not exist, is not threatened in TV, United Research Inc. tells FCC in preliminary report of study of TV industry structure.

Ed Wynn, 79, vaudeville comic who became Texaco Fire Chief on radio, star on TV, dies of cancer.

July 4:

FCC gives conditional approval to McLendon application to purchase KGLA(FM) Los Angeles, turn it into all advertising station.

CATV operators plan local programming; Dal-Worth proposes three-channel non-broadcast program service for Texas systems.

Universal Studios makes two-hour color movies for first use on NBC-TV; MGM makes three features for ABC-TV.

Hughes Aircraft gets minority interest in Teleprompter New York City CATV project; Hughes, Teleprompter form Theta Communications to make, market electronics equipment.

Appeals court upholds FCC rules on multiple-ownership of major market TV stations, dismisses appeal of Meredith Broadcasting to declare them invalid.

July 11:

Mutual Broadcasting Corp. is new owner of MBS.

FTC closes investigation of SESAC following commitment to publish catalogue of compositions so broadcasters can tell if they need SESAC licenses.

July 18:

Overmyer Network announced as fourth TV network by Daniel H. Overmyer, UHF station owner, Oliver Treyz, former president of ABC-TV; plans eight-hour nighttime service, including two hours of news, two-hour variety show from Las Vegas.

July 25:

Nineteen religious, social, civic groups call on FCC to set license renewal of WXJR(AM) Media, PA, for hearing, charge programming is one-sided.

August 1:

AT&T proposes rate boosts for radio-TV that would add \$18.4 million per year to broadcast line charges.

Ford Foundation seeks domestic satellite of own, would sell service to networks cheaper than present ground lines, donate profits to educational network.

August 8:

Several Southern stations drop Beatle records over statement of John Lennon that "we're more popular than Jesus now."

Broadcasters pay \$44 million for football rights, accept \$100 million for commercials on game broadcasts.

August 22:

FCC forms task force to deal exclusively with CATV.

September 5:

Rex Sparger, ex-investigator for House Investigations Subcommittee, admits Nielsen security system prevented his attempt to rig ratings, signs consent decree ending Nielsen suit.

All out promotion battle ushers in new TV season.

September 12:

NAB, AMST, Texas stations oppose giving microwave facilities to Dal-Worth to service CATV systems with program material.

September 19:

Judge Ryan gives ASCAP access to financial reports of TV stations back to 1959.

October 3:

TV buys \$93 million worth of movies in week: 63 MGM films go to CBS-TV, 17 20th Century-Fox pictures, 32 Paramount features to ABC-TV.

ABC-TV's three-hour broadcast of "The Bridge on the River Kwai" has largest audience of any movie ever shown on TV.

More than 1,500 leaders of industry, government, science, religion honor Brigadier General David Sarnoff, RCA chairman, on 60th anniversary of his entry into communications.

October 10:

NAB TV code board issues new cigarette advertising guidelines: will accept nicotine, tar-content statements, ban use of sports themes, athletes, children, implied health benefits from filters.

FCC issues new TV program reporting form, seven years in making.

October 17:

Matthew J. Culligan, former head of NBC Radio Network, Curtis Publishing Co., named president of MBS, succeeding Robert Hurleigh, resigned.

Supreme court refuses to review California court ruling that vote outlawing pay TV was illegal, opening way for pay TV to return to state; STV says it's broke.

October 24:

Overmyer Network claims 85 stations lined up to take Las Vegas nightly shows; TBC, another planned TV network, reports 50 stations ready to carry two-hour late-evening shows.

October 31:

Taft Broadcasting buys Hanna-Barbara Productions for \$26.4 million.

TV audience likes movies best, TVQ reports.

November 7:

Justice Department suggests FCC delay action on ABC-ITT merger until its study of deal is complete.

KWHY-TV Los Angeles ready for continuous coverage of stock market, Monday-Friday, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. local time.

November 14:

Kemper Insurance Group must pay ABC-TV \$298,800 for time unused; Supreme Court refuses to review lower court decision that Kemper had no right to cancel sponsorship of "Evening Report" because it didn't like program critical of Richard Nixon on which Alger Hiss appeared.

TV networks do fast, comprehensive election reporting job, marred by some wrong predictions.

Lani Bird, Pacific satellite, fails to achieve synchronous orbit; is usable at some times.

November 28:

Court of Appeals dismisses petition of WGCB(AM) Red Lion, PA, for reversal of FCC fairness doctrine notice, but tells FCC letters are not orders and cannot be reviewed in courts, putting decade of rulings in jeopardy.

ABC-TV, Lani Bird take Notre-Dame/Michigan State football game to Hawaii.

Continental Football League signs with Overmyer Network to three years of broadcasts, starting in 1967.

Blair Television stations test new rate formula making 30-second spot base figure; 60-second spot is priced at 30-second rate plus 40%; 60-second piggyback at 30-second rate plus 60%.

December 5:

WHEN-TV Syracuse adds 5% extra for color commercials: annoyed timebuyers see no reason for increase.

FCC splits channel assignments in 450-470 mc band to make room for land-mobile services; purposes real-locating UHF's top 14 channels for land-mobile use, sharing of seven lowest UHF channels with land-mobile services.

Lani Bird, usable eight hours per day, goes commercial, has heavy TV traffic both ways across Pacific.

Government suit against BMI ends with consent decree; broadcasters keep their BMI stock.

December 12:

FCC approves sale of KFWB(AM) Los Angeles to Westinghouse for \$9.1 million, but with stinging letter to Crowell-Collier for laxness in guarding against payola; price had been reduced to \$1,650,000 by WBC for C-C's letting station's financial position deteriorate.

American Advertising Federation, formed by merger of Advertising Federation of America, Advertising Association of the West, invites other advertising groups to join AAF in united front against government attacks on advertising.

John F. Banzhaf III, New York attorney, asks WCBS-TV New York for free time for anti-smoking messages, roughly in proportion to time used for cigarette commercials.

December 19:

Thomas H. Dawson, senior vice president of CBS-TV, becomes president as John T. Reynolds leaves to return to Los Angeles as president of Paramount Television.

NFL, AFL sell Super Bowl four-year package to CBS-TV, NBC-TV for \$9.5 million; both networks will broadcast 1967 game; CBS-TV gets 1968, 1970; NBC-TV 1969.

Walt Disney, who added TV luster to movie fame, dies at 65.

Cox Broadcasting buys Walter Schwimmer Inc., independent TV program production-syndication firm.

December 26:

FCC approves ABC-ITT merger, by 4-to-3 vote.

1967

January 9:

WCBS-TV New York rejects request of John Banzhaf III for free time to "answer" cigarette commercials; he files complaint with FCC.

American Tobacco puts all its agencies on fee basis. CBS News admits paying over \$1,000 for maintenance for three TV newsmen aboard Haiti invasion boat.

January 16:

NET has first live coast-to-coast broadcast. U.S. Mexico extend agreement on use of AM radio band to end of year.

January 23:

NAB radio code board removes 18 minutes per-hour ceiling on commercials, permits stations to exceed it for "good cause," in "special circumstances."

Justice Department asks FCC to reopen ABC-ITT merger case, hold hearing; ABC stock drops 14 points.

January 30:

Carnegie Commission on Educational Television calls for expansion of present 124 ETV stations to 380 by 1980, supported by federal funds, tax on TV sets, supervised by "Corporation for Public Television," non-profit, nongovernmental body.

FTC charges Bristol-Myers with misleading claims for Bufferin.

Wisconsin state senate judiciary committee kills bill to bar early election predictions.

February 6:

Cost of participating commercials in TV network programs, estimated by BAR, shows NBC-TV's "Bonanza" highest: \$55,000 per commercial minute.

WHEN-TV Syracuse rescinds extra charge for color commercials.

Yankee Network ends operations after 38 years.

February 13:

Frank Stanton, CBS president, signs new 21-year contract to 80th birthday, five more years active service, 16 as consultant.

February 20:

ABC gets \$25 million loan from ITT to meet "critical cash shortage."

American Television Relay Inc. seeks FCC permission for point-to-point microwave relay to carry Los Angeles signals to Texas CATV systems.

Baseball rights cost \$29 million, sponsors' bill will be \$105 million.

Gulf & Western Industries buys Desilu productions.

February 27:

CBS buys Republic Studio, Hollywood, 70 acres, 17 sound stages, for \$9.5 million, renames it CBS Studio Center.

Technicolor shows new tape-to-film transfer method, claims full broadcast quality.

March 6:

President sends toned-down version of Carnegie "public television" plan to Congress, asks aid for educational radio too.

FCC adopts NAB code commercial time limits as benchmarks for license-renewal applicants.

Justice Department sues General Tire & Rubber Co. on charge of trying to coerce suppliers into buying time on RKO General stations.

March 13:

Overmyer Network is now United Network, as western syndicate takes control.

March 20:

FCC orders rehearing of ABC-ITT merger. ABC Radio West, formerly Don Lee Broadcasting System, will fold July 1.

March 27:

Agreement reached on new ASCAP radio rates calls for 6% drop in commercial fees, 10% reduction in sustaining fees.

April 3:

AFTRA strikes networks; all live talent leaves; non-union employees, reruns keep networks going; Brinkley, most others leave, Huntley, some others stay on ground union dominated by entertainers cannot properly represent newsmen.

April 17:

House passes copyright bill with no exemptions for CATV.

Supreme Court holds P&G acquisition of Clorox violated antitrust laws because P&G's large advertising expenditures with resulting media discounts form effective bar to new entrants into bleach field.

Talent, newsmen return to networks after 13-day AFTRA strike; Oscar broadcast gets on, but barely, as strike ends less than two hours before air time.

May 1:

United Church of Christ agencies ask FCC to deny license to any station engaging in discriminatory employment practices.

May 8:

Stations must make run-of-schedule announcements available to political candidates on request, FCC rules. News CBS-TV rate card has simpler price structure, higher rates.

Senate subcommittee approves bill to subsidize educational radio, TV, changes names of Corp. for Public Television to Corp. for Public Broadcasting.

United Network begins operations, sends nightly two-hour The Las Vegas Show to about 125 stations; 13 advertisers participate.

May 22:

Senate passes bill establishing Corp. for Public Broadcasting.

Station that broadcasts attack must inform person or group involved that attack has been made or is about to be, include transcript or tape with invitation to reply on air, FCC tells KTYM(AM) Inglewood, CA.

May 29:

U.S. Appeals Court confirms CATV liability for copyright infringement, upholding lower court ruling that Fortnightly's West Virginia cable systems violated United Artists' rights in films licensed by UA to TV stations picked up by Fortnightly systems.

UHF broadcasters form own organization, All-Channel Television Society (ACTS), independent of NAB.

June 5:

FCC denies request of John F. Banzhaf III, for "roughly" proportional time to that used for cigarette spots on WCBS-TV New York, but tells station that antismoking proponents must be given chance to rebut cigarette advertising on radio-TV.

FCC General Counsel Henry Geller gives personal view that three-to-one ratio of cigarette commercials to antismoking messages would be acceptable.

United Network quits after 31 nights, can't raise money for line charges.

U.S. district judge awards \$96,000 to WEOL(AM) Elyria, OH, in triple-damage antitrust suit against Lorain (OH) Journal; action was started 17 years earlier on charges newspaper tried to persuade advertisers to boycott WEOL.

June 19:

Court of Appeals upholds FCC's fairness doctrine as "completely legal."

June 26:

ABC-ITT merger gets FCC approval for second time, but applicants agree to wait 30 days before consum-

mating merger to give Justice Department time to decide on appeal.

July 3:

Federal court affirms FCC jurisdiction over CATV, upholds cease-and-desist order issued to Buckeye Cablevision of Toledo, OH, to prevent importation of distant signals without hearing.

NAB board elects Grover Cobb, KVGB(AM) Great Bend, KS, chairman; appropriates up to \$25,000 to fight fairness doctrine in courts.

FCC adopts rules permitting daytime-only stations authority to start broadcasting at 6 a.m. with 500 watts.

International Artists offers recent motion pictures to CATV operators for presentation on videotape.

Producers, TV networks, Screen Actors Guild sign four-year contract giving actors 20% pay increase.

July 10:

FCC adopts fairness doctrine on personal attacks, editorials for or against political candidates as formal rules.

July 24:

Justice Department appeals FCC approval of ABC-ITT merger, gets stay order preventing consummation for week.

July 31:

Radio-Television News Directors Association, eight broadcast licensees, ask U.S. Court of Appeals in Chicago to review FCC order adopting fairness doctrine provisions as commission rules; CBS files similar appeal in circuit court in New York.

August 7:

Football rights cost over \$48 million this year, but advertisers are expected to pay \$105 million to get in on such popular broadcasts.

Larger revenue, more likely station is to editorialize, NAB survey finds.

Newscasts are exempt from personal-attack provision of fairness doctrine, FCC tells NBC after complaint of former employee of Senator Thomas Dodd (D-CT) that he was attacked by Senator Russel B. Long (D-LA) in film clip used on Huntley-Brinkley news program.

August 14:

All three TV networks reject recommendation of Senator Hugh Scott (R-PA) that networks, wire services adopt "code of emergency procedure" to govern news coverage of racial riots.

August 21:

President appoints task force to study national, international communications policy.

Classified-ad station, KADS(FM) Los Angeles, can't make it; Gordon McLendon seeks license renewal, new format.

ABC Radio has radical plan: four networks in place of one, each tailored to suit different station format; Walter A. Schwartz replaces Robert R. Pauley as ABC Radio network president.

August 28:

NAACP finds Negroes used in only 5% of commercials on TV sports shows, asks FCC to investigate "possibility of bias."

CBS introduces EVR, electronic recording-playback system for TV using low-cost film cartridges.

September 4:

ABC Radio plan is OK with FCC; rules ban "simultaneously" operated networks of same owner; ABC's four network services will operate consecutively within hour.

September 18:

NAB, WTRF-TV Wheeling, WV, file suite in federal court in Richmond, VA, asking overturn of FCC rule requiring broadcasters to give time for antismoking spots: John F. Banzhaf III, instigator of rules, asks federal court in Washington to tell FCC its rule doesn't go far enough.

Red Lion Broadcasting, Inc. (WGCB-AM-FM Red Lion, PA) asks Supreme Court to review personal-attack section of FCC fairness rule, reverse lower court decision upholding it.

Cox Broadcasting Corp. buys Bing Crosby Productions.

October 9:

NAB television board revises TV code, divides broadcast material into program, non-program, limits latter to 10 minutes per hour in prime time, 16 minutes at other times, restricts program interruptions to two per half-hour in prime time, four at other times.

October 30:

NBC retires from radio station representation, names Eastman, Katz, Christal to handle its six owned stations.

November 13:

President signs Public Broadcasting Act into law, names educators Dr. James R. Killian Jr., Dr. Milton Eisenhower as first members of CPB board, accepts \$1-million gift from Carnegie Corp.

December 4:

CBS Laboratories demonstrates broadcast EVR to agency commercial-production executives.

December 11:

Hill Blackett, founder of Blackett, Sample & Hummert, advertising agency that pioneered radio daytime serials, dies at 75.

First spot in commercial cluster is most effective, Canadian study shows.

December 25:

Kemper Insurance Group suit against ABC ordered tried in district court by Court of Appeals in ruling reversing lower court dismissal of Kemper charges of antitrust violations.

1968

January 1:

NCAA football stays with ABC-TV for two years more at cost of \$16.5 million.

January 8:

ITT cancels merger agreement with ABC after two years of government obstruction.

January 15:

American Bar Association committee on fair trial-free press, headed by Judge Paul Reardon of Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts, submits report for action by ABA's house of delegates in February; recommendations would sharply restrict news coverage of criminal proceedings.

WBBM-TV Chicago denies charge that "Pot Party at a University" was staged.

ABC appoints Thomas Moore, ABC-TV president, to new post as vice president of reorganized grouping of broadcast departments.

January 29:

NAB television board adopts new time standards for maximum of four consecutive commercial announcements in any program interruption, maximum of three in any station break; radio board approves elimination of time standards for single sponsors of programs longer than 15 minutes; for single-sponsored radio program five-minutes long, limit is minute and a half; for shorter single-sponsored radio shows approved commercial times are: five-minute program, one and a half minutes commercial; 10 minute program, two and a half minutes commercial; 15-minute program, three minutes commercial.

February 12:

Lorillard drops sports sponsorship, all non-news programs before 9 p.m.

FCC abandons two-to-a-customer policy for VHF stations in top-50 markets after two and a half years.

February 19:

Frank Pace Jr., one-time secretary of Army, director of budget, former president, chairman, General Dynamics, is named chairman of Corp. for Public Broadcasting.

Baseball rights for radio-TV climb to \$31.7 million, sponsors will pay \$107 million for play-by-play coverage, associated programs.

February 26:

American Bar Association adopts Reardon report, tightening restrictions on news media trial, pre-trial coverage.

March 11:

Department of Justice asks FCC not to grant sale of KDFM-TV Beaumont, TX, to Enterprise Co., publisher of only two daily newspapers there, without hearing.

March 18:

General Artists Corp., Creative Management Associates merge into possibly world's biggest talent agency.

March 25:

Children's Television Workshop created by Ford Foundation, Carnegie Corp., Office of Education to develop 26-week hour-long color series for pre-school children.

April 1:

Plan to curtail clutter by banning all station-break commercials, putting all TV advertising within programs, network, spot, local, under development by leading station representative.

FCC proposes rule to prohibit licensee of any full-time station from acquiring another full-time station of any type in same market.

April 15:

Broadcasters win wide acclaim for coverage of racial outbreaks across nation in wake of Martin Luther King assassination.

April 22:

ABC asks FCC to help keep ABC-TV affiliates in markets with fewer than three stations from switching to NBC-TV.

New York State Supreme Court rules CATV system operating in New York City with underground telephone wires does not need city franchise, refuses to enjoin Comtel.

May 13:

House Investigations Subcommittee opens hearing on WBBM-TV Chicago pot party broadcast; charges that party was arranged are made, denied.

May 20:

Teleprompter gets FCC approval for wireless CATV.

May 27:

Paul Segal, pioneer communications attorney, assistant general counsel to Federal Radio Commission before entering private law practice in 1931, dies at 68.

Broadcast Media Corp. formed to handle spot-TV, radio buying for agencies.

June 3:

Madalyn Murray O'Hare buys time on KTBC(AM) Austin, TX, for series of lectures, "The American Atheist," she instigated ban on Bible reading in public schools; KTBC is owned by President Johnson's family.

Senate suspends equal-time requirement for presidential, vice presidential campaigns.

June 17:

Supreme Court gives FCC jurisdiction over all CATV systems.

Networks pledge cooperation with new Commission on the Cause and Prevention of Violence.

June 24:

Frank J. Shakespeare Jr., president, CBS Television Services Division, takes leave to join Nixon campaign staff.

July 1:

FCC gives full renewal to WLBT(TV) Jackson, MI. FCC takes CATV control; tells phone companies to get approval to build, lease cable systems; rules that proof of economic damage not needed, restricts importation of Los Angeles TV signals by San Diego CATV systems.

Negro militants protest inadequate program attention by St. Louis radio stations, ask FCC to investigate.

July 8:

Howard Hughes offers \$50 million for working control of ABC.

July 22:

NBC cuts price of prime time in half for political advertising from Aug. 1 to election day.

FCC puts new freeze on AM applications, considers revising allocation rules.

ABC seeks merger after Howard Hughes abandons fight for control.

July 29:

General Foods tells agencies to steer clear of violence on TV, puts 57 syndicated programs off-limits.

August 5:

Westinghouse proposes merger with MCA; Department of Justice, IRS take close looks.

Federal court sets aside FCC approval of sale of WFMT(FM) Chicago to WGN, says FCC should have given hearing to protestors despite late filing of objections.

Signal Companies offers \$25 million for 49.9% of Golden West Broadcasters; Gene Autry to retain control.

August 12:

Networks pay \$55 million for football rights, expect \$107 million from advertisers.

NBC and CBS give GOP convention gavel-to-gavel coverage; ABC has late-evening summary, gains rating advantage with early evening entertainment.

Thirty-second commercial use has 12-fold growth in year; piggybacks have slight gain, all other lengths decline.

Sale of KFDM-TV Beaumont, TX, to city's newspapers called off because hearing on transfer, requested by Department of Justice, would run beyond contract termination date.

August 26:

Basic agreement reached on new ASCAP pact for TV, ending six-year-old lawsuit, saving 12% in first-year fees, more later.

Negro activist group, Fair Play for Black Citizens Committee, moves into convention of National Association of Television and Radio Announcers, claims 500 signed pledges from NATRA members.

Norton Simon Inc. acquires Talent Associates.
AT&T gives lower rates to ETV, but circuits can be pre-empted for commercial users.

September 2:

Battles inside Democratic convention hall, battles in Chicago streets outside, feud between politicians and broadcast newsmen add up to vivid contrast to Republican's Miami meeting.

FCC modifies sunrise rule, changes starting time from 6 a.m. to "local standard" time to 6 a.m. "local" time.

September 9:

Washington rings with Chicago echoes; Congress denounces TV reporting; broadcasters protest police harassment.

Report of staff on President's Task Force on Telecommunications sees cable systems supplementing broadcast television, not supplanting it, subject to FCC duopoly rule, other restrictions now applied to broadcasting.

FCC rejects ABC-TV plea for help against raiding by other networks, emphasizes it won't allow incentive-compensation features in affiliation contracts, revives rulemaking to require affiliation contracts to be made public.

September 16:

Court of Appeals in Chicago says FCC fairness rules are unconstitutional, contradicting earlier decision of Court of Appeals in Washington; Supreme Court appeal foreseen.

Hughes Tool Co. acquires Sports Network Inc.
Agencies, representatives concerned at rise of independent buying services as middlemen between buyer and seller.

September 23:

Broadcasters call BMI demands exorbitant, break off negotiations for new licenses.

October 14:

Transamerica Corp., Metromedia plan merger in \$300 million stock deal; FCC approval is needed because both companies have broadcast holdings.

No "Great Debates" this year; House votes to suspend equal time for presidential candidates but includes George Wallace; Senate fails to pass amended bill.

Pictures taken inside Apollo 7 in flight, sent back to earth, revive public interest in space program.

October 28:

Producers Guild of America wins recognition as collective bargaining agent for movie, TV producers, who gain health, pension benefits under 10-year contract.

ABC seeks broadcaster participation in ownership of domestic satellite.

November 4:

AAAA chairman attacks "middlemen," defends time-buying skills of agencies in speech to ANA.

Republican campaign spot alternating still picture of grinning Hubert Humphrey with scenes of poverty, war, riots is called "smear" by Democrats, canceled by Nixon-Agnew committee.

NBC requirement for news personnel to furnish reports of financial investments, outside employment brings acceptance, resentment.

U.S. Tax Court approves proportional write-offs of feature films overrules IRS demand for straight-line depreciation.

November 18:

Iowa Supreme Court upholds state 3% tax on advertising, reversing lower court finding.

FCC affirms earlier decision to ban CATV import of Los Angeles programs into San Diego, except in areas served before Oct. 24, 1966.

November 25:

FCC rule that stations must carry antismoking spots upheld by Court of Appeals.

NBC-TV starts "Heidi" on schedule, loses Raiders' two touchdowns in nine seconds defeat of Jets, rouses ire of fans; tape of game ending shown on affiliates' late news programs, on next morning's Today.

TV commercials are prime source of actors' incomes; SAG credits them as source of some 40% of members' earnings.

December 2:

BMI, radio-music committee agree on new pact, boosting fees 10% immediately, more later.

U.S.-Mexican treaty for use of AM broadcast band completed after two years of talks; 260 U.S. daytimers to get presunrise time after pact is ratified.

December 16:

FCC proposes new rules for CATV, would limit importation of distant signals into all markets, require program origination; authorize tightly controlled on-air pay TV.

President's Task Force on Communications Policy recommends single carrier for all types of international communications, create super federal agency to allocate radio spectrum among government, nongovernment users.

CBS demonstrates EVR (electronic video recording); Motorola will build players for industrial, educational use; home use seen three to five years away.

December 23:

Microwave Communications offers plan for ETV interconnection service at rates lower than AT&T's.

Television blasted as corrosive force at hearing held by President's Commission on the Causes and Prevention of Violence; ABC's Goldenson, CBS's Stanton report steps to reduce violence in programs, deny staging incidents for TV cameras during Chicago disturbances.

Fifth global satellite, Intelsat III-A, launched for synchronous orbit over east coast of Brazil.

December 30:

Christmas broadcast from Apollo space capsule orbiting moon with three astronauts reading opening verses of Book of Genesis, successful splashdown, end eventful year.

TWA underwrites Newsfront, nightly newscast on Eastern Educational Network of 17 educational TV stations for six months for \$150,000, gets 4,550 on-air mentions.

Sales of U.S. made color TV sets top those of black and white receivers for first time, EIA reports, about 6 million for year, versus 5.5 million monochrome sets.

Raymond Swing, radio news commentator with following in 1930's and 40's dies at 81.

1969**January 6:**

Justice Department asks FCC to break up media "monopoly" in Cheyenne, WY, by ordering Frontier Broadcasting Co. to sell KFBC-TV. Frontier also owns city's only full-time AM station, only CATV system, has CP for city's second FM station; Frontier's principals also own Cheyenne's only morning, evening, Sunday newspapers.

RKO General announces termination of Hartford pay-TV test after six and a half years; Zenith seeks "showcase" Phonevision operation in major market.

Federal court in Nevada holds CATV systems are essentially local, subject to state regulation.

January 20:

NAB code boards loosen personal-product restrictions, approve feminine-spray ads on TV, tampon ads on radio.

Frank J. Shakespeare, president, CBS Television Services, named to head U.S. Information Agency.

More than 60 congressmen join in introducing legislation directing FCC to conduct comprehensive investigation of effects of violence on TV.

January 27:

FCC decides to take ch. 5 Boston away from WHDH Inc., gives it to Boston Broadcasting Inc.; WHDH Inc. operated WHDH-AM-FM-TV Boston, is owned by *Boston Herald-Traveler*, publisher of two daily newspapers, Sunday paper; BBI is virtually free of media connections.

February 10:

FCC proposes rule to prohibit broadcasters from accepting cigarette advertising unless Congress says "no" or broadcasters voluntarily surrender billings that totaled \$236 million in 1968.

February 17:

Westinghouse stations withdraw from NAB TV code as too weak, call lifting ban on personal product ads "last straw."

Baseball gets 100th birthday present of \$37.2 million from broadcasters for rights to carry games on radio-TV.

FCC starts investigation of conglomerate ownership of broadcasting stations.

February 24:

Advertisers, agencies active in buying TV series, specials for placement in special markets.

Comsat cuts Pacific satellite rates.

March 3:

IRS ponders Supreme Court appeal of Court of Claims decision upholding right of Meredith Broadcasting Co. to amortize network affiliation contracts of KPHO-TV Phoenix.

March 10:

Senator John O. Pastore (D-RI) asks U.S. surgeon general to make study of violence on TV and its effects on viewers.

Top price of commercial minutes in prime-time TV network programs is \$65,000, asked by Laugh-In, Mission: Impossible, Mayberry RFD.

March 17:

New group, Civic Communications Corp., challenges WLBT(TV) Jackson, MI, for ch. 3, asks for competitive hearing.

March 24:

FCC adopts rule to permit public inspection of network affiliation contracts.

House publishes report of Investigations Subcommittee on pot party, recommending government controls over broadcast news.

March 31:

Public watches TV more, trusts it more as news source, likes program mix better, Roper survey shows.

Preplanned network coverage goes into action with notice of death of former President Dwight D. Eisenhower, time pre-empted for funeral, memorial broadcasts, obituaries, but normal schedules not completely abandoned.

April 7:

CBS-TV fires Smothers brothers after hassles over performers' failure to comply with network's program standards, or to meet deadline for delivery of program to network for preview by affiliates.

Another applicant wants WNAC-TV's Boston ch. 7, Dudley Station Corp., representing "black community of the Boston area."

TV rights to 1972 summer Olympics in Munich, Germany, go to ABC-TV for \$12 million.

April 14:

Local TV business grows as department stores lead other retailers into video advertising.

Post-Newsweek Bonneville station groups take no new cigarette business, won't renew present contracts.

Corp. for Public Broadcasting plans creation of Public Broadcasting System to distribute programs to ETV stations.

April 21:

NAB drive for legislative relief against competing applications filed at license renewal time gets several bills introduced in House.

April 28:

NBC-TV adds three 30-second anti-smoking spots to weekly prime time schedule: Westinghouse stations drop all cigarette ads.

MCA, Westinghouse drop merger plans.

May 12:

New ASCAP TV contracts finished after eight years, could mean \$53 million savings to stations over 10-year period.

May 19:

FCC says WBBM-TV Chicago should not have put pot party program on air because it involved "inducements of the commission of crime" (smoking marijuana), urges guidelines for investigative reporting, but station's license not jeopardized.

Television election broadcasts have "no detectable influence on voting behavior," NBC researchers state, after analysis of 1964, 1968 elections.

June 2:

Plan for settling differences over cable regulation reached by staffs on NAB, NCTA, accepted "in principle" by NCTA board, to be considered by NAB board in mid-June. Agreement proposes joint support of legislation to protect broadcasters' program rights, give CATV chance to grow.

ABC-TV gets Monday-night pro football for reported \$8 million a year.

Apollo 10 is color spectacular: first color pictures of moon, of earth from moon, of splashdown.

June 9:

AMST, ACTS, attorney for motion picture firms object to NAB-NCTA agreement.

FCC gets tough on equal employment opportunity, orders broadcasters to establish programs "designed to assure equal opportunity in every aspect of station employment policy and practice."

June 16:

Supreme Court hold FCC's fairness doctrine, personal-attack rules "enhance rather than abridge the freedom of speech and press protected by the First Amendment." Metromedia, Transamerica call off merger.

June 23:

NAB board scraps staff agreement on cable TV as broadcasters demand more protection.

FCC sets aside license renewal of WPIX(TV) New York, paving way for comparative hearing with new group seeking to take channel; dispute rages on responsibility for commission's delay in acting on complaint.

June 30:

Court of Appeals takes license from WLBT(TV) Jackson, MI, orders FCC to invite new applicants for ch. 3, castigates commission for its handling of case.

July 14:

NAB proposes phase-out of all cigarette advertising on code stations, with total elimination by Sept. 1, 1973.

July 28:

Cigarette companies offer to cancel all radio-TV advertising by September 1970.

Man walks on moon and world watches it on TV.

August 4:

KTAL-TV Texarkana, TX, gets license renewal.

September 1:

Politicians spent \$59 million for radio-TV during 1968 campaign.

September 8:

More challenges for licensees: Black group files against WMAL-TV Washington; former state official backs WHTN-TV Huntington, WV, renewal; lawyers seek channel occupied by WTAR-TV Norfolk, VA.

Standard 15% commission for station reps no longer standard, IBFM survey reveals.

NAB, NCTA can't agree on CATV, break off talks.

AT&T proposes new broadcast tariffs, seeks \$90 million a year for lines.

September 22:

President names Dean Burch, former chairman, Republican National Committee, Robert G. Wells, Kansas broadcaster, to FCC.

NCTA survey shows 98 cable systems carry ads; 329 originate programs.

October 6:

Twentieth Century Fund proposes prime-time half-hours for presidential candidates for 35 days before election, broadcast on all stations, CATV systems, priced at 50% normal rate, with government paying bill.

FCC gives Bartell heaviest fine, \$30,000 for allegedly unauthorized transfer of control of three radio stations.

October 13:

Avco stations will ignore NAB TV code, use live models in lingerie commercials.

October 20:

U.S. Supreme Court upholds FCC cigarette fairness rule.

Victor C. Diehm, WAZL(AM) Hazelton, PA, elected president, chief executive officer of MBS, replacing Robert R. Pauley.

Three-network consortium to own, operate \$100-million satellite system, proposed by CBS's Stanton.

October 27:

FCC requires program origination by CATV systems with over 3,500 subscribers, permits commercials at natural breaks.

Collections slow in TV spot; paperwork, high interest blamed.

James T. Aubrey Jr., former president, CBS-TV network, named president, chief executive officer, MGM.

November 3:

Electronic Industries Assn. forecasts multichannel wiring of whole country.

House Commerce Committee cites FCC chairman Hyde for contempt of Congress for refusing to produce confidential documents on case still open.

WGN gives WFMT(FM) Chicago to Chicago Educational Television Assn.

November 17:

Vice President Agnew charges networks with biased reporting; broadcasters fume; new FCC chairman defends Agnew's right to "express views on objectivity of network news coverage."

December 8:

Blacks, churches, liberals protest Pastore bill to protect broadcasters from irresponsible applications for

their facilities as racist measure to guarantee licenses in perpetuity.

New merger in works: Dun & Bradstreet would acquire Corinthian broadcasting-publishing interests for \$134 million.

December 15:

Senate approves ban of broadcast cigarette advertising by Jan. 1, 1971.

December 22:

CBS-TV seeks music licenses on per-piece basis.

1970

January 5:

CBS sues ASCAP, BMI under antitrust laws in new attempt to get per-use music licenses.

January 12:

Ailing Brigadier General David Sarnoff, 78, key figure in RCA since its origin, resigns as board chairman, director, is elected honorary board chairman; Robert W. Sarnoff, RCA president, chief executive officer, elected to additional post of chairman.

Committee to study feasibility of VHF channel-sharing with land-mobile users completes task, dividends on results; broadcasters say it's not feasible, land-mobile users say it is.

Competitive groups seek ch. 10 Miami occupied by WLBW-TV, (Washington Post-Newsweek) ch. 2 Orlando now held by WESH-TV (Cowles).

January 19:

FCC eases broadcaster fears aroused by WHDH-TV decision by adopting policy statement asserting it will favor incumbent broadcaster over rival applicants if he can show his programming "has been substantially attuned to the needs and interests" of his area.

AT&T rejects CPB request for free inter-connection service, tells FCC 40% reduction is best it will do.

Cypress Communications Corp., Harriscope Cable Corp. plan merger of CATV operations into one company serving 165,000 subscribers.

Frank Folsom, RCA president, 1949-57, chairman of executive committee until 1966, dies at 75.

January 26:

Nixon administration recommends FCC establish interim domestic satellite policy permitting any one with proper financial, technical resources to own, operate its own system.

February 2:

ABC, CBS, NBC agree to underwrite study of feasibility of jointly operating own satellite system to distribute TV radio programs; AT&T says it will seek right to use satellites in its domestic-communications service.

February 9:

BMI files antitrust suit against CBS, NBC, ASCAP alleging conspiracy to destroy BMI, asks \$59 million treble damages.

Orrin E. Dunlap, former vice president in charge of advertising, publicity for RCA, earlier for 18 years radio editor of New York Times, dies at 73.

February 16:

President asks Congress to let him establish White House Office of Telecommunications Policy.

"Frito Bandito," pulled off air after complaints of Mexican-American group, will be replaced by new Fritos campaign.

February 23:

FCC proposes fee boosts for all licensees, with broadcasters paying largest part; TV filing fee would rise from \$150 to \$5,000 for VHF in top-50 market.

March 2:

FCC sets up spectrum management task force to develop, carry out centralized frequency-management program.

Pay TV gets green light; Supreme Court refuses review of lower court ruling upholding FCC's order authorizing such service.

ABC-TV terminates affiliation with WKTR-TV Dayton, OH, after network station-relations man is charged with accepting bribe for recommending that WKTR-TV get affiliation.

State utility commissioners move quickly into CATV after Supreme Court's Nevada decision: National Assn. of Regulatory Utility Commissioners decides to recommend model CATV statute for all states.

March 9:

House, Senate conferees agree on legislation to outlaw cigarette advertising on radio-TV, change date from Jan. 1, 1971, to Jan. 2, to let commercials appear on New Year's Day football bowl games.

March 16:

Westinghouse Broadcasting asks FCC to prohibit major-market stations from taking more than three hours of network non-news programming between 7 and 11 p.m.

March 30:

Elton H. Rule, president ABC-TV, named to new post, president of American Broadcasting Co., broadcast division of ABC Inc.

FCC tentatively votes to limit amount of programming TV networks may supply in prime time and to take networks completely out of domestic syndication, largely out of foreign sales.

FCC adopts proposed rule barring owner of any full-time broadcast station—AM, FM, TV—from acquiring another station in same market; issues notice of proposed rulemaking to break up existing multimedia combinations, including newspapers, in same market, excepting only AM-FM combinations.

FCC opens door to all comers interested in domestic satellite operation, who have ability, money, need for service.

April 6:

Anti-pollution group complains to FCC that WNBC-TV New York failed to fulfill fairness doctrine obligations when it refused to carry rebuttals to gasoline and automobile commercials, messages dealing with air pollution they cause.

Justice Dept. announces agreement with TV networks, motion picture producers, associated unions intended to insure 20-25% of daily craft employment going to minority workers.

FCC rejects plan to open UHF channels 14 through 20 to land-mobile radio operators in top-25 markets.

April 20:

FCC approves inclusion of coded patterns in TV signals to identify programs, spots electronically.

Senate passes bill repealing equal-time provision for presidential and vice presidential candidates, enabling candidates to buy time at lowest rate for commercial advertiser for same period, limiting amount any candidate for national office can spend for broadcast time.

April 27:

AAAA lifts ban on media ownership by member agencies.

After over 20 years of sharing two channels, 820 kc, 570 kc, WFAA Dallas, WBAP Fort Worth go separate ways; WBAP gets 820 kc, WFAA 570 kc.

May 4:

FCC orders AT&T, Western Union to end preferential private-line rates for press users, including broadcasters.

May 11:

Richard A. Moore, West Coast broadcaster, recently consultant to HEW Sec. Robert Finch, named special assistant to Atty. Gen. John N. Mitchell.

FCC adopts rule prohibiting TV affiliates in top-50 markets from accepting more than three hours of network programming between 7-11 p.m., bars networks from domestic syndication, lets them sell abroad only programs they produce themselves, all effective Sept. 1, 1971; after Sept. 1, 1970, networks barred from acquiring subsidiary rights in independently produced programs. Only on-the-spot, fast-breaking news, political broadcasts are exempt.

BMI files \$6-million copyright infringement suit against NBC.

WKEF(TV) Dayton, OH, gets court order for ABC-TV to reinstate pre-1969 affiliation, switching from WKTR-TV.

Triangle Publications, having sold nine radio-TV stations to Capital Cities Broadcasting, agrees to sell remaining broadcasting properties, retires from radio-TV.

May 18:

MBS affiliates ask other networks, NAB, to join in test of law banning cigarette commercials.

Sen. Frank E. Moss (D-UT) introduces resolution directing FTC to study possible connection between advertising, drug abuse.

Metromedia donates KNEW-TV San Francisco, UHF, to Bay Area Educational Assn.

May 25:

New FCC rules require broadcasters to adopt, report to commission, detailed equal-employment opportunity programs.

FCC formulating plan for new CATV rule dropping local station protection against importation of signals from overlapping markets, permitting importation of at least four non-network station signals plus whatever affiliated-station signals needed for full network service, requiring deletion of commercials from imported programs and permitting voids to be sold to advertisers by

local stations, requiring copyright payments, requiring payment of 5% of gross subscription charges to CPB, other changes.

FCC amends double-billing prohibition rule to ban any kind of misrepresentation in station billing.

Merger of Teleprompter Corp. and H&B American Corp. approved by stockholders, would make Teleprompter largest CATV operator in nation.

June 1:

ASCAP asks court to order CBS-TV, NBC-TV to dispose of owned stations, to enjoin them from producing, selling, distributing programs.

Appeals court hears fourth oral argument of WHDH-TV Boston case.

June 8:

FCC warns that kickbacks to networks or producers as reimbursement for talent fees must be fully disclosed to audience or be counted payola violations.

Examiner recommends awarding license of Orlando, FL, ch. 9 to Mid-Florida Television Corp., major victory in 13-year battle.

FCC turns down request of equal time by antiwar groups.

BMI asks court to order CBS-TV to pay it 70% of what network pays ASCAP.

Former Sen. Edwin C. Johnson (D-CO), chairman of Senate Commerce Committee, 1949-54, dies at 86.

June 15:

Edward Petry, founder of station-sales representation as it is today and leading figure in field for over 30 years, dies at 73.

Department of Justice tells FCC it should deny license renewal to KHJ-TV Los Angeles, if examiner's finding that General Tire & Rubber Co. had engaged in anticompetitive practices benefiting station is upheld.

June 22:

If stations sell time to political candidate it must sell reply time to opponents but it doesn't have to give them free time to answer paid announcement, FCC explains.

House Investigations Subcommittee censures CBS for part in Haiti invasion plot, charges network with staging scenes for presentation in documentary, encouraging illegal invasion scheme, recommends new legislation specifically to outlaw such practices.

NAB plans all-out fight against FCC move to end media crossownership, asks for more time to make extensive study, seeks to hire former FCC member Lee Loevinger as special counsel.

Examiner recommends renewing WCCO-AM-TV Minneapolis licenses without hearing.

June 29:

Nixon picks Dr. Clay T. Whitehead, special assistant to president, as first director of new Office of Telecommunications Policy.

FCC releases package of CATV actions, proposals anticipate future role of cable television in nation's communication system.

CBS President Frank Stanton announces that opposition party will be given several opportunities each year to present its views on CBS in free program time, agrees to paid political fund-raising appeals of up to one minute's length between campaigns.

Campaign of blacks to require broadcasters to change hiring, program practices moves to Nashville, Memphis.

Formation of National Black Network to furnish news, information service to black-oriented radio stations, announced by Robert R. Pauley, former president of ABC, Mutual radio networks, Murry Woroner, head of Woroner Productions.

ABC-TV affiliates resent acquiescence to FCC prime-time rule of ABC Inc. President Leonard Goldenson and tell him so.

Michael H. Dann resigns as CBS-TV senior vice president, programming, to join Children's Television Workshop; Fred Silverman, vice president for programming and development, CBS-TV, succeeds Dann.

July 6:

Triggbacks next? Alberto-Culver sounds stations out on acceptability of three 20-second spots in single minute.

Competing applicant will withdraw bid for NBC's KNBC-TV Los Angeles under agreement approved by FCC for NBC to repay expenses incurred in prosecuting application, about \$102,400. FCC denies renewal application of WXUR-AM-FM Media, PA, orders stations off air by Sept. 1, 1970.

FCC adopts \$20-million increase in fees from broadcasters, other licensees; station fees vary with market location, type of service, hours of operation power.

CBS spins off program-syndication, domestic CATV operations in independent company, names Clark B. George as president; Sam Cook Digges, executive vice

president, CBS-owned AM stations, succeeds George as president, CBS radio division.

Consolidation of WNDT(TV) New York, National Educational Television into Educational Broadcasting Corp. provides expanded center of educational-TV programming for national distribution by Public Broadcasting Service.

July 13:

Domestic broadcast in CBS-TV free time sets off outbursts of political demands.

Blacks ask FCC to deny license renewals to WREC-TV, WHBC-TV, both Memphis.

July 20:

Football rights go up to \$66 million, cost of minutes rises to \$200,000 each.

Blacks add WMC-AM-FM-TV to list of Memphis stations whose license renewals they want denied; others feel stations have been too pro-black.

WCCO-AM-TV Minneapolis get renewals; FCC ducks mass-media control issue.

Court sets interim ASCAP fees of \$4.3 million a year for NBC-TV, CBS-TV rejects same fees as too high, still wants to buy music on per-use basis.

July 27:

Nixon appoints FCC Commissioner Robert Wells, now serving term ending June 30, 1971, to full seven-year term succeeding Kenneth Cox; Sherman E. Unger, general counsel, Dept. of Housing and Urban Development, named to serve out 11 months of Commissioner Wells's present term.

August 3:

Hal C. Davis, vice president, American Federation of Musicians, president of Pittsburgh local, named AFM president.

August 10:

Food and Drug Administration acts to stop advertising of eight toothpastes, eight mouthwashes as medically effective in combating bad breath, germs and sore throats, common cold symptoms; claims, FDA says, are false; cereal makers defend their products against "empty calorie" charges.

FCC approves merger of teleprompter, H&B American Corp.; merger will form nation's largest cable system of SEC, Justice Dept. also approves.

Two UHF operators seek right to start pay-TV service.

August 17:

Two-year agreement of AFM and TV networks gives staff musicians weekly wage of \$300, but reduces number to 95, all in New York.

Miles W. Kirkpatrick, chairman of American Bar Assn. committee that was critical of FTC, appointed FTC chairman.

Atty. General Mitchell tells newsmen he alone will authorize subpoenas for sensitive information.

Group opposing Post-Newsweek for Miami ch. 10 willing to drop out if they can get back out-of-pocket expenses.

WREC-TV Memphis settles with blacks.

CBS agrees to pay ASCAP interim fees of \$4.3 million a year while court settles per-use license dispute.

August 24:

AAAA wants electronic logging to verify broadcasting of commercials, done at broadcasters' expense.

August 31:

KNBC-TV Los Angeles gets renewal. Subscribers squawk about ARB, rate increases, findings, techniques, service promises larger sample size, faster delivery, stands firm on price.

Women's Lib boycotts Silva Thins, Ivory Liquid, Pristine, Cosmopolitan Magazine, calls advertising "offensive, insulting to women."

Kenneth A. Cox leaves FCC at end of term, will be senior vice president of Microwave Communications of America, also counsel to communications law firm.

September 7:

Nonprofit group gets custody of WLBT(TV) Jackson, MI, until permanent licensee selected.

Blacks challenge renewals of eight Columbus, OH, stations.

George R. Katz, former president of Katz agency, dies at 97.

September 14:

Plans for agency-owned computer-services center are announced by AAAA.

September 21:

TV commercials miss audience completely 4% of time, hit only 27% sometime, FC&B study reveals.

Teleprompter, H&B American sign agreement that merges H&B into Teleprompter.

October 5:

United Church of Christ, black broadcasting coalition of Youngstown, OH, comes to terms with WFMJ-AM-TV, asks FCC to deny renewals to other Youngstown stations.

FTC proposes tough choice to advertisers who break its rules: stop advertising for year or include in all advertising sins attributed to them by FTC; Chevron gasoline with F-130, HI-C are test cases.

WPIX(TV) New York executives admit judgment errors, deny deliberate misrepresentation in license-renewal hearing.

Major movie companies file antitrust suits to stop ABC, CBS from producing entertainment programs for themselves, for theaters, for anyone else.

October 12:

FCC starts work on standards to measure station performance, for reference at renewal time; test work being done on top-50 market stations.

Frontier Broadcasting Co. offers to drop crossownership if FCC renews license of KFBC-TV Cheyenne, WY.

NAB hunts for top-level executives to implement top-to-bottom shake-up.

October 19:

Time-Life fe negotiating sale of stations to Combined Communications Corp.

President vetoes political broadcasting bill.

FCC invites comments about antismoking spots when cigarette advertising goes off air.

FCC has best chance of all federal agencies to play key role in promoting civil rights, U.S. Commission on Civil Rights report asserts.

FCC probes financial ability of WPIX(TV) New York challenger to raise initial million needed to take over station.

Midwest Video Corp. asks court to tell FCC it has no right to order cable systems to originate programming.

October 26:

Networks, affiliates have to start planning how to handle shorter network nights, as appeals court refuses to stay Oct. 1, 1971, effective date of FCC's prime time rules.

November 2:

Agreement in principle for McGraw-Hill's \$80.1 million acquisition of Time-Life TV and radio stations announced.

U.S. District Court rules CBS-TV must pay BMI \$1,607,000 per year, retroactive to Jan. 1, 1970, until litigation between them is settled.

New York Times buys its first TV, WREC-TV Memphis, as part of \$50 million deal for Cowles Communication properties.

November 9:

FCC extends deadline for citizen groups to file against Chicago stations, saying it will study means to allow more time for renewal challengers and to bar extensions of deadlines unless "all interested parties" join in request.

November 16:

Manship committee, set up with \$100,000 grant from NAB to fight curbs on media crossownership will solicit \$100,000 more from broadcasters.

November 23:

NBC and NBC-TV affiliate group withdraw from appeals court case against FCC prime-time access rule.

November 30:

FTC hardens line against allegedly deceptive advertising by announcing intent to issue cease-and-desist orders against Mattel and Topper for toy commercials and duPont for ZereX antifreeze demonstration.

Newly merged D'Arcy Advertising, St. Louis and MacManus, John & Adams, Bloomfield Hills, Mich., plan to buy control of Intermarco N.V., of Amsterdam, creating agency with \$250 million in billings.

FCC's prime-time access rule comes under further attack in filings with U.S. Second Circuit Appeals Court in New York.

December 7:

Stronger role for citizen groups in license-renewal process proposed by FCC staff and Dr. Barry Cole, commission consultant.

FCC climaxes nine-month probe of Burden stations by ordering hearing on activities of group owner's five AM and FM stations. Among 22 issues is charge of illegal gifts and contributions to members of Congress.

Boards of Dun & Bradstreet and Corinthian Broadcasting Corp. extend deadline on their \$100 million-plus merger to May 1, 1971.

Six AM stations file suit in federal District Court in Washington to stop ban on cigarette commercials on radio and TV.

December 14:

President Nixon withdraws name of FCC nominee Sherman Unger, object of routine IRS audit, and instead nominates Thomas J. Houser, deputy director of Peace Corps.

1971

January 11:

Thomas J. Houser sworn in as FCC commissioner to complete term of Commissioner Robert Wells, who in turn, was named to full seven-year term, succeeding Kenneth A. Cox.

With cigarette advertising banned from radio and TV, effective Jan. 2, 1971, tobacco companies seek alternative methods.

Capital Cities Broadcasting Corp. pledges \$1 million for minority programs to demonstrate its public-interest commitment, which had been challenged by citizen groups opposing Capcities \$147 million acquisition of Triangle Publications' stations.

January 18:

FCC and Office of Telecommunications Policy embark on long-range study aimed at more efficient use of radio spectrum.

January 25:

Prodded by Action for Children's Television and other citizen groups, FCC announced inquiry and notice of proposed rulemaking on schedules, standards and commercials for children's TV programming.

February 1:

Teleprompter Corp. and its president-chairman, Irving B. Kahn, indicted by federal grand jury on charges of bribery and conspiracy in obtaining cable franchise in Johnstown, PA.

February 15:

President's Advisory Council on Executive Reorganization criticizes operation of seven regulatory agencies and proposes FCC be trimmed to five members.

February 22:

Broadcasting's annual survey finds major league baseball will receive \$40.4 million for play-by-play rights in 1971.

March 1:

FCC approves Capital Cities Broadcasting acquisition of Triangle Publications' stations, part of deal that, overall, added up to \$147 million.

March 15:

FCC endorses agreement of TV networks to designate 8-11 p.m. as prime time in fall. Under prime-time access rule, networks were limited to three hours between 7 and 11 p.m.

John A. Hardin elected president and chief executive officer of Mutual Broadcasting Corp.

Under revised agreement, Time Inc. plans to sell five TV stations to McGraw-Hill for \$69.3 million, deleting Time's radio properties from earlier announced package.

March 22:

Vice President Spiro T. Agnew renews attacks on media, including CBS News and its "The Selling of the Pentagon," program he describes as "subtle but vicious broadside against nation's defense establishment."

Coast-to-coast flap over drug lyrics in songs erupts following FCC notice telling broadcasters to be cautious.

Philo T. Farnsworth, who obtained first patent for electronic TV system in 1927, dies at age 64.

April 12:

Staggers subcommittee subpoenas CBS, NBC documentaries in quest of information on how TV networks produce information programs; CBS's Stanton refuses to yield outtakes, other unaired material.

April 19:

FCC backs off slightly on its controversial drug-lyrics policy in March.

May 3:

CBS refuses to comply with subpoena from Staggers subcommittee for outtakes, unused materials. National Public Radio starts up with 90-station interconnected lineup.

May 10:

FCC's prime time access rule and related restrictions on syndicated and related programming activities of networks is upheld by New York appeals court.

June 7:

FCC belatedly approves CBS spinoff of cable and syndication to Viacom International.

June 14:

FCC's Jan. 15, 1970, policy statement, regarded by broadcasters as protection against challenges to renewal applications, is thrown out by U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington.

Supreme Court, in case involving WIP(AM) Philadelphia, rules broadcasting has First Amendment parity with press and is immune to suits by private citizens under normal circumstances.

June 28:

President Nixon names special administration subcommittee, headed by Clay T. Whitehead and including three cabinet members and three White House aides, to develop cable policy.

July 5:

President Nixon confirms that Representative Charlotte Reid (R-IL), who at one time was singer on NBC Radio's Don McNeill's Breakfast Club, will be appointed to FCC. She eventually was sworn in Oct. 8. Four different product TV ads of American Home Products Inc. are among latest batch challenged by Federal Trade Commission.

Staggers committee votes that CBS's Frank Stanton be cited for contempt for refusing to supply outtakes from "The Selling of the Pentagon."

July 12:

House of Representatives refuses to back Staggers committee on Stanton contempt citation.

August 9:

Washington appeals court overturns FCC ruling and says broadcasters may not impose flat ban on sale of time for discussion of controversial issues.

August 23:

Washington appeals court rules that advertising of high-power cars and leaded gasoline raises fairness doctrine considerations-just as the FCC had held four years before with respect to cigarette advertising.

September 6:

Stern Community Law Firm plans campaign to force broadcasters to run "truth-in-advertising" public service spots that could contradict commercial station messages.

September 13:

John Thomas Ireland Jr. picked to succeed CBS President Frank Stanton, who becomes vice chairman and continues as chief operating officer on Oct. 1.

September 27:

Government plans 1973 experiment with satellite and public institutions in Rocky Mountain area that some see as prelude to satellite-to-home broadcasting.

October 11:

Office of Telecommunications Policy Director Clay T. Whitehead calls for elimination of fairness doctrine, change of license-renewal process to get government out of programming, and to begin steps to deregulate radio.

October 18:

"Special Report" in *Broadcasting* offers compendium of anecdotes about radio and television's yesteryears, based on magazine's personal interviews with pioneers in field.

Supreme Court refuses to review FCC decision that will strip WHDH-TV Boston of its license.

October 25:

Irving B. Kahn, chairman of Teleprompter Corp., is convicted of bribery, conspiracy and perjury in connection with award of Johnstown, PA, cable franchise in 1966.

November 8:

NAB carves out proposed legislation that would favor performance over promise in FCC license-renewal proceedings.

Eighteen petitions to deny filed on Nov. 1 against California stations' renewals by blacks, Orientals and chicanos.

November 15:

Compromise on FCC's proposed cable rules, orchestrated by Office of Telecommunications Policy, is reluctantly accepted by cable operators and broadcasters.

Questions raised in Congress as to why White House and FBI check made on Daniel Schorr, CBS correspondent who clashed with White House aides over accuracy of Schorr reporting. White House denies intimidation, says check was in connection with government post for which Schorr was considered.

December 6:

Nixon nominates FCC General Counsel Richard E. Wiley to succeed FCC Commissioner Robert Wells, who resigned Nov. 1.

David C. Adams succeeds Walter D. Scott as NBC board chairman.

December 20:

David Sarnoff, dominant force in electronics communications for more than 50 years, dies at 80.

Representative Paul Rogers (D-FL) introduces legislation to ban TV blackouts of sports contests that are sold out; similar bill by Senator William Proxmire (D-WI) to be subject of congressional hearing next year.

Action for Children's Television petitions Federal Trade Commission to ban toy advertising in children's TV programs.

December 27:

CBS abandons marketing of its electronic video recording system.

1972

January 10:

Federal Trade Commission urges FCC to enlarge its fairness doctrine to cover product commercials.

Former Florida broadcaster C. Edward Little is named MBS president.

Dr. Peter C. Goldmark, inventor and scientist recently retired as president of CBS Laboratories, establishes Goldmark Communications with Kinney Services Inc. as majority owner.

January 24:

Surgeon General Jesse L. Steinfeld and 12-member Scientific Advisory Committee on Television and Social Behavior releases \$1 million study that says there is casual link between TV violence and aggressive behavior in some children.

Leonard H. Goldenson becomes chairman and chief executive officer of ABC Inc. and Elton H. Rule becomes president and chief operating officer.

January 31:

Supreme Court refuses to stay August 1971 decision of U.S. Court of Appeals prohibiting broadcasters from enforcing ban on sale of time for discussion of public issues.

February 7:

FCC delivers its package of basic rules for cable, to be effective March 31.

February 28:

Satellite coverage of President Nixon's trip to Red China marks new milestone in broadcast history.

March 6:

First official challenge to FCC's new cable rules comes from Dale Moore, Northwest TV station owner, who cites dangers rules pose for small market broadcasters. NAB seeks stay pending copyright legislation.

Paul Comstock resigns as NAB executive vice president relations and is succeeded by Grover C. Cobb.

March 13:

Congressional Black Caucus charges mass media is pervaded by racism in employment and news coverage, and conspires to keep public from learning that blacks and poor are exploited in advertising.

McGraw-Hill \$69 million purchase of five Time-Life TV stations is approved by FCC.

March 20:

Plans for formation of National Black Network (radio) are announced.

March 27:

David Foster of Datran Corp. is named president of National Cable Television Association.

WHDH-TV Boston goes off air after 10-year fight at FCC for survival; WCVB-TV begins operation on vacated ch 5.

FCC is asked to hold up renewals of 11 Massachusetts stations pending inquiry into their employment practices.

April 17:

Department of Justice files civil antitrust suits designed to prohibit three national TV networks from engaging in any entertainment program or feature film syndication.

Judge Benjamin L. Hooks of Memphis is nominated to be member of FCC-first black ever to serve on any federal regulatory agency.

April 24:

Federal Trade Commission charges American Home Products, Bristol-Myers and Sterling Drug with false and misleading advertising for their pain-killer drugs.

May 8:

Television Communications Corp. agrees in principle to acquire Cypress Communications Corp. in estimated \$58.7 million stock deal that would make TVC nation's second largest cable TV operator (value was restated to be \$51.5 million at completion of merger Sept. 29).

In copyright suit brought by CBS and three program packagers against Teleprompter, New York District Court rules that all signals local or far, can be taken by CATVs without liability, and—contrary to plaintiff's claim—1968 Fortnightly decision still applies.

Twenty six stations in New York and New Jersey face license-renewal challenges with women's lib group among challengers for first time.

May 15:

Citizen groups get unprecedented concessions from McGraw-Hill in form of hard commitments on chicanery-black hiring and programming as well as abandonment of one of five VHF McGraw-Hill planned to buy from Time-Life (FCC already had approved transfer).

FCC raises from 1% to 5% limit of broadcast ownership that banks may hold without it counting against station ownership limit.

May 22:

J. Paul Getty among backers of new Home Theatre Network, pay-cable firm. Optical Systems and Theatrevision simultaneously announced pay-cable tests at NCTA convention.

TV networks under fire for alleged distortion of news: Staggers subcommittee holds two-day hearing on issue; GOP newsletter claims NBC and UPI spread communist propaganda without considering national interest.

Kaiser Broadcasting Corp. and Field Enterprises plan to put their UHF's together.

Coverage of Nixon trip to Soviet Union costs networks at least \$1 million each.

June 5:

Ted Bates, founder of Ted Bates & Co. and considered architect of spot TV, dies at 70.

June 12:

Supreme Court, in 5-4 decision, confirms FCC authority to require program origination on cable systems.

Charles T. Ireland, 51, who became president of CBS Inc. preceding October, dies of heart attack.

Broadcasting "Special Report" offers analysis of middle-of-road radio and changes it has undergone.

June 19:

FCC announces satellite policy that provides for "multiple-entry," but with restrictions on AT&T and Comsat.

July 3:

Supreme Court rules against newsmen's privilege in grand jury investigations, disposing of three separate appeals.

July 10:

Judge Benjamin L. Hooks sworn in as FCC commissioner.

July 17:

Arthur R. Taylor elected president of CBS Inc.

July 24:

Cox Cable Communications and American Television & Communications propose merger that would form second largest cable system complex in U.S.

August 14:

INTV is founded as association for independent, non-network stations; Roger D. Rice is first president and Herman Land is executive director.

John W. Macy quits as president of Corporation for Public Broadcasting; decision is made one month after CPB Chairman Frank Pace says he will not seek reelection.

Study by FCC consultant shows prime-time access rule cost major Hollywood producers \$50 million in network business.

September 4 and September 11:

FCC swamped with mass filings against stations in District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia.

Nixon says he does not want to debate McGovern.

September 18:

Thomas B. Curtis named Corporation for Public Broadcasting chairman.

President Nixon supports move to limit network reruns, proposal to FCC initially advanced by film editor Bernard Balmuth and supported by Hollywood film craft unions.

Broadcasting "Special Report" looks at new life in country radio.

September 25:

Henry W. Loomis picked to be Corporation for Public Broadcasting president.

October 16:

More New York TV stations promise to expand service to VHF-less New Jersey in line with campaign undertaken by New Jersey Coalition for Fair Broadcasting.

October 30:

FCC initiates inquiry into its controversial prime-time access rule.

November 6:

FCC takes first step in broadcast re-regulation as it drops seven technical requirements.

November 13:

In dissent to court ruling that FCC was correct in denying WXUR-AM-FM Media, PA, license renewal, Chief Judge David Bazelon of U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington says fairness doctrine probably has outlived its usefulness.

December 4:

FCC sets up two EEO offices to work closely with FCC Commissioner Benjamin Hooks.

1973

January 1:

OTP Director Clay Whitehead makes Dec. 18 speech in Indianapolis that is regarded as one of administration's sharpest attacks on network news operation.

Justice Department files antitrust suit in connection with proposed merger of Cox Cable Communications and American Television and Communications.

Comsat given key role in FCC's final order on domestic satellite service.

January 8:

Western Union gets first domestic satellite grant.

Renewal of Post-Newsweek TV stations in Miami and Jacksonville, FL, challenged by groups with history of Nixon connections.

Appeals court upholds FCC order that ABC and XETV(TV) Tijuana, Mexico-San Diego terminate network affiliation.

ABC gets 1976 summer Olympics games rights for record \$25 million.

January 15:

FCC Chairman Dean Burch says commission's prime-time access rule has failed; producers' study backs contention that FCC plan failed.

White House assistant Lewis A. Engman is Nixon choice for FTC chairmanship being resigned by Miles Kirkpatrick.

Rueven Frank steps aside from NBC News presidency to become executive producer. Richard C. Wald succeeds him.

January 29:

FTC asks Congress to ban little-cigar advertising from radio-TV.

February 12:

National Telefilm Associates' purchase of NBC Films and other programming units completes networks' exodus from syndication.

February 26:

Television code review board of NAB adopts tough rules regulating advertising of non-prescription medication on TV.

March 12:

In case of CBS and production companies against Teleprompter, New York appeals court reverses lower court by ruling cable systems are liable for copyright payment on distant signals.

Massive revolt by affiliates prompts CBS-TV to cancel "Sticks and Bones," bitter drama about blinded war veteran.

March 26:

FCC begins campaign to clean up broadcasting including so-called topless radio, X-rated films and other suggestive material.

Broadcasting "Man in the News" feature focuses on Frank Stanton, retiring as CBS Inc. vice chairman.

April 16:

Appeals Court stays FCC approval of sale of WEFM(FM) Chicago, upholding citizen group's protest against program format change proposed by new owners.

FCC sets up test case on obscenity by notifying Sonderling's WGLD-FM Oak Park, IL, that station was liable for \$2,000 fine in connection with *Femme Forum* program.

April 23:

Thomas B. Curtis resigns as Corporation for Public Broadcasting chairman after CPB board turns down working agreement he had negotiated with newly reorganized Public Broadcasting Service.

Combined Communications Corp. and Pacific & Southern Broadcasting sign \$38.6 million merger agreement with P&S and five of its stations coming under CCC.

FCC approves \$15.1-million sale of KFI(AM) Los Angeles to Cox Broadcasting Corp.

Cox Cable Communications and American Television & Communications call off proposed merger rather than fight Justice Department's antitrust suit.

May 7:

Format change issue involved in Appeals Court remand of FCC approval of WXEZ(FM) Sylvania, OH, sale and court's affirmation of FCC approval of KBTR(AM) Denver sale.

May 14:

Sonderling decides it would be too expensive to fight FCC fine for allegedly obscene broadcasts.

May 21:

Broadcast media around world begin coverage of Watergate hearing of Senate select committee under Senator Sam Ervin (D-NC).

June 4:

Supreme Court rules there is no right of paid public access to radio and TV; decision denies separate cases of Business Executives Move for Vietnam Peace (BEM) and Democratic National Committee.

Boards of Corporation for Public Broadcasting and Public Broadcasting Service separately approve seven-point plan creating mutual partnership.

Dr. Carl McIntire loses Supreme Court fight to keep WXUR-AM-FM Media, PA.

June 18:

FCC grant for channel 32 WGPR-TV Detroit provides construction permit for what is to be first black-owned TV station in country.

June 25:

Herbert Schlosser named president of NBC-TV. Pacific & Southern Broadcasting sells three radio stations those, not included in earlier agreement with Combined Communications (see April 23), to Jefferson-Pilot Broadcasting for \$15 million.

July 9:

National Black Network starts with 41 radio affiliates.

July 23:

U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission files its first lawsuit alleging discrimination on part of broadcast station against WREC-TV Memphis.

July 30:

James H. Quello is Nixon's choice to succeed Nicholas Johnson on FCC.

August 27:

Communications Properties Inc. and Viacom International sign \$62 million agreement to merge.

September 17:

Congress passes and Nixon signs bill ending local TV blackouts of sold-out games in football, baseball, basketball and hockey.

Cox Cable Communications and LVO Cable sign letter of intent to merge (proposal called off in December due to market conditions).

FCC approves applications of five more Comsat firms, putting them alongside first grantee, Western Union (see Jan. 8).

October 1:

Nixon signs into law legislation outlawing broadcast advertising of little cigars.

Dr. Carl McIntire's operation of pirate radio ship in Atlantic leads to court battle and injunction against operation that started Sept. 19.

October 15:

Resignation of Vice President Spiro T. Agnew, outspoken critic of media, defuses First Amendment controversy he stirred in connection with so-called leaks of Justice Department investigation of Agnew.

October 22:

Jack Kent Cooke takes over as chairman and chief executive officer of Teleprompter Corp., whose stock trading privilege was suspended Sept. 7 by Securities

and Exchange Commission. (Suspension was lifted Nov. 8.)

Supreme Court refuses to review case of two college radio stations that claim FCC warning against lyrics glorifying drugs is First Amendment violation.

October 29:

GOP study includes plan to drop in 66 new VHF channels in top-100 markets.

December 3:

FCC says it will modify prime time access rule, cutting it from one hour to one-half hour, eliminating it entirely on Sundays and asks for more meaningful programming.

December 10:

Lame duck Commissioner Nicholas Johnson departs FCC. Chairman Dean Burch indicates plans to leave.

December 18:

FCC Commissioner H. Rex Lee announces intention to retire at year end.

1974

January 7:

Department of Justice Antitrust Division widens attack on newspaper-broadcast crossownership with petitions to deny against Pulitzer, Newhouse and Cowles broadcast properties. Action follows similar filing in December 1973 against Milwaukee Journal stations.

Merger of Communications Properties Inc. into Viacom called off because of market conditions.

January 14:

RCA inaugurates nation's first domestic satellite communications service.

January 28:

FCC approves prime time access rule modifications it offered in late 1973.

February 11:

Julian Goodman becomes NBC chairman with Herbert S. Schlosser succeeding him as president. David C. Adams relinquishes chairmanship to become vice chairman.

February 18:

FCC Chairman Dean Burch appointed counselor to President Nixon with cabinet rank.

February 25:

Commissioner Richard E. Wiley designated as FCC chairman.

March 4:

FCC turns down National Association of Independent Television Producers and Distributors petition for one-year stay of modified prime time access rule.

March 11:

FCC's entire system of imposing fees on those it regulates is set back by Supreme Court ruling that upholds NCTA appeal of commission's per-subscriber charge to cable systems.

March 18:

President Nixon dominates Luther Holcomb of Equal Employment Opportunity Commission to succeed H. Rex Lee on FCC.

March 25:

Nixon appearance at NAB convention in Houston marked by controversy over president's exchange with CBS's Dan Rather.

April 1:

FCC suspends annual fees for broadcast stations and cable systems.

April 8:

Senate Communications Subcommittee opens hearings on televised violence and development of violence profile for gauging offerings of networks.

April 29:

Democrat Luther Holcomb asks White House to withdraw his name as FCC nominee after letters and memoranda are made public, casting doubts on genuineness of his party allegiance.

Senate Commerce Committee confirms Quello appointment to FCC.

May 20:

Nixon announces he will nominate Abbott Washburn and Glen O. Robinson to FCC and will name Robert E. Lee for fourth seven-year term.

Watergate tape points to White House complicity in 1973 challenges to renewals of Post-Newsweek stations.

FCC approves Capital Cities purchase from Carter Publications of WBAP(AM)-KSCS(FM) Fort Worth as part of \$74.5 million deal that includes Fort Worth Star-Telegram and two suburban newspapers, and LIN Broadcasting Corp.'s buy of Carter Publications' WBAP-TV Fort Worth for \$35 million.

June 3:

Start of Associated Press Radio in fall announced.

June 24:

U.S. Appeals Court orders FCC to delay changes in prime time access rule at least until September, forcing networks to make quick adjustment of plans for fall.

July 8:

NAB TV board ratifies changes in code that put tighter restrictions on children's advertising and issues statement taking issue with FTC ban on premium advertising for children.

July 15:

Knight Newspapers and Ridder Publications propose merger of their newspapers and spinoff of broadcast holdings.

July 29:

Networks face \$1-million daily ad loss they take on historic House impeachment coverage.

August 5:

NBC-TV to pay record \$10 million for single two-part showing of Paramount's "The Godfather."

August 12:

Up to 110 million witnesses President Nixon's resignation on TV.

Clay T. Whitehead resigns as head of Office of Telecommunications Policy and John Eger becomes acting head of agency.

September 9:

Growing role of news consultants spotlighted in *Broadcasting* special report.

September 23:

FCC tentatively votes to strip Alabama Educational Television Commission of nine TV licenses following charges of racial discrimination in programming and employment practices.

September 30:

U.S. Court of Appeals overturns FCC ruling that NBC violated fairness doctrine in its investigative documentary on pension plans, "Pensions: The Broken Promise."

October 7:

Appeals court reverses FCC ruling that permitted sale of WEFM(FM) Chicago with hearing on proposed purchaser's plan to change format from classical music to rock.

October 14:

Roger D. Rice of Cox Broadcasting Corp. named president and chief executive officer of Television Bureau of Advertising.

October 28:

Frederick S. Pierce named president of ABC Television.

November 4:

Supreme Court, in affirming FCC grant of ch. 9 in Orlando, FL, indicates that when all other issues in comparative case are equal, minority presence can afford edge.

James M. Cox, Jr., board chairman of Cox Broadcasting Corp. and Cox Enterprises, dies at 71.

November 18:

Civil Rights Commission report lists FCC among five independent agencies that fail to protect civil rights of minority and female workers in industries they regulate.

FCC instructs staff to draw up third version of prime time access rule which would have PTAR's basic shape and PTAR II's exceptions.

U.S. District Court Judge Robert Kelleher in Los Angeles dismisses "without prejudice" Justice Department's antitrust suit against networks.

December 9:

U.S. District Court Judge Gerhard A. Gesell in Washington orders release to broadcasters of Nixon tapes about Watergate.

December 16:

Justice Department refiles antitrust suit against networks, but this time under auspices of Ford administration that has not been charged with efforts to intimidate networks.

1975

January 13:

Three commercial TV networks say they will, on their own, implement ban on sex and violence in prime time, and NAB code board starts study of general option of same rules.

Former Senator Burton K. Wheeler (D-MT), who played key role in early communications legislation, dies at 92.

Milton Cross, narrator of Metropolitan Opera radio broadcasts for 43 years, dies at 77.

January 20:

FCC formally adopts third version of prime time access rule, to become effective in September 1975.

February 3:

FCC denies license renewals to all five Don Burden radio stations after charges of misconduct in political gifts and news slanting, among other things.

FCC orders ban on future acquisitions of co-located crossownerships of newspapers and television and radio stations; in addition, commission decrees breakup within five years of 16 small market newspaper-television and newspaper-radio combinations that were said to constitute media monopolies.

Industry standards for children's TV written into FCC renewal forms.

Canadian Parliament gets proposal to prevent Canadian advertisers from claiming business expense on money used for advertising on U.S. stations to reach Canadian viewers.

February 10:

David Foster resigns as National Cable Television Association president.

February 24:

ABC, after yearlong test at its WLS-TV Chicago, asks FCC for rulemaking to authorize circularly polarized transmissions for TV services.

March 3:

Major leagues to get \$44,495,000 from sales of baseball broadcast rights in 1975.

March 10:

U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington affirms FCC's renewal of KHJ-TV Los Angeles, saying in substance that court would not substitute its judgement for FCC's if that agency acts reasonably.

March 24:

FCC completes work on controversial package of pay cable and over-the-air TV rules that would affect programming siphoning from free television.

March 31:

FCC says it will conduct inquiry into program warehousing.

C.M. Jansky Jr., internationally known consulting radio engineer, dies at 79.

April 7:

FCC issues notice of inquiry into feasibility of dropping new VHF channels in top-100 markets.

April 14:

TV board of National Association of Broadcasters adopts family-viewing standards espoused by FCC Chairman Wiley and proposed by NAB TV code review board.

April 21:

Home Box Office, Time Inc.'s pay-cable subsidiary, announces it will begin satellite network in fall.

April 28:

U.S. Court of Appeals in New York sends PTAR II (see Jan. 20, 1975) back to FCC for more precise language to eliminate future debate; court questions feasibility of September effective date.

May 12:

FCC overrides local franchising authority in denying Teleprompter cable certificate in Johnstown, PA, based on involvement in bribery case there in 1966.

FCC opens proceedings to overhaul procedures under which renewal applicants ascertain community needs.

May 19:

FCC re-releases PTAR III, sticking to September starting date.

May 26:

Fred Silverman quits as CBS-TV's vice president to become president of ABC Entertainment.

June 2:

Teleprompter and Home Box Office announce agreement for HBO to supply about 800,000 subscribers nationally with pay-TV service.

June 16:

NBC to launch its News and Information Service with 33 subscribing radio stations.

June 23:

Washington attorney Robert L. Schmidt picked for NCTA presidency.

Appeals court in New York affirms FCC Sept. 8 starting date for PTAR III.

July 14:

FCC removes March 31, 1977, deadline for rebuild of cable systems in operation before March 31, 1972, acknowledging economic squeeze of requirement.

July 21:

FCC releases notice of inquiry and proposed rulemaking to clarify and strengthen equal opportunity guidelines for employment of minorities and women.

George Comte of WTMJ-AM-FM-TV Milwaukee outlines blueprint for federation to replace National Association of Broadcasters.

August 4:

Football broadcast rights for 1975 season level off at \$80 million.

September 8:

Texas banker Joseph Allbritton reaches agreement with families controlling Washington Star Communications with understanding that he abide by FCC order to dispose of properties as necessary to satisfy commission's crossownership rules.

September 15:

Group broadcaster Richard Eaton is denied renewal of WOOK(AM) Washington by FCC after allegations of false and misleading advertising, and airing of lottery information in violation of FCC rules and U.S. Code.

FCC drafts proposed new law that would be harsher on obscene or indecent programming.

September 22:

FCC throws out 1973 agreement between KTTV(TV) Los Angeles and National Association for Better Broadcasting, saying station relinquished too much control in agreeing to pact.

September 29:

FCC reverses long-standing position on equal time and says debates between political candidates and news conferences by President and other candidates for political office qualify for exemptions as "on-the-spot coverage of news event." Debates, however, must not be under control of broadcaster or candidate.

U.S. District Court rules CBS has not proved restraint of trade by BMI and ASCAP in CBS's try for per-use music license.

October 6:

Office of Telecommunications Policy says it is drafting legislation that would explicitly authorize FCC to relax regulation of radio in top-10 markets for five years.

FCC rules WFAB(FM) Miami engaged in fraudulent billings, owner Richard Eaton isn't qualified to be licensee, and denies WFAB license renewal.

WPGR-TV Detroit, first black-owned TV station in continental U.S., goes on air.

October 20:

ABC petitions FCC for rulemaking to consider public policy questions in connection with domestic communications satellite service.

October 27:

Alan Torbet Associates and Avco Radio sales merge as Torbet-Lasker Inc., major radio station rep firm.

November 3:

Hollywood creative community files suit against FCC, three networks and NAB for imposing family-viewing on TV.

November 10:

Robert Sarnoff resigns as RCA chairman, effective Dec. 31, Anthony L. Conrad takes over.

George B. Storer, co-founder of Storer Broadcasting Co., nation's first major station group, dies at 75.

December 1:

ABC-TV signs new two-year, \$36-million football pact with National Collegiate Athletic Association.

December 8:

J. Walter Thompson is top broadcast agency in 1975 with billings of \$269.5 million.

December 15:

FCC adopts policy statement that it will approve station-citizen agreements, but only if licensee prevails on responsibility.

Challenger for WNAC-TV Boston claims licensee RKO General should be blamed for alleged misconduct of parent General Tire & Rubber Co.

December 22:

FCC decides to delete its cable-television leapfrogging rule.

1976

January 5:

President Ford signs Public Broadcasting Act of 1975, which authorizes payments totaling \$634 million to Corporation for Public Broadcasting over next five years.

"The First Amendment and the Fifth Estate," special report examines past, present and future of broadcast journalism.

Andrew D. Ring, one of best known broadcasting engineers, former FCC assistant chief engineer and later senior partner in consulting engineering firm of A.D. Ring and Associates, Washington, dies at 76.

January 12:

Ampex Corp. and CBS develop Electronic Still Store system, using digital recording technique to store 1,500 frames in random mode, each accessible in 100 milliseconds.

Lawrence K. Grossman is approved as new president of Public Broadcasting Service, effective Feb. 1. He succeeds Hartford N. Gunn Jr., who becomes PBS vice chairman.

FCC rules legally qualified candidates for presidential nomination are entitled to lowest unit charge during 45 days preceding any primary election.

January 19:

Corporation for Public Broadcasting asks FCC to establish new class of low-powered VHF TV stations to provide more non-commercial service and encourage minority involvement.

U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington overrules FCC decision that WMCA(AM) New York violated personal attack rule in broadcast in which Representative Benjamin S. Rosenthal (D-NY) was called "coward."

January 26:

U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington upholds FCC's practice of continuing in effect license of station in renewal hearing until that hearing is concluded in appeal by Committee for Open Media involving Chronicle Publishing Co.'s KRON-TV San Francisco.

FCC formally approves sale of Washington Star Communications to Texas banker Joe L. Allbritton.

U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington denies Don Burden's request for remand or rehearing of case in which court upheld FCC order denying him renewal of all five of his broadcast licenses.

February 2:

House Communications Subcommittee staff releases report on cable television, charging FCC with following "protectionist policy" favoring broadcasters and recommending legislation that would regulate cable in its own right, not as ancillary to development of over-the-air television.

Supreme Court strikes down statutory ceilings on political campaign spending as violation of First Amendment guarantee of freedom of speech.

February 9:

League of Women Voters announces it will sponsor series of five candidate debates; invites radio and television to cover.

February 16:

Public Broadcasting Service member stations approve \$38.4-million plan to interconnect stations by satellite.

FCC authority to regulate leased, two-way cable TV channels is found to be excessive, rules U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington. It finds commission pre-empted authority from state and local authorities.

February 23:

FCC Commissioner Glen O. Robinson, whose term ends June 30, has decided to accept professorship at University of Virginia law school.

FCC starts inquiry re-examining its rules regulating radio networks.

March 8:

FCC upholds complaint by President Ford's re-election campaign agency against policy of WGN-AM-TV Chicago of refusing to sell time in less than five minute periods.

March 29:

Calvin J. Collier sworn in as chairman of Federal Trade Commission.

April 5:

FCC relaxes restrictions on cable TV system rebuild requirements.

April 12:

Representative Torbert Macdonald announces his resignation as chairman of House Communications Subcommittee effective April 26. Lionel Van Deerlin (D-CA) picked to succeed him.

Trial on legality of family viewing policy, brought by coalition of Hollywood writers and producers against FCC, NAB and networks, gets under way in Los Angeles.

Thomas E. Wheeler, vice president for public affairs, Grocery Manufacturers of America, named National Cable Television Association executive vice president/director of government relations.

April 19:

Robert Wussler named president of CBS-TV, replacing Robert D. Wood, who resigns to form own production company. Wussler appoints Robert A. Daly to executive vice president post.

U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington upholds FCC equal time position of giving broadcasters broad discretion in dealing with debates and news conferences involving political candidates.

April 26:

NBC's Barbara Walters accepts ABC offer of \$1 million per year for five years to be co-anchor of ABC Evening News with Harry Reasoner.

Avery-Knodel Inc., New York, national sales rep, leaves radio to concentrate on TV, merging some of its represented radio stations with Buckley Radio Sales and others with Pro/Meeker Time Sales and changing own name to Avery-Knodel Television.

CBS-TV names B. Donald (Bud) Grant vice president in charge of programming replacing Lee Currilin.

May 3:

NBC-TV names president of CBS Records, Irwin Segelstein, to post of executive vice president, programs, replacing Mike Weinblatt, who becomes executive vice president in charge of sales, advertising and promotion.

May 10:

Keith Fuller, named to succeed Wes Gallagher in October as president and general manager of Associated Press. AP also votes to admit three broadcasting representatives to its corporate board.

May 17:

Securities and Exchange Commission files complaint in U.S. District Court in Washington charging parent of RKO General Inc., General Tire & Rubber Co., with long list of violations of federal securities laws, including illegal and improper payments, contributions to officials of foreign countries, falsification of corporate books and maintenance of slush funds.

May 24:

ABC-TV's "Eleanor and Franklin" wins 11 Emmy awards, record for one show.

May 31:

First Amendment protection of advertising is extended with Supreme Court ruling in Virginia case involving ads for prescription drug prices.

FCC Commissioner Charlotte Reid marries and announces she will resign from commission on July 1, two years before end of her term.

Representative Torbert Macdonald (D-MA), former chairman of House Communications Subcommittee, dies at 58.

Supreme Court denies review of FCC decision stripping Don Burden of his five AM and FM licenses.

June 7:

Anthony L. Conrad, president/chief executive officer, RCA Corp., named to additional post of chairman, filling position vacant since resignation of Robert Sarnoff last Dec. 31.

June 21:

Special report on "The First 50 Years of NBC."

July 5:

Thomas Houser confirmed as head of White House Office of Telecommunications Policy.

Community Antenna Television Association urges FCC to allow construction of receive-only earth stations smaller than nine meters.

FCC renews Cowles Communications Inc.'s license for WESH-TV Daytona Beach, FL, over competing applicant.

July 19:

Margita White, assistant news secretary and director for White House Office of Communications, named by President Ford to FCC.

July 26:

Joseph Fogarty, counsel to Senate Communications Subcommittee, named to FCC.

August 2:

FCC issues policy statement stating that determination of entertainment formats is to be left to discretion of licensees and to regulation of marketplace.

August 9:

House Communications Subcommittee Chairman Lionel Van Deerlin (D-CA) proposes "basement-to-penthouse" rewrite of Communications Act of 1934.

August 16:

Public broadcasting files applications with FCC for \$39.5 million satellite inter-connection project.

September 6:

Westinghouse Broadcasting Co. petitions FCC to institute inquiry into TV networks and wants freeze on expansion of network time, including news.

September 17:

Twenty-eight minute audio failure mars first debate between presidential contenders, Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford.

September 20:

Anthony L. Conrad, chairman and president of RCA, resigns after admitting to failing to file income tax returns for 1971 through 1975. He's succeeded by Edgar H. Griffiths, RCA executive vice president.

October 4:

Congress passes revision to copyright law under which cable TV and public broadcasting will have to pay royalties.

October 18:

Arthur R. Taylor dismissed as president of CBS, Inc. John D. Backe, head of CBS/Publishing Group, chosen as successor.

November 8:

Judge in family viewing case, Warren J. Ferguson, says networks, NAB and FCC violated First Amendment in instituting family viewing policy.

NBC Radio terminates its all-news network, News and Information Service, after two years and \$10 million in losses.

November 15:

Benjamin L. Hooks, FCC's first black commissioner, announces intention to resign in 1977 to become executive director of National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Museum of Broadcasting opens in New York; first five years funded by CBS Chairman William Paley.

November 22:

NBC settles with Justice Department, ending four-and-a-half-years of antitrust litigation. Agreement doesn't take effect until ABC and CBS adopt similar ones.

December 13:

FCC approves use of TV line 21, field 1 and available half of line 21, field 2, of television vertical blanking interval for transmission of closed captions visible only on decoder-equipped sets.

December 20:

U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington finds FCC's fee schedules defective; orders commissions to refund under 1970 schedule.

FCC approves use of earth stations smaller than nine meters, in answer to petition by Community Antenna Television Association.

Turner Communications Corp.'s WTCG(TV) Atlanta becomes first TV station to be distributed to cable systems via satellite.

1977**January 10:**

FCC clarification of WESH-TV case redefines license-renewal criteria.

Herbert S. Schlosser, president/chief operating officer of NBC named chief executive as well.

January 17:

FCC in response to Westinghouse petition, begins inquiry on power three networks hold in marketplace. Individual TV stations band together to produce Operation Prime Time programming.

January 24:

Viacom International rejects \$57-million takeover offer by Storer Broadcasting.

Canadian government halts practice that deleted commercials from American programs that Canadian cable systems import.

Group W drops syndicated fare in access period and invests \$2.5 million for feature-style magazine that will eventually become highly successful "PM Magazine" show.

January 31:

ABC's eight-day telecast of mini-series "Roots" becomes most watched program in television history with ratings in mid-40's and shares in mid-60's; 80 million people watched at least some part of final episode.

February 7:

NBC signs \$85 million deal for 1980 Summer Olympics in Moscow.

February 14:

Warner Cable Corp. announces it will offer two-way interactive service to its Columbus, OH, subscribers.

NBC's "Today Show" celebrates its 25th birthday.

PBS gets go ahead from FCC to deliver programming by satellite.

February 21:

NBC signs former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger to long-term consultant's contract at estimated \$2 million to \$2.5 million.

World Administrative Radio Conference ends with spectrum (11.7 ghz to 12.2 ghz) set aside for direct broadcast satellites.

March 7:

D.C. Appeals Court reverses FCC crossownership rules and says divestiture should apply to 153 combinations, not only 23 commission had identified.

March 14:

FCC sets down comparative renewal guidelines that give measure of protection to stations with "substantial" service records.

CPB chooses university chancellor W. Allen Wallis to be new chairman succeeding Robert S. Benjamin.

FCC narrows markets for VHF drop-ins to four-Charleston-Huntington, WV; Johnstown-Altoona, PA; Knoxville, TN, and Salt Lake City.

March 21:

Appeals Court rules in "seven dirty words" case that FCC has no censorship jurisdiction.

FCC repeals radio rules from 1941; issues radio policy statement.

March 28:

U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington overturns FCC's pay cable rules.

President Carter nominates Michael Pertschuk as chairman of Federal Trade Commission.

April 4:

One-inch helical VTR steals show at annual NAB convention.

Neville Miller, first paid NAB president dies in Washington at age 83.

Joe L. Allbritton agrees to sell WMAL-TV Washington to Combined Communications Corp. for \$100 million, highest price for station up to that time.

April 11:

FCC gives approval to let TV broadcasters use circular or elliptical polarization for broadcast transmissions in move to help eliminate "ghosts" and other interference effects.

April 18:

U.S. Court of Appeals backs FCC responsibilities in equal employment opportunity area.

April 25:

Robert E. Lee becomes longest-serving FCC commissioner, surpassing Rosel Hyde record of 23 years, six months and 14 days.

ABC wins its first prime-time ratings ever, ending CBS's 20-year reign with a new record 21.5 rating, surpassing CBS's 1962-63 21.4 rating while garnering seven of top 10 shows.

CBS Chairman William S. Paley hands over chief executive reins to president John D. Backe.

May 2:

FCC holds hearings to help minorities in acquisitions of broadcast operations.

Globe Broadcasting announces \$13.8 million merger plan with Combined Communications Corp. reviving purchase that was dropped in 1975.

May 9:

FCC votes 4-3 to retain equal time law, Section 315, but does vote for some modifications.

ABC Sports President Rooney Arledge named to head ABC News as well.

Interview of former President Richard Nixon by David Frost draws praise and high syndicated ratings.

NAB, AMST rail against rewrite options papers of House Communications Subcommittee.

Newspaper crossownership case is appealed to Supreme Court.

May 16:

General Accounting Office tells FCC to set up new fee schedule.

Spinoffs of 17 RKO stations is put on hold by FCC.

All Industry Radio Music License Committee petitions U.S. Southern District Court in New York to determine reasonable fee for stations' use of ASCAP music.

May 23:

National Association of Broadcast Employees and Technicians strike ABC; operations continue with supervisory and nonunion personnel.

Julius Koppelman, RCA group vice president, assumes full responsibility for RCA's communications group.

President Carter fields questions from studio audience at KNXT(TV) Los Angeles and at various remotes across city in town news conference.

June 6:

Program suppliers join Westinghouse in decrying network dominance by asking for re-examination of FCC's financial interest rule.

June 13:

FCC initiates inquiry into relationship between stations and network television.

June 20:

Carnegie Corp. agrees to launch second major study of public broadcasting in 10 years, backing it with \$1 million.

June 27:

Park Broadcasting agrees to buy WONO(FM) Syracuse, NY, making it first group owner with full complement of 21 stations.

FCC approves Field Communications' buy of five-station Kaiser Broadcasting.

July 4:

NAB TV board votes to amend programming code to be "more specific" on offensive material.

FCC puts network inquiry in deep freeze.

NABOB, National Association of Black-Owned Broadcasters, is formed.

July 11:

Broadcasters mobilize against efforts to ban broadcast advertising of saccharin.

Engineering committee reports agreement on compatibility standards for one-inch helical scan, nonsegmented videotape recorders between Sony and Ampex.

U.S. Court of Appeals reaffirms FCC policy statement on leaving children's TV to self-regulation.

July 18:

Frank Mankiewicz, former press secretary to Senators Robert Kennedy and George McGovern, takes over as president of National Public Radio.

July 25:

FCC removes six cable TV rules from books, but retains local governments' rights to collect franchise fees.

R. Peter Straus sworn in as director of Voice of America.

FCC's first black commissioner, Benjamin Hooks, leaves to head National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

August 1:

Senate Commerce Committee drops saccharin ad ban from bill it is considering on artificial sweetener.

August 8:

Washington appeals court backs FTC's right to order corrective advertising in case involving Listerine.

Sony unveils its Betamax videocassette.

August 15:

American Bar Association adopts guidelines for lawyer advertising in print and on radio.

NAB reports that for first time in its 20-year history of financial tabulations, average FM station recorded profit in 1976.

CBS wins rights for networks to negotiate per-use licensing agreements with music licensing firms.

Federal appeals court blocks FCC decision that exempts stations with fewer than 10 employees from filing EEO reports.

August 22:

Amway Corp. reaches agreement to buy Mutual Broadcasting System for \$15 million.
Civil Rights Commission gives low marks to FCC and industry on EEO efforts.
General Accounting Office begins own network inquiry investigation.

August 29:

In NBC reorganization, Robert E. Mulholland is named president of NBC-TV.
Harte-Hanks Newspapers agrees to purchase 13 stations from Southern Broadcasting for \$57 million.
RCA unveils its Selecta Vision home videotape recorder.

September 5:

Station Representatives Association charges networks are taking money away from spot rates to tune of \$680 million this year.
NAB submits plan to FCC to increase minority ownership of broadcast stations, which involves tax certifies to owners who sell to minority buyers.

September 19:

CBS celebrates its 50th anniversary.
Charles Ferris is nominated as chairman of FCC, succeeding Richard Wiley; Tyrone Brown replaces Benjamin Hooks and becomes FCC's second black commissioner.

September 26:

ABC and NABET agree to terms ending four month strike.

October 3:

House committee recommends its chambers be open to radio and TV coverage.
President sends public broadcasting legislation to Capitol Hill to try and ease friction between its factions.

October 10:

Former FCC General Counsel, Henry Geller, is picked to head new executive branch telecommunications unit, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, formerly Office of Telecommunications Policy under commerce department.
Florida youth Ronnie Zamora's plea of "TV intoxication" as defense in murder of elderly woman is rejected by jury in trial that is televised in Miami.

October 17:

Fledgling pay cable operation Home Box Office shows its first quarterly profit in its five-year history, as RCA shows it best quarter in 58 years.

October 24:

CBS reorganization finds Gene F. Jankowski as new president of CBS/Broadcast Group; James H. Rosenfield, new president of CBS Television Network; Robert A. Daly, new president of CBS Entertainment, and Robert J. Wussler, new president of CBS Sports.

October 31:

House of Representatives votes to allow broadcast coverage of its proceedings, with details to be worked out later.
Viacom's Showtime becomes second pay cable programmer service, following Time's Home Box Office.

November 14:

FTC Chairman Michael Pertschuk raises possibility of imposing ban on TV advertising aimed at children.
In CBS-Herbert case, U.S. Circuit Court rules journalists cannot be forced to open their thought processes, even when being sued for libel.

November 28:

Roscoe Barrow, author of 1950s report on networks (report that bears his name), dies in Berkeley, CA, at age 65.
Mutual Broadcasting decides to build satellite interconnection system for its 780-affiliate network.

December 5:

District judge signs order freeing NBC from justice department's antitrust suit; CBS and ABC still refuse to settle.
Eric Sevareid signs off after 38 years with CBS News.
Warner inaugurates two-way interactive Qube system in Columbus, OH.

December 12:

CBS technology innovator, Peter Goldmark, connected with long-playing record and first color TV system, dies in car accident in Rye, NY.

December 19:

CPB president Henry Loomis announces plans to retire in September of 1978.

1978

January 2:

Sterling Drug Co., manufacturer of Bayer aspirin, agrees to stop running commercial that Food and Drug Administration says distorted FDA report on safety of pain-killing drugs.
Johnny Carson, host of NBC-TV's Tonight Show, signs new contract for annual salary between \$2.5 million and \$3 million.

January 16:

Supreme Court agrees to review "seven dirty words" case involving Pacifica Foundation's noncommercial WBAI(FM) New York.

January 23:

Fred Silverman, president of ABC Entertainment, named president and chief executive officer of NBC, replacing Herbert S. Schlosser.
Glen O. Robinson, professor of law at University of Virginia, Charlottesville, and former FCC commissioner, named chairman of U.S. delegation to 1979 World Administrative Radio Conference.
Clarence C. Dill, 93, former Democratic senator from Washington who helped draft Communications Act of 1934, dies.

January 30:

President Carter allocates \$11 million in his fiscal 1979 budget for National Telecommunications and Information Administration being formed in Department of Commerce.

February 6:

Anthony D. Thomopoulos, chief assistant to ABC Entertainment President Fred Silverman, named to succeed Silverman.
President Carter proposes broad, "multifaceted" national program to increase number of minority owners in broadcasting and cable and to enhance financial conditions of those already established in communications.

February 13:

For first time, Senate debate is carried live on radio. CBS, NBC and National Public Radio broadcast opening of debate on ratification of Panama Canal treaties. CBS and NBC return to regular programming after few minutes; NPR broadcasts throughout first three days.
ABC celebrates 25th anniversary.
Senate and House pass cable pole attachment legislation, with provision for creating cable forfeitures, and send bill to President for signing.

March 6:

House Communications Subcommittee votes to begin rewrite of Communications Act of 1934, setting June 1 as deadline for drafting of bill.
Federal Trade Commission adopts staff report recommending FTC make broad changes in way products are advertised to children, and votes to institute rulemaking inquiry that could eventually lead to elimination of commercials from children's television programs.

March 13:

In unprecedented move, FCC designates for hearing renewal application of WQAL(FM) Cleveland on programming grounds alone.
Chris-Craft Industries, a diversified company active in TV station ownership, purchases \$9.4 million worth of 20th Century-Fox Film Corp. stock, amounting to about 5% of Fox's stock.

March 20:

Group W announces plans to make its Evening Magazine, a prime-time access program shown on its owned stations, available to other stations. It will be titled PM Magazine.

March 27:

What was to be largest station sales in television history—that of WJLA-TV Washington to Combined Communications Corp. for \$100 million—is called off.
U.S. Supreme Court agrees to review libel case filed by former Army officer against CBS's "60 minutes." U.S. Court of Appeals holds that First Amendment protects journalists from probing of their thought processes.

April 3:

National Telecommunications and Information Administration signed into existence by President Carter as successor to White House Office of Telecommunications Policy and Department of Commerce's Office of Telecommunications.

Voice of America begins operating as part of new International Communications Agency.

April 10:

CBS/Broadcast Group president, Gene Jankowski, goes on air to apologize to public for promoting four tennis matches as "winner takes all" when in fact they were not. Action is in response to FCC's demand that CBS do something to inform public of "deceptive practices."
John E. Reinhardt, former director of United States Information Agency, is sworn in as director of new International Communications Agency.
Supreme Court lets stand U.S. Court of Appeals decision that FTC has authority to order corrective advertising.

April 24:

Supreme Court reverses U.S. Court of Appeals decision that would have required district court, in which Watergate cover-up trial of top Nixon aides was held in 1974, to make tapes available to public for copying.

May 1:

Time Inc. agrees to acquire balance of American Television & Communications Corp., a Denver-based cable company, in merger valued at between \$135 million and \$150 million.

May 15:

FCC approved \$69 million sale of Rust Craft Greeting Cards Co. to Ziff-Davis Publishing Co, including spin-off of six AM's and five FM's to Rust Craft shareholders.
Commission also approves settlement in 13-year old Communication Satellite Corp. rate case, providing for refund to Comsat customers of about \$100 million, and agreement by company to lower its charges by 48%.

May 22:

FCC votes to establish policy aimed at promoting minority ownership of broadcast stations.
Supreme Court refuses to review New Mexico ruling directing reporters for Hubbard Broadcasting's KOB(AM) Albuquerque, N.M., to disclose confidential sources.

June 5:

Supreme Court in "Stanford Daily" case upholds right of police with warrant to search newsrooms.
Four-year-old FCC decision that product commercials should be beyond reach of fairness doctrine is upheld by Supreme Court.

June 12:

Proposed legislation that would rewrite Communications Act of 1934 is unveiled by House Communications Subcommittee Chairman Lionel Van Deerlin (D-CA).

June 19:

Supreme Court affirms FCC media crossownership rules, ruling out future instances of co-located newspaper-broadcast common ownership but upholding all but 13 present combinations.
House of Representatives votes to allow only House employees to control cameras that may begin daily television coverage of House sessions in early 1979.
Viacom International and Sonderling Broadcasting Corp. sign agreement to merge in deal valued at up to \$28 million.

For first time, radio covers floor debates of House of Representatives, but broadcasters still have no control over feed.

June 26:

Harte-Hanks Communications' purchase of Southern Broadcasting Co., Winston-Salem, NC, is approved by FCC.
Commission also adopts rules prohibiting ex parte contacts in cable proceedings.

July 3:

Henry Geller, one-time FCC general counsel, confirmed by Senate to head new National Telecommunications and Information Administration.

July 10:

Supreme Court upholds FCC in "seven dirty words" case involving Pacifica Foundation's WBAI(FM) New York. Ruling says FCC may regulate, and punish, broadcast of "indecent" material.

July 17:

William A. Leonard, CBS Inc. Washington vice president, named to succeed Richard A. Salant as president of CBS News when Salant retires next April.

July 31:

Pacifica Foundation petitions Supreme Court for rehearing in "seven dirty words" case.

August 7:

New York Times reporter Myron Farber begins serving indeterminate sentence in Bergen County, NJ, jail after Supreme Court denied further delay in punishment imposed by New Jersey court for withholding files from murder trial.

August 14:

National Association of Broadcasters holds first annual radio programming conference.
FCC begins inquiry into future role of low-power television.

August 28:

Daniel L. Ritchie, president of Westinghouse Broadcasting Co.'s corporate staff and strategic planning, named president and chief operating officer.

September 4:

KSTP-TV Minneapolis-St. Paul signs with ABC-TV, after 30-year affiliation with NBC-TV.
Myron Farber, *New York Times* reporter is released from New Jersey jail after Supreme Court stays his sentence pending lower court ruling that he must surrender notes dealing with murder case.

September 18:

Robben Fleming, president of University of Michigan, named president of Corporation of Public Broadcasting.
Jane Cahill Pfeiffer, former IBM executive who declined President Jimmy Carter's offer to become secretary of commerce, designated to become chairman of NBC and its representative on board of parent RCA Corp.
Viacom International signs to make Teleprompter Corp., nation's largest cable system operator, equal partner in Showtime, currently wholly-owned pay programming subsidiary.

September 25:

New York Times reporter Myron Farber sent back to jail for refusing to turn over notes to court in New Jersey murder trial.
FCC begins rulemaking on AM stereo and will include all five proposed systems.

October 2:

U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington rules in WESH-TV case. Court criticizes FCC for giving incumbents preference in comparative renewal proceedings simply because of their incumbency, and orders commission to hold further proceedings on renewal of license of WESH-TV Daytona Beach, FL.
FCC eliminates certificates of compliance for cable systems.

October 9:

Tentative agreement for General Electric Co. to acquire Cox Broadcasting Co. for \$440 million to \$448 million in GE stock; biggest transaction in broadcasting history is signed.
White House selects Anne Jones, general counsel of Federal Home Loan Bank Board, to succeed Margita White as FCC commissioner.

October 16:

U.S. Court of Appeals affirms FCC decision not to adopt quantitative program standards, specifically program percentages, for television broadcasters involved in comparative renewal proceedings.
Supreme Court agrees to review "per-use" music-license suit that CBS won against American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers and Broadcast Music Inc.

October 23:

FCC reopens and broadens 1977 inquiry aimed at determining whether television networks unduly dominate broadcasting.

October 30:

FCC moves to enhance competitive environment of satellite-distributed TV superstations by endorsing "open entry" policy for resale carriers that feed local stations to cable systems.
U.S. Court of Appeals reverses FCC in fairness doctrine case involving California stations and Pacific Gas & Electric Co. nuclear power spots.

November 6:

Federal Trade Commission Chairman Michael Pertschuk is disqualified by U.S. district judge from further participating in children's advertising proceeding, saying chairman has "conclusively prejudged" factual issues.

November 13:

FCC approves \$140 million merger of American Television & Communications Corp. into Time Television & Communications Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Time Inc.

November 20:

Federal Trade Commission decides to continue its children's advertising inquiry despite disqualification of FTC chairman Michael Pertschuk from proceedings.

December 4:

Supreme Court refuses to review Myron Farber case. Newhouse Broadcasting Corp. agrees to sell its five television stations to Times Mirror for \$82 million.

December 11:

FCC completes report providing for increase in AM band, and for UHF spectrum sharing that will provide basis for U.S. position at World Administrative Radio Conference in Geneva the following September.

1979

January 1:

FCC adopts rulemaking that would cut down service areas of clear channels and provide space for more AM stations.
Mutual Broadcasting System radio president, C. Edward Little, resigns.
Ralph Baruch named chairman and chief executive officer of Viacom International.

January 15:

National Telecommunications and Information Administration backs reduction of AM channel spacing from 10 khz to 9 in comments to FCC.
NTIA also submits endorsement to use low-power TV stations and translators to broadcast to unserved areas.

January 22:

ABC reduces commercial time on Saturday children's shows from eight-and-a-half minutes to six-and-a-half minutes over two years.
Federal Trade Commission begins children's advertising hearings.

February 5:

Second report by Carnegie Commission on Future of Public Broadcasting is released, detailing trust to be set up with subsidization from license fees.

February 12:

Commerce Department report on industry outlook gives broadcasting and cable high marks.
Ampex demonstrates digital videotape recorder at Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers conference in San Francisco; first such demonstration in U.S.

February 19:

NTIA files retransmission consent proposal with FCC.
Rust Craft and Ziff Corp. \$89.4 million merger is approved by Rust Craft stockholders.

February 26:

Revelations surface as to extent of war President Nixon waged against broadcasting especially public TV, as Nixon era documents are released.
House begins internal television system.
Cox and General Electric sign definitive merger agreement.

March 5:

FTC begins second round of children's TV ad hearings.
Margita White leaves FCC.

March 12:

NBC executive Julian Goodman takes early retirement from network.

March 19:

Two Senate bills (S. 611 and S. 622) beat any House version of rewrite of Communications Act in introduction in Congress.

March 26:

NAB announces \$8.5 million contributions for Minority Broadcast Investment Fund.
ABC, NBC, and PBS are on hand as government announces closed captioning of TV programs for hearing impaired.

April 2:

Second rewrite, H.R. 3333, is introduced in House with deregulation and license fee tradeoff.
Retiring CBS News President Richard Salant announces move to oversee NBC News operation.
Sony joins Ampex and Great Britain's Independent Broadcasting Authority in unveiling digital videotape recording system.

April 9:

Westinghouse's Daniel Ritchie, president and chief operating officer, takes on additional title of chief executive officer.

U.S. Supreme Court rules FCC cannot mandate cable system to make available access channels.
Bill is introduced in Congress to protect press from newsroom searches.
AP announces plans for satellite-delivered news to its 660 stations.

April 23:

In precedent setting case, U.S. Supreme Court reverses lower court ruling in CBS-Herbert case and says newsmen must answer questions of plaintiff in libel suit regarding journalists "state of mind" at time material was being prepared.
Spinoffs from Cox-GE merger seen to total \$121 million from 11 stations.
Howard K. Smith, ABC newsman and commentator for 18 years, resigns.
ABC News correspondent Tim O'Brien's scoops on several U.S. Supreme Court items, including Herbert case, causes controversy.

April 30:

FCC initiates rulemaking that would eliminate rule that limits number of distant signals cable systems may import and rule protecting against duplication of syndicated programming.

May 7:

ABC's Fred Pierce becomes executive vice president of ABC Inc., paving way towards company's presidency.

May 14:

FCC begins looking at sweeping radio deregulation provisions.

May 21:

Hearings on rewrite II begin in House before communications subcommittee.
Westinghouse buys WRET-TV Charlotte, NC, from Turner Broadcasting for \$20 million, highest price for UHF at that time.
U.S. Court of Appeals Judge David Bazelon, prime shaper of communications law, announces retirement after 30 years on court.

May 28:

National Cable Television Association President Robert L. Schmidt announces resignation.
Ted Turner announces satellite-delivered 24-hour cable news service, Cable News Network.

June 4:

Bosch-Fernseh introduces digital videotape recorder at international television engineering exhibition in Montreux.

June 11:

FCC gives go ahead to \$370 million Combined Communications-Gannett merger.
Spinoff from merger, WHEC-TV Rochester, NY, to BENI, makes it first black-owned major market, network affiliated station.
Out-of-court settlement reached in suit against WPXI Inc. which retains channel 11 in New York.

June 18:

Justice department attacks commercial time standards of NAB's television code, saying it violates Sherman Antitrust Act.

June 25:

FCC issues notice of inquiry on 9 khz channel spacing.
ABC newsman Bill Stewart is killed by Nicaraguan National Guardsmen in Managua.
Kaiser Aluminum allies itself with Mobil Oil in decrying TV network ban on issue advertising.

July 2:

Tom Bolger takes over as NAB joint board chairman from Donald Thurston.
Public Broadcasting Service approves major reorganization plan.
Young & Rubicam agrees to buy Marsteller Inc., New York and Chicago, for \$306 million.

July 9:

McClatchy Newspapers agrees to sell KOVR(TV) Sacramento, CA, to Outlet Co. for \$65 million, largest station sale to date.
U.S. Court of Appeals reverses FCC policy, leaving radio format questions to licensee and marketplace.
Willard Block rejoins Viacom as its president.

July 16:

Lionel Van Deerlin abandons efforts on H.R. 3333, Communications Act rewrite, to concentrate on common carrier provisions of present legislation.
Thomas Wheeler, NCTA executive vice president, elected to president by NCTA board.

July 30:

Westinghouse Broadcasting announces plans to distribute programs to its stations via satellite.

August 6:

Communications Satellite Corp. unveils plans for direct-to-home subscription television.

August 13:

FCC considers using lottery system in comparative renewal cases.

"Three's Company" sets record price for syndicated product, \$30 million to Multimedia, Gannett and KUTV(TV) Salt Lake City.

August 20:

RCA and CIT Financial Corp. agree to merge in deal valued at \$1.35 billion.

August 27:

RKO Radio Network makes plans to share time on AP's proposed satellite distribution system.

September 3:

William J. Small moves from CBS Inc. Washington vice president position to presidency of NBC News.

Entertainment and Sports Programming Network goes on 625 cable systems.

September 10:

FCC adopts rulemaking and notice of inquiry into substantial radio deregulation by instituting marketplace forces for government guidelines.

September 17:

American Express acquires 50% interest in Warner Cable Communications.

October 1:

FCC changes rules on subscription television to allow more than one per market among other rules.

ABC wins rights to 1984 summer Olympics for \$225 million.

October 8:

R. Peter Straus resigns as head of Voice of America. Federal judge in Los Angeles rules home taping of television programs is legal.

October 15:

FCC deregulates earth stations by approving voluntary licensing of receive-only dishes.

First tidbits from FCC's network inquiry say networks are so firmly entrenched breakup is impossible and it encourages development of new programming sources.

October 29:

Federal Trade Commission orders American Medical Association to allow physicians to advertise.

Carter-Mondale Committee complains to FCC that three networks refused to sell it half hour broadcast time.

November 5:

FCC releases staff report on children's television inquiry saying TV is not in compliance.

Major reorganization at Storer Broadcasting finds Peter Storer becoming chief executive officer and Terry H. Lee becoming president and chief operating officer.

Controversial radio priest of the 1930s, Rev. Charles E. Coughlin, dies in suburban Detroit home at age 88.

Presidential commission on news coverage of Three Mile Island accident finds media did best it could, but were ill-equipped to handle technical complexities.

November 12:

FCC approves Viacom-Sonderling merger.

November 19:

Decision that rules family-viewing concept unconstitutional is thrown out by circuit appeals court in San Francisco.

Maurice R. Valente of ITT, named president, chief operating officer and director of RCA.

Television Bureau of Advertising celebrates 25th year anniversary.

November 26:

FCC orders three networks to make time available to Carter-Mondale campaign committee in accordance with reasonable access provisions of Communications Act.

FCC orders WNET(TV) Newark, NJ, to establish full presence in New Jersey.

New York Court of Appeals issues decision that narrows limits on excluding press and public from pretrial hearings.

Senate Commerce Committee approves legislation that would curtail authority of FTC.

Martin Rubenstein named network president at Mutual Broadcasting.

December 3:

House approves legislation that would restrict FTC.

December 10:

RCA unveils its SelectaVision videodisk player.

World Administrative Radio Conference ends in Geneva with prognosis that six-week event was qualified success.

December 17:

FCC staff recommends reduced AM channel spacing from 10 khz to 9.

RCA's Satcom III satellite is lost in space.

December 24:

FCC initiates ruling that would establish reimbursements for public participants in commission proceedings.

Commission also issues formal rulemaking on children's television, and recommends state department take 9 khz channel spacing stance to Region 2 Administrative Radio Conference in Buenos Aires in March.

1980**January 7:**

Warner Communications Inc. and American Express Co. close deal forming joint cable venture, Warner Amex Communications; latter paid \$175 million for 50% interest in Warner Cable subsidiary of WCI.

January 14:

CBS and RCA reach agreement whereby CBS becomes licensed to manufacture and distribute videodisks using RCA SelectaVision system.

January 21:

Revolutionary governments in Iran and Afghanistan expel all U.S. journalists.

Station trading broke billion-dollar mark in 1979 (\$1,116,658,000), a record high, after burner boost by \$370 million Gannett Co.-Combined Communications Corp. merger.

January 28:

FCC lifts three RKO television licenses due to misconduct of parent, General Tire & Rubber Co., by vote of 4-to-3.

Sony announces marketing of world's first charged-coupled device color video camera, replacing conventional vacuum tube.

1980 Summer Olympic games, for which NBC holds rights, go down tube after U.S. boycotts over Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

February 4:

\$1.35 billion RCA-CIT merger is consummated.

February 11:

Walter Cronkite announces intention to step down as anchor of "CBS Evening News" in 1981.

Senate pulls plug on FTC's children's advertising proceeding.

February 18:

Dan Rather is named as successor to Walter Cronkite upon latter's retirement as anchor of CBS Evening news in 1981.

February 25:

ABC announces that late night newscast (later to be named Nightline, hosted by Ted Koppel), starting at 11:30 pm, will become permanent fixture in network schedule.

March 17:

FCC approves \$65 million acquisition of KOVR(TV) Stockton, CA, from McClatchy Newspapers to Outlet Co., record price for single TV station.

ABC commences broadcasting of closed captioning material as part of joint project with NBC and PBS.

March 24:

Region 2 countries vote against adoption of 9 khz AM spacing proposed by U.S. at first session of Region 2 spectrum planning conference in Buenos Aires.

New York Times announces agreement that led to purchase of cable systems serving 55 franchised areas in southern New Jersey owned principally by Irving Kahn for approximately \$100 million.

April 7:

FCC sets ceiling for distress sale stations at 75% of fair market value.

FCC approves sale by Newhouse Broadcasting Co. to Times Mirror Co. of five Newhouse television properties for \$82 million.

April 14:

FCC selects, by vote of 4-to-2, Magnavox system to be standard for AM stereo.

UA-Columbia Cablevision and Madison Square Garden Corp. enter into joint venture to form The USA Network.

April 21:

Court of Appeals in Richmond, VA, affirms FCC order freeing cable television systems from obligation to black out "significantly viewed" distant signals that duplicate local ones.

April 28:

Getty Oil, along with Columbia Pictures, MCA, Inc., Paramount Pictures Corp., and 20th Century Fox jolt pay-cable world with announcement of satellite program venture, to be named, Premiere.

May 5:

CBS settles with Justice Department's antitrust division, agreeing to limits on program production.

Philadelphia appeals court rules that state shield law protected broadcast station (WTAE-TV Pittsburgh) against plaintiff's demand that it surrender outtakes.

May 26:

Thomas Wyman, vice chairman of Pillsbury Co., is tapped to replace John D. Backe as president and chief executive of CBS Inc.

June 2:

FCC breaks up clear channel stations. \$560 million Cox-GE merger collapses as Cox bows out at last minute after FCC approves deal.

Ted Turner's Cable News Network commences operations.

June 9:

Orion Broadcasting Inc. and Cosmos Broadcasting initiate deal that leads to eventual \$110 million merger.

U.S. Court of Appeals denies reasonable access complaint lodged against networks by Senator Edward Kennedy concerning network's refusal to grant him air time to respond to President Carter.

Burt Harris named chairman of Premiere.

Comsat sets up DBS subsidiary, Satellite Television Corp.

CBS and MGM announce creation of joint venture to market videodisks and videocassettes.

Arthur C. Nielsen, 83, founder of A.C. Nielsen Co., pioneer marketing and audience research firm, dies.

June 16:

WPXI(TV) New York launches Independent Network News.

June 30:

FCC announces decision to re-evaluate April order setting Magnavox system as standard for AM stereo.

July 7:

Supreme Court, in case brought by "Richmond News Leader" and "Times Dispatch," holds that press and public alike have First Amendment right to attend criminal trials. Only one justice dissented.

Having failed to win top job at CBS News evening anchor spot being vacated by Walter Cronkite, veteran newscaster Roger Mudd jumps to NBC News.

July 14:

NBC President Fred Silverman fires NBC chairman Jane Cahill Pfeiffer after public display of corporate in-fighting.

July 21:

Subscription Television Association makes its debut at Washington press conference.

July 28:

FCC repeals cable distant signal importation and syndicated exclusivity rules, causing immediate outcry from broadcasters.

Capital Cities Communications plunges into cable, buying RKO General's Cablecom General for \$139 million.

Members of Screen Actors Guild and American Federation of Television and Radio Artists go on strike, shutting down most television production.

August 4:

After having second thoughts on its April decision to make Magnavox AM stereo system industry standard, FCC issues further notice to re-examine five proposed systems.

CBS breaks ranks with industry group seeking consensus on teletext standard and asks FCC to adopt French Antiope system as industry standard.

August 11:

Department of Justice files civil antitrust suit in New York against Premiere, incipient pay cable programmer.

August 25:

After eight years of litigation, Department of Justice drops antitrust suit against ABC, as network agrees to consent decree limiting amount of prime time programming it can produce over next 10 years.

September 1:

Problems with equal time provisions of Communications Act cause problems in set up of debate between Presidential candidates.

Controversial magazine, *The Dial*, published by public television stations makes it debut.

September 15:

FCC proposes creation of new medium: loosely regulated low-power television. At same time, it sanctions four new VHF allocations in Salt Lake City; Knoxville, TN; Charleston, WVA; and Johnstown, PA.

September 22:

Believing strongly that more is better, FCC proposes creating as many as 139 more short-spaced VHF channels.

FCC releases further notice on AM stereo, showing Motorola system in lead.

September 29:

PBS President Lawrence Grossman proposes a new partnership between public stations and private investments from nonprofit cultural sources to increase dramatic programming.

October 6:

FCC releases notice of inquiry into direct broadcast satellite proposals and sets RKO's stations for renewal hearings.

Joint venture between media entrepreneur Karl Eller and Charter Oil dissolves.

CBS in Los Angeles unveils new electronic cinematography system, seen as solving many tape-editing problems.

October 13:

CBS suggests U.S. develop high-resolution television system compatible with present technology.

Actors strike is settled; network starts are staggered for fall.

Broadcasting begins 50th year, taking chronological look at industry since magazine's 1931 inception.

October 20:

Westinghouse and Teleprompter propose \$646 million merger.

U.S. Supreme Court allows networks to air Abscam tapes.

President Carter signs bill against newsroom searches.

October 27:

Television is medium in middle as Presidential campaign winds down with broadcast debate in Cleveland.

Cable News Network adds independent candidate John Anderson to its debate-night coverage.

FCC releases network inquiry report that argues open marketplace is best regulator.

November 3:

Warner Amex garners one of year's biggest cable television franchises, 400,000 homes in Dallas.

ABC agrees to run unedited response to earlier "20/20" report on Kaiser Aluminum.

FCC lifts barrier on AT&T from providing data communications.

First locally produced all news television station goes on air in Oklahoma City.

Ampex founder Alexander Poniatoff dies in Stanford, CA, at 88.

November 10:

Sweeping election of Ronald Reagan signals changes in Washington's communications governing structure.

Lionel Van Deerlin is one of election's casualties as Representative Timothy Wirth (D-Colo.) and Senator Robert Packwood (R-Ore.) stand to hold key Hill positions in telecommunications world.

November 17:

CBS goes live with its Los Angeles teletext experiment.

NAB announces insurance plan to help members deal with libel cases.

November 24:

U.S. Court of Appeals stays FCC order lifting distant signal and syndicated exclusivity rules.

Robert A. Daly, CBS Entertainment president, resigns to head Warner Brothers.

Antitrust suit against Premiere pay cable network begins in New York.

December 1:

"Who Shot J.R." episode of "Dallas" becomes highest rating for any program in modern TV history with 53.3 rating and 76 share.

December 8:

ABC announces association with Warner Amex Satellite Entertainment Corp. for new cable network, Alpha, set to begin operation April 1981.

FCC authorizes construction and launch of additional 20 domestic satellites.

December 15:

Former CBS President Arthur Taylor forms high quality, pay cable venture with Rockefeller Center that signs contract for BBC programming.

December 22:

Comsat unveils its \$700 million direct-to-home broadcast satellite television system.

Gannett announces plans for national daily newspaper and cable programming.

1981

January 5:

New York District Court grants Justice Department's request for preliminary injunction barring launch of Premiere's satellite-distributed premium movie channel to cable systems.

Court of Appeals rules that scrambled pay television signals are protected by Section 605 of Communications Act.

Robert E. Kintner, 71, former president of both ABC and NBC, dies.

Marshall McLuhan, writer, educator and communications theorist, dies at 69.

January 12:

FCC Commissioner Tyrone Brown resigns, effective Jan. 31.

Department of Justice opposes CBS's request for waiver of FCC rule barring networks from ownership of cable systems.

Senator Howard Baker (R-Tenn.) launches his term as majority leader by introducing S. Res. 20, a resolution to open Senate proceedings to broadcast coverage.

January 19:

FCC votes 6-to-1 (Tyrone Brown dissenting) to deregulate radio.

According to Television Bureau of Advertising, TV viewing in 1980 reached all-time high of six hours 36 minutes per TV households per day.

Supreme Court upholds lower court ruling that government consultants aren't "public figures" or "public officials" in working of libel laws.

January 26:

Busy day for broadcast newsmen as American hostages in Iran gain freedom within same hour Ronald Reagan is sworn in as 40th President.

Reagan administration transition team proposes that Corporation for Public Broadcasting be abolished.

February 2:

U.S. Supreme Court, in 8-to-0 decision, rules that Constitution doesn't bar states from permitting radio and television coverage of criminal trials, even over objection of defendants.

U.S. Supreme Court refuses to review appeals court decision holding that journalists have qualified privilege not to disclose unpublished material, including television out-takes, in their possession in criminal cases.

Thornton F. Bradshaw, president of Atlantic Richfield Co., is designated successor to Edgar H. Griffiths as chairman and chief executive of RCA effective July 1.

February 9:

Coalition for Better TV is set up to rid television of programs it considers offensive by threatening boycotts aimed at sponsors of offending programs.

Public Broadcasting Service announces plan to launch PBS/Cable, a new pay television network supported by pay television revenues and institutional advertising.

CBS announces Dan Rather will succeed Walter Cronkite as anchorman and managing editor of CBS Evening News on March 9.

Reagan administration transition team recommends that President narrow FTC's authority and slash its budget.

ABC and Hearst Corp. announce formation of joint venture to produce programming for specialized cable network services.

February 16:

After more than five years of study, Federal Trade Commission votes unanimously to kill proposal to regulate advertising of non-prescription drugs.

February 23:

Federal jury in Houston finds city, its mayor and Gulf Coast Cable Television participated in conspiracy to limit competition in awards of five cable franchises in 1978. Jury awards Affiliated Capital Corp. \$6.3 million in damages.

Time Inc. details plans for major test of satellite-distributed news and informational teletext service designed for consumer use.

Republican David Clanton is named Federal Trade Commission acting chairman, replacing Democrat Michael Pertschuk.

U.S. Supreme Court refuses to review lower court decision dismissing CBS's 11-year old suit for "per use" music licenses.

Newhouse Broadcasting purchases control of Vision Cable Communications Inc. for \$180 million, making it eighth largest cable MSO.

March 16:

Number of television and radio stations authorized by FCC breaks 10,000 mark as of Jan. 31, 1981.

ABC announces it will break with other networks and accept issue advertising in its late-night entertainment programming as experiment.

Clarence James, chairman of Copyright Royalty Tribunal, testifies before House subcommittee that CRT should be abolished or radically restructured.

March 30:

U.S. Supreme Court affirmed FCC's authority to leave radio entertainment to discretion of licensee and marketplace.

FCC adopts rule to shorten license renewal application for most radio and television stations to size of postcard.

Democratic commissioner of Federal Trade Commission, Robert Pitofsky, announces he will resign April 30, giving President Reagan first opportunity to nominate Republican replacement.

Burkhart/Abrams/Michaels/Douglas and Associates announces formation of Satellite Music Network, live, 24-hour, daily radio service to be delivered in contemporary country and pop adult.

April 6:

With five ENG cameras rolling, shooting of President Reagan becomes history's most heavily covered assassination attempt.

After amassing voluminous record in controversial rulemaking to ban or restrict children's advertising on television, Federal Trade Commission staff recommends dropping proceeding.

FCC's order deregulating radio goes into effect despite efforts by United Church of Christ to stay order.

Gulf United Corp. and San Juan Racing Association apply to FCC for approval of planned \$33.5 million acquisition by Gulf of most of San Juan broadcast properties.

Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corp. files \$40 million slander suit against ABC in its year-long dispute over report on ABC News's 20/20 series.

April 20:

Justice Department begins civil antitrust investigation of music licensing.

Washington Appeals Court rules that reporter's First Amendment privilege to maintain secrecy of sources in civil litigation should take precedence over private interests of complainants in compelling disclosure in all but most exceptional cases.

U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington holds that commercial television stations have no direct obligation under Rehabilitation Act of 1973 to make special effort to meet needs of hearing impaired. Nonetheless, it said public television stations do because they receive federal assistance.

Writers Guild of America membership votes to strike against television and film production companies and television networks.

April 27:

FCC rules unanimously to let public broadcasters broadcast logos and identify product lines of program underwriters.

FCC accepts Comsat DBS application.

May 4:

U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington affirms FCC policy of barring proposed "distress" sale to minority-controlled applicant after initial decision denying renewal had been issued by administrative law judge. Court agrees with FCC that permitting sales after initial

decision has been issued would adversely affect integrity of commission's processes.

May 11:

Working group on digital television standards of Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers votes to adopt digital sampling frequency of 13.5 mhz, step crucial to establishment of world digital standard.

Clarence James, chairman of Copyright Royalty Tribunal, finds his views increasingly at odds with direction of CRT and resigns.

RCA announces it is entering pay cable business by forming partnership with Rockefeller Center Television to provide cultural programming to cable systems.

U.S. Court of Appeals in San Francisco holds that companies distributing pay programming in scrambled form should be protected against interception of that material by unauthorized decoders.

FCC adopts—as permanent standard—rule exempting TV stations in communities with population of 10,000 or less and not located within larger market area from formal ascertainment filing requirements.

May 18:

Mark S. Fowler is confirmed by Senate to be chairman of FCC.

May 25:

AT&T and proponents of French Antiope and Canadian Telidon videotext/teletext come to agreement on common videotext/teletext standard.

June 8:

Getty Oil, Paramount, Columbia, MCA and Fox decide to dissolve Premiere, a proposed pay cable joint venture, after Justice Department attacked venture on antitrust grounds.

Spanish National Television Network launches "Noticiero Nacional SIN," nation's first network newscast in Spanish.

June 15:

Oil industry millionaire Marvin Davis buys 20th Century-Fox for estimated \$720 million.

Bernard Wunder is confirmed by Senate as assistant secretary of commerce for communications and information, in charge of National Telecommunications and Information Administration.

FCC approves \$139 million RKO Cablecome General/Capcities merger.

June 22:

U.S. Court of Appeals in New York affirms FCC order last year repealing distant signal and syndicated exclusivity rules.

July 6:

Fred Silverman resigns as president and chief executive of NBC, and Grant Tinker of MTM Enterprises is named to succeed him.

U.S. Supreme Court rules that presidential and congressional candidates have affirmative right of access to nation's broadcast stations.

Donald Wildmon, chairman of Coalition for Better Television, calls off planned boycott against sponsors of programs group considered offensive, claiming at least temporary victory in group's war on sex, violence and profanity on television.

Mimi Weyforth Dawson is sworn in as member of FCC.

July 13:

Columbia Pictures Industries and Outlet Co. agree in principle on terms for merger of two companies for estimated \$165 million.

July 20:

Writers Guild of America and producers settle 13-week strike.

July 28:

Metromedia Inc. agrees to pay Boston Broadcasters Inc. \$220 million for ch. 5 WCVB-TV Boston—the highest price ever paid for single station broadcast property.

August 3:

Congress passes legislation that extends radio license terms to seven years and TV licenses to five years, allows FCC to use lottery when awarding initial licenses, and authorizes Corporation for Public Broadcasting to receive \$130 million for each of fiscal years 1984, 1985 and 1986.

NBC Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Grant Tinker appoints Robert Mulholland NBC president and chief operating officer and names Ray Timothy president of NBC Television Network. Senate confirms appointment of Henry M. Rivera and reappointment of James H. Quello to FCC.

Kaiser Aluminum, given chance to air grievances against ABC on network's Viewpoint premiere, drops

its FCC complaint and says it won't pursue defamation suit.

August 10:

FCC by 4-to-2 vote decides to dump proposal to switch to 9 khz and retains 10 khz on AM channel spacing.

FCC issues waiver permitting CBS to own cable systems serving no more than 90,000 subscribers or one-half of 1% of nation's cable subscribers, whichever number is smaller.

August 17:

Westinghouse Broadcasting and ABC combine forces to establish Satellite NewsChannels, a joint venture designed to produce two 24-hour channels of advertiser-supported cable news that will be beamed free to cable operators.

NBC formally asks FCC to repeal prime time access rule, noting rule is barrier to 60-minute evening news.

August 24:

Westinghouse Broadcasting Co.'s \$646-million acquisition of Teleprompter Corp., the largest merger in history of cable TV, is completed shortly after U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington refuses to stay closing.

August 31:

NBC Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Grant Tinker names Irwin Segelstein NBC vice chairman.

Time Inc. agrees to purchase UA-Columbia Cablevision's half interest in USA Network for \$15 million and operate advertiser-supported cable network in joint venture with Paramount Pictures Corp.

Ted Turner announces Cable News Network will launch second cable news service, CNN 2, to compete with Group W/ABC Satellite News Channels.

September 7:

Gannett Broadcasting Group announces it will launch new broadcast news service—America Today—to provide short news and weather features to Public Broadcasting Service stations in October.

Lowell Jackson Thomas, dean of newscasters, renowned author and world traveler, dies at 89.

September 14:

Two months after its pending agreement to buy WCVB-TV Boston, Metromedia agrees to sell KMBC-TV Kansas City, MO, to Hearst Corp. for \$79 million. If approved by FCC, it will be second highest price ever paid for television outlet.

U.S. District Court judge rules that allowing AT&T to enter growing data processing field wouldn't violate consent decree AT&T signed with Justice Department 25 years ago.

Hearst Broadcasting Corp. closed its deal to purchase WDTN(TV) Dayton, OH, from Grinnell Communications Corp.—same week it contracted to buy KMBC-TV Kansas City, MO, from Metromedia for \$79 million.

September 21:

FCC calls on Congress to make sweeping revisions in Communications Act by repealing Section 315, repealing "reasonable access" provision, Section 312(a)(7); eliminating comparative renewal process and Section 307(b), which requires "equitable" distribution of radio service throughout nation; codifying its January radio deregulation, and redefining act to reflect reliance on marketplace forces in determining availability of telecommunications services to public.

NBC announces move to hour-long news. Affiliates get choice of two feeds and have option to take full hour or only first half.

Study reveals public television and radio stations could generate up to \$164 million if "clustered" advertising is used.

September 28:

ABC teams up with ESPN to offer pay sports programming, and CBS and AT&T consider joint test of videotext.

David Brinkley, 38-year veteran of NBC News, joins rival ABC News where he will anchor upcoming This Week on Sundays, and have major role in political coverage and handle special projects.

October 5:

FTC follows recommendation of staff in calling off controversial four-year-old rulemaking on children's advertising.

Senator Ernest F. Hollings (D-SC) begins filibuster to block consideration of S. 898, a bill to allow AT&T to compete in unregulated telecommunications markets.

Republicans launch multimillion-dollar ad campaign to gain control of Congress in 1982.

October 12:

Broadcasting magazine observes its 50th anniversary.

CBS Cable begins its cultural program service.

October 26:

Acquisition of Orion Broadcasting Inc. by Cosmos Broadcasting Corp. is completed for \$108.5 million after Cosmos spins off three TVs and one AM to comply with FCC multiple ownership rules.

November 2:

Private, nonprofit corporation is formed to operate Radio Marti, a U.S. government's planned AM service to broadcast news to Cuba.

ABC News begins broadcasting from new Washington bureau. Ten-story building is said to be largest structure ever constructed as broadcast news facility.

November 9:

Group W and Walt Disney Productions form joint venture to produce and distribute family-oriented programming for pay cable channel.

Donald H. McGannon, 61, chairman of Westinghouse Broadcasting Co., announces he will retire on Dec. 1.

November 16:

Countries of Western Hemisphere vote to retain 10 khz channel spacing for AM band at Region 2 Conference on AM Broadcasting in Rio de Janeiro.

Van Gordon Sauter, president of CBS Sports, is picked to succeed Bill Leonard as head of CBS News following Leonard's retirement in 1982.

Financial News Network will inaugurate Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. ET, business programming on Nov. 30 via Westar III.

December 14:

Tele-Communications Inc. and Knight-Ridder Newspapers plan to enter joint venture-TKR Cable—for the purpose of acquiring, developing and operating cable systems.

December 21:

Gannett Co. announces plans to publish national, general-interest daily newspaper, USA Today, in fall of 1982.

1982

January 4:

Major cable network programmers make switch from RCA Americom's aging Satcom I to Satcom III-R.

Turner Broadcasting Service launches CNN2, news headline service.

ABC Radio debuts Rock Radio and Direction networks.

January 11:

Having reached settlement with Justice Department to divest itself of its 23 local telephone companies, communications giant AT&T hopes to lead country into "information age."

Arbitron puts cable penetration at 25% or 20.3 million of nation's 81.5 million TV homes. Nielsen says it's 28.3%, or 23.2 million homes.

Veteran broadcaster Elmo Ellis of Cox Broadcasting retires after 40 years.

January 18:

Supreme Court rules in Parker vs. Brown that municipalities are vulnerable to antitrust suits filed by losing cable franchise applicants or other private companies denied opportunity to operate in municipality.

January 25:

Watermark Inc., Los Angeles-based radio program producer-syndicator, is bought by ABC Radio Enterprises for estimated \$5 million.

Nashville-based NLT Corp. announces plans for Nashville Network, advertiser-supported cable programming network focusing on country music. It's scheduled for launch in first quarter of 1983.

The Lawrence Welk Show ends original production after 27 years, first on ABC-TV, then in syndication.

February 1:

First national cable TV rights to NCAA football are awarded to Turner Broadcasting System's WTBS(TV) Atlanta for approximately \$17.6 million for 1982 and 1983 seasons.

February 15:

Radio Network Association is formed to promote advertising on network radio.

February 22:

CBS Inc. and 20th Century-Fox announce joint venture in cable television and in creation, marketing and distribution of programming for home video market.

March 1:

Murray "the K" Kaufman, New York air personality, dies. He is credited with helping promote careers of The Beatles, Rolling Stones and other rock 'n' roll groups, and with introduction of FM rock while program director at WOR-FM New York in mid-1960s.

March 8:

FCC approves creation of low-power television service. Commission has some 6,500 applications pending for approximately 4,000 stations new rules would allow.

March 15:

National Association of Broadcasters suspends enforcement of its TV and radio codes following U.S. District Court ruling that part of TV code is illegal.

Representatives of four major public radio stations and Minnesota Public Radio form American Public Radio, in part as response to perceived shift at National Public Radio away from arts and performance programming to news and public affairs.

March 29:

Goodman Ace, 83, radio and TV writer and humorist, dies.

April 26:

Supreme Court turns down RKO General Inc.'s appeal of lower court decision upholding FCC's denial of renewal of RKO's license for WNAC-TV Boston 13 years earlier.

RadioRadio, CBS's youth-oriented network, to debut.

May 3:

ABC proposes Home View Network, in which scrambled TV signal would be transmitted in early morning to viewers' homes equipped with videotape recorder, and would automatically record programming for later viewing.

June 28:

FCC authorizes interim direct broadcast satellite service as experiment. Nine applicants await licenses.

Arbitron puts cable penetration at 25.8% or 21 million TV homes. Nielsen says it's 33.4% or 27.3 million homes.

Satellite News Channel 1, 24-hour cable news service form Group W and ABC, launches to more than 2.6 million homes.

July 5:

Supreme Court lets stand California ruling in NBC Born Innocent case that network and its San Francisco affiliate were not liable for damages from crime said to be inspired by TV drama.

NBC News and ABC News introduce early morning news telecasts; NBC also begins late-night newscast.

July 26:

Ziff Corp. agrees to sell its four TV stations to company's president, I. Martin Pompadur.

Dave Garroway, 69, first host of NBC-TV's Today, dies.

August 2:

KDKA Pittsburgh and KTSA San Antonio become country's first stations to broadcast in AM stereo.

Taft Broadcasting pays highest price for independent TV station when it buys WCIX-TV Miami from General Cinema Corp. in exchange for WGR-TV Buffalo plus \$70 million. Total value of deal is estimated at \$110 million.

Dr. Vladimir Zworykin, often called "father of television," dies at 92.

August 9:

NAB joint board of directors elects Edward O. Fritts-joint board chairman-to be association's president, succeeding Vincent Wasilewski, who resigned.

August 23:

Sol Taishoff, editor and co-founder of *Broadcasting*, dies at 77.

Federal district judge rules that blanket music licenses offered to TV stations by ASCAP and BMI are anticompetitive and illegal.

September 13:

William S. Paley announces he will resign the chairmanship of CBS next April after 54 years. He will be succeeded by Thomas Wyman, company's president.

September 20:

CBS kills its fledgling cable service, CBS Cable, because of lower-than-anticipated advertising revenues.

Retired U.S. Army General William Westmoreland files \$120 million suit against CBS, alleging that documentary, *The Uncounted Enemy: A Vietnam Deception*, had libeled him.

October 4:

Gannett Co. agrees to swap its KOCO-TV Oklahoma City and pay \$100 million for Chronicle Broadcasting's KRON-TV San Francisco.

October 11:

Metromedia Inc. announces plans to launch live, 60-minute weekday news service for Independents early next year. Prime Time news will be offered on barter basis.

November 1:

Signal Companies announces sale of its 49.9% interest in Golden West Broadcasters to owner of other 50.1%, Gene Autry. At same time, Golden West's independent KTLA-TV Los Angeles will be spun off to Golden West Television (Kohlberg, Kravis, Roberts & Co.) for \$225 million cash to Signal and \$20 million to Autry.

December 6:

CBS, Time Inc. and Coca-Cola announce they will establish joint venture to produce motion pictures with eye toward pay-per-view distribution.

December 20:

Arbitron puts cable penetration at 30% or 24.7 million TV homes. Nielsen says it's 35%, or 29.3 million homes.

1983

January 10:

Pay cable rivals Showtime and The Movie Channel announce plans to merge to provide stronger competition to pay leader Home Box Office.

Broadcasting reports 1982 broadcast station sales amounted to \$990,398,244 for 597 radio and 30 TV stations changing hands.

January 24:

ABC becomes first network to top \$2 billion in billings.

February 14:

FCC announces it is opening 13 RKO station licenses to competing applications.

CBS reports 31% drop in profits in 1982, to \$112.5 million, despite 4.2% rise in total revenue to \$4.1 billion.

February 28:

Pay cable service The Entertainment Channel announces it will pull the plug on March 31.

March 7:

Final episode of CBS's M*A*S*H breaks all viewership records on Feb. 28 with 60.3 rating/77 share. Network estimated more than 125 million people tuned into some part of the two-and-a-half hour show.

March 14:

Rev. Everett C. Parker, director of Office of Communication of United Church of Christ, announces he will step down on Aug. 31. Parker, described as founder of the citizen movement in broadcasting, spent over two decades filing petitions to deny license renewals and complaints about alleged lack of service to and employment of minorities and women by broadcasters.

The Nashville Network, basic cable service, debuts with five-hour extravaganza from Nashville and five other cities.

March 28:

Sony Corp. supplies radio stations in about 20 major markets with its new Compact Disc Digital Audio System. Stations get disc player and 16 titles from CBS/Sony library of pop-rock, classical and jazz. In return, stations will promote Sony each time CD selection is played and produce two-hour feature on digital sound that will prominently feature Sony. System retails for \$900.

Gaylord Broadcasting reaches agreement to sell WVUE-TV New Orleans to Belo Broadcasting for price estimated at \$45 million-\$50 million.

April 4:

FCC approves use of lottery in choosing among 12,000 applicants for low-power TV stations. It also authorizes TV stations to provide teletext services, but refused to set technical standard.

April 11:

FCC votes to allow FM broadcasters to use their subcarrier channels for all kinds of communications services for profit, as well as allowing TV broadcasters to lease unused time on their studio-to-transmitter links.

April 18:

Disney Channel pay cable service debuts.

May 2:

FCC authorizes 19 new satellite orbital slots in C and Ku bands and will reduce spacing between birds to two degrees.

General Electric agrees to sell WRGB-TV Schenectady, NY to Universal Corp. for approximately \$35 million. Station claims to hold first official TV broadcast license, issued on Nov. 6, 1939.

May 9:

Rockefeller Center Inc. agrees to buy Outlet Corp. (5 TV's, 4 FM's, 1 AM) for \$332.1 million.

May 30:

FCC opens up FM spectrum, creating three new classes of stations and reduces mileage separation requirements. Action could lead to about 1,000 additional stations. Commission also approves creation of multichannel, multipoint distribution service, using spectrum reallocated from the instructional television fixed service.

June 27:

Metromedia signs deal with Time Inc. to air movies produced by Time's Home Box Office over next two years and Metromedia to have right to distribute them in worldwide syndication.

Former Comsat executive Richard Colino is chosen to be director general of the International Telecommunications Satellite Organization.

A.H. Belo Corp. agrees to buy six Corinthian Broadcasting TV stations from Dun & Bradstreet for \$606 million.

July 4:

FCC votes to begin rulemaking to deregulate television.

Hughes Communications launches Galaxy I satellite that will beam six cable programmers.

July 11:

Tele-Communications Inc. will buy cable systems of Tele-Media Corp., representing 250,000-300,000 basic subscribers, for \$145 million-\$193 million.

August 1:

FCC proposes to allow TV audio to be broadcast in stereo.

August 8:

FCC, in "tentative" decision, wants to remove all financial interest restraints on networks, allow domestic syndication of material not shown on network and overseas syndication of any programming.

August 15:

Federal jury in Kansas City, Mo., awarded anchorwoman Christine Craft \$500,000 after she sued her employer, Metromedia, for sex discrimination.

ABC's London correspondent Peter Jennings is tapped to anchor network's World News Tonight.

August 22:

FBI and IRS agents impound records of William B. Tanner Co., a Memphis-based barter firm, among allegations of kickbacks and diversion of funds.

New trade association, Television Operators Caucus, holds first board meeting. Officers are Outlet Co.'s David Henderson, president and chairman; Group W's William Baker, vice president; and Post-Newsweek's Joel Chaseman, secretary-treasurer.

August 29:

FCC charges Harris Corp. with changing its AM stereo exciter after approval and orders it to withdraw system from market and tell 65 stations using system to stop.

September 19:

Department of Justice says it will not stand in way of proposed \$400 million joint venture between Home Box Office, CBS Inc. and Columbia Pictures Inc.

September 26:

Investment banker Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co. agrees to pay \$842 million for group owner and MSO Wometco Enterprises. Company owns 46 cable systems serving 253,000 basic subscribers, six TV's and one FM.

October 17:

Turner Broadcasting buys cable news rival Satellite News Channel from ABC/Group W for \$25 million; will shut it down by Nov. 1 and switch its 7.7 million homes to CNN or CNN Headline News.

President Reagan nominates Dennis R. Patrick, 32, to Republican FCC seat vacated by former Commissioner Anne Jones.

October 31:

Radio and TV networks scramble to cover bombing of Marine compound in Beirut and U.S. Marines invasion of Grenada.

Former Agency for International Development administrator Douglas Bennet is elected president-CEO of National Public Radio.

November 7:

President Reagan informs Congress he supports two-year moratorium on any changes in FCC's financial interest and syndication rules to permit "further study."
MCA-TV gets record price of \$120,000 per episode for syndication rights to Magnum, P.I. from KTLA-TV Los Angeles.

Kansas City, MO, judge finds KMBC-TV not guilty of sex discrimination in Christine Craft case, throws out \$500,000 award to anchorwomen and orders new trial.

November 14:

United Satellite Communications launches three-channel DBS service to central Indiana for \$300 installation fee and \$29.92 per month.

December 5:

FCC scrapes its regulation of call letters. Any disputes between broadcasters will have to be settled in court.

December 12:

Metromedia President John Kluge and other executives make bid to take company private for \$40 per share or about \$1.5 billion.

December 19:

Two new cable services, Lifetime and Arts & Entertainment Network, make their debuts at Western Cable Show in Anaheim, CA.

WTTV(TV) Chicago claims to be first TV station to broadcast its entire schedule in stereo audio.

1984**January 2:**

FCC reaffirms commercial TV broadcasters' responsibility to serve needs of children, but licensees will have broad discretion to determine how to best do that and FCC won't attempt to mandate presentation of specific amounts of children's programming. Action supersedes its 1974 policy statement and was in response to petition from Action for Children's Television.

January 9:

CBS and Comsat make joint filing at FCC proposing to offer DBS service of up to 12 channels of "enhanced," and possibly high-definition, TV to subscribers throughout U.S.

January 16:

Christine Craft won second trial of her sexual discrimination charge against KMBC-TV Kansas City and owner Metromedia Inc. Federal jury ruled she had been defrauded and awarded \$325,000 in damages.

January 23:

U.S. Supreme Court rules that home video-taping is legal.

January 30:

New Olympic record is set as ABC-TV wins bidding war for U.S. rights to 1988 winter games in Calgary, Canada, for \$309 million. Bid is more than three times \$91.5 million ABC paid for 1984 winter games.

February 6:

Lifetime, new 24-hour cable service designed to help adults lead "happier, healthier and more fulfilled and informed lives," debuts. Service resulted from merger of Cable Health Network and Daytime.

February 13:

Two satellites—U.S.'s Westar VI and Indonesia's Palapa-B2—were launched from Space Shuttle Challenger, only to fall irretrievably into useless elliptical orbits.

March 26:

National News Council, A New York-based media watchdog group, votes to close its doors after 11 years. Commercials for Wendy's fast food chain sweep country with tag line uttered by actress Clara Peller: "Where's the beef?"

Radio program producer-syndicator Westwood One goes public.

In midst of grand jury investigation into barter company William B. Tanner Co., Media General, which bought Tanner Co. in 1982, files suit for \$230 million against Tanner, charging him with fraud.

April 2:

FCC authorizes stereo audio for TV broadcasts.

April 9:

Tom Wheeler, president of National Cable Television Association since 1979, resigns. He will be succeeded by NCTA's executive VP, James Mooney.

RCA decides to stop manufacturing videodisk players; will write off \$175 million in dropping product that failed to generate sufficient consumer interest.

May 7:

National Association of Broadcasters and Daytime Broadcasters Association announce plans to merge. Once merger is complete, association will establish new standing committee devoted to daytimer issues.

ABC buys remaining 85% of cable sports channel ESPN for \$202 million.

May 21:

Stanley S. Hubbard's Conus Communications invests \$10 million in Ku-band transponder on SBS III for nearly \$10 million; will develop interconnection among local broadcasters to exchange news material.

May 28:

Former Westinghouse president and chairman Donald McGannon dies at 63.

June 4:

Schering-Plough Corp. signs contract to sell its nine remaining radio stations to newly formed, New York-based DKM Broadcasting for estimated \$62 million-\$65 million.

June 25:

Supreme Court affirms FCC's authority to pre-empt city and state regulation of cable TV.

Hubbard Broadcasting's United States Satellite Broadcasting signs contract for more than \$160 million for two high-power direct broadcast satellites from RCA Astro-Electronics.

Outspoken KOA(AM) Denver talk show host Alan Berg is shot to death outside his home.

July 2:

In unanimous vote, FCC follows pattern of earlier radio action and deregulates television. FCC now leaves up to licensees such decisions as how many commercials to air an hour, whether to run program-length commercials and what kind of nonentertainment programming to broadcast. Eliminated were ascertainment and program logging requirements. In related action, FCC extended similar relief to noncommercial radio and TV broadcasters.

CBS decides to drop out of DBS venture with Comsat.

July 9:

Supreme Court strikes down as unconstitutional federal law prohibiting public broadcasters from editorializing.

After 30 years on CBS, Captain Kangaroo (Bob Keeshan) is canceled. He may move to PBS.

July 23:

Once again, Procter & Gamble tops list as television largest advertiser. In 1983 it spends estimated \$595.9 million in medium.

July 30:

FCC votes to expand its ownership limits from seven AM, seven FM and seven TV stations to 12 each, until 1990 when all limits would be abandoned.

August 6:

Senate Appropriations Committee votes to bar FCC's 12-12-12 station ownership rules from taking affect before June 30, 1985.

Arbitron announces it is developing, along with Burke Marketing Services, a new service linking individual TV viewing habits with consumer purchases through use of "people meter."

August 13:

In response to congressional criticism, FCC decides to stay television portion of its 12-12-12 expanded ownership limits at least until April 1, 1985.

September 24:

Harte-Hanks Communications agrees to sell all nine of its radio stations. Two (KKBQ-AM-FM Houston) go to Gannett Co. for about \$36 million; the other seven to Edens Broadcasting Co. for approximately \$40 million.

October 15:

Congress passes Cable Telecommunications Act of 1984 establishing national regulatory policy for CATV. Among areas regulated are setting of rates, packaging of tiers, meeting equal opportunity employment obligations and winning franchise renewals.

After more than two years of preparation by both sides, libel suit brought against CBS Inc. by retired General William Westmoreland went to trial. Westmoreland says CBS Reports documentary shown on Jan. 23, 1982, falsely and intentionally stated that he, as head of American troops in Vietnam 15 years earlier, had purposefully deceived his superiors and President Johnson with estimates of enemy troop strength that he knew to be too low.

November 26:

A.C. Nielsen Co. to issue new quarterly ratings covering home videocassette taping but not viewing.

December 3:

After five-and-a-half years and \$140 million, Comsat decides not to go forward with proposed direct broadcast satellite partnership.

CBS announces it will pay \$57 million for interest in cable services Bravo, American Movie Classics, Rainbow and four regional sports networks.

December 17:

FCC opts for compromise on its proposed 12-12-12 station ownership limits. TV ownership will face double cap—combining numerical limit of 12 with limit on reach to 25% of nation's households. It also deletes the sunset provision that was to have removed all restrictions in 1990.

Only two companies are left offering AM stereo transmission systems—Motorola and Kahn Communications.

December 31:

Daytime Broadcasters Association is merged into National Association of Broadcasters.

1985**January 28:**

Broadcast station trading in 1984 totaled \$2,118,056,053, second only to 1983 in terms of dollar volume.

February 4:

Multimedia Inc. announces plans to go private. Shareholders (there are about 16.7 million shares outstanding) would receive \$37 per share.

William B. Tanner, former head of Memphis-based barter firm, pleads guilty to one count of mail fraud and three counts of filing false individual tax returns.

Board of Gulf Broadcasting approved sale of company's assets to Taft Broadcasting for \$755 million. Included are one AM, five FMs, six TVs.

February 18:

CNN correspondent Jeremy Levin, held hostage in Lebanon by Islamic terrorists for 11 months, escapes.

Ted Turner signs deal with Comsat and British Telecom International for time on trans-Atlantic satellite to supply 24-hour feed of CNN to broadcasters, hotels, American embassies and cable systems throughout most of Europe.

February 25:

Retired General William Westmoreland drops his three-year-old \$120 million libel suit against CBS during fifth month of trial.

Supreme Court lets stand 1984 appeals court decision finding that blanket music licenses for TV stations do not violate antitrust laws or restrain competition.

March 4:

Hot Washington rumor is that Ted Turner is planning hostile takeover of CBS Inc.

United Stations, New York-based radio programmer to buy five-year-old RKO Radio Networks for estimated \$10 million.

March 18:

FCC decides to give operators of AM daytimers preference when awarding new FM assignments resulting from its Docket 80-90 proceeding that will make way for about 1,000 new FMs.

March 25:

ABC is to be bought by Capital Cities Communications Inc. for \$3.5 billion; FCC approval looks likely. Merged company will have to sell number of properties (possibly \$1-billion worth) to comply with various FCC duopoly and crossownership rules.

April 8:

After nearly 17 months of operation, United Satellite Communications Inc.'s five-channel DBS service goes dark.

Justice Department says it has no objection to proposed swap of cable systems in Arizona between Times Mirror Co. and Storer Communications. Deal is valued at \$200 million.

NBC-TV will sever AT&T link used since mid-1940's to distribute network programming to affiliates and switch to satellite distribution over Comsat's SBS II and SBS III. In 1986 it will move to RCA's Satcom K-2.

April 22:

Ted Turner offers noncash, all paper deal he says is worth \$175 per share (for total of \$5.2 billion) for all outstanding CBS Inc. stock. He is seeking to gain 67% of company to establish control.

April 29:

Storer Broadcasting, threatened with proxy battle waged by dissident shareholders who want to liquidate company, instead accepts bid of Kohlberg Kravis

Roberts & Co. for leveraged buyout valued at about \$2 billion.

Coca-Cola launches "most ambitious and comprehensive advertising campaign" in its history to tell consumers it has scrapped its 99-year old formula in favor of "a great new taste."

May 6:

Eleven months after Metromedia completed \$1.45-billion leveraged buyout to take company private, Metromedia chairman and principal owner, John Kluge, is working on deal to sell all company's TV station interests for more than \$1.5 billion to entity composed of 20th Century Film Corp., Denver oilman Marvin Davis and Australian publisher and broadcaster Rupert Murdoch. Deal includes six TV stations, while seventh, WCVB-TV Boston, will be sold to unidentified third party for "substantially in excess" of \$400 million.

In attempt to make Ted Turner's proposed takeover of CBS tougher, CBS agrees to buy five radio stations from Taft Broadcasting for \$100 million.

May 13:

Marianne Mele Hall, chairman of Copyright Royalty Tribunal, resigns amidst congressional furor over her association with book termed racist; first revealed in *Broadcasting's* April 29 issue.

Search for successor to Herman Land as president of Association of Independent Television Stations ends with election of Preston Padden by INTV board. Padden is assistant general counsel at Metromedia's Washington office.

May 20:

Tribune Co. sets record for price of single station with purchase of KTLA(TV) Los Angeles for \$510 million. Station last sold in October 1982 for \$245 million.

May 27:

Voice of America's Radio Marti, AM service aimed at Cuba, goes on air, four years after first proposed. Castro government retaliates with jamming and suspension of immigration agreement.

June 24:

New basic cable service, The Discovery Channel, is launched to about 100 affiliates serving between 2 million and 2.5 million homes. It will program nonfiction material on physical and social sciences.

Coca-Cola enters entertainment business with purchase of television programming operations and library of Embassy and Tandem Productions, both owned by Norman Lear and Jerry Perenchio.

July 8:

CBS counters Ted Turner's takeover attempt with offer to buy back 21% of its shares at \$150 per share for total of \$1 billion.

July 15:

Group of prominent Washington wives forms Parents' Music Resource Center to make parents more aware of what it considers sexual and violent content of record lyrics.

July 22:

Federal appeals court rules FCC's cable must-carry rules to be constitutional.

Comcast Corp. makes \$2.3-billion bid for Storer Communications. Three-month-old leveraged buyout proposed by Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co. could be in trouble, or may have to be sweetened.

July 29:

As of July 24, 100 TV stations in 64 markets are broadcasting stereo audio.

August 12:

Ted Turner gives up bid to take over CBS, instead announcing deal to acquire MGM/UA Entertainment Co. for \$29 per share or approximately \$1.5 billion. Turner would spin off United Artists, keeping MGM's film library of 2,200 titles and considerable number of TV shows in addition to studios, sound stages and film processing laboratory.

August 26:

Capital Cities Communications signs definitive agreement to sell 53 cable systems serving 350,000 homes to Washington Post Co. for \$300 million.

September 2:

After month of maneuvering begun by Norman Lear's and Jerry Perenchio's bid for hostile takeover, Gannett Co. emerged as friendly and victorious buyer of Evening News Association with bid of \$717 million. It gets five TV stations, two radio stations and nine newspapers.

Westinghouse says its exploring sale of its 140 cable systems serving 2.1 million subscribers. Analysts say sale could be worth \$2.4 billion-\$2.8 billion.

Viacom signs \$500 million-deal with Warner Communications to purchase other half of Showtime/The Movie Channel; will most likely make it sole owner of MTV Networks Inc.

September 23:

Westwood One agrees to buy Mutual Broadcasting System from Amway Corp. for price believed to be in \$30-million range.

October 7:

RCA Corp., after 66 years of manufacturing radio and television equipment, announces it will shut down its Broadcast Systems Division due to shrinking market share and operational losses.

October 14:

Lorimar Inc. and Telepictures Corp., two major suppliers of television programming, reach agreement in principle to merge in stock swap valued at about \$300 million.

Orson Welles, actor, producer, writer and director, dies at age 70.

October 21:

In effort to fend off future takeover attempts, CBS Inc. asks Loews Corp. Chairman Lawrence Tisch to join board. Loews may also increase its ownership in CBS from 11% to 25%.

Norman Lear forms new company, Act III, to acquire and create entertainment and communications companies. It will be headed by Randy Reiss, president of Paramount's domestic television and video programming.

October 28:

Sale of KJOI(FM) Los Angeles from Noble Broadcast Group to Carl Hirsch, former president of Malrite Communications, for \$44 million sets record for stand-alone FM station.

November 11:

For first time in its 45-year history, NBC Television Network is picked to win prime time ratings race, just seven weeks into TV season.

Westinghouse makes deal to buy independent KHJ-TV Los Angeles from RKO for \$313 million. It also expressed interest in bidding for RKO's WOR-TV New York that is on block.

December 2:

Showtime/The Movie Channel launches its pay-per-view service Viewer's Choice.

NBC reports all 50 of 30-second spots in upcoming Super Bowl are sold out at \$550,000 each.

December 16:

General Electric buys RCA (including its NBC subsidiary) for \$6.3 billion.

1986

January 6:

National Association of Broadcasters and National Radio Broadcasters Association draft merger agreement.

Hartford N. Gunn, 59, founder and first president of Public Broadcasting Service, dies.

January 13:

Patricia Diaz Dennis, member of National Labor Relations Board, is President Reagan's choice to succeed Henry Rivera as FCC commissioner.

After four years and \$15 million, Home Box Office begins scrambling satellite feeds of HBO and Cinemax using M/A-Com's Videocipher II system.

January 20:

Donna Reed, TV and film actress, dies at 64.

January 27:

Broadcast station trading in 1985 totaled record \$5,668,261,073 in transactions, beating previous record set year earlier of \$2,118,056,053.

CBS-TV will initiate stereo audio feeds with Feb. 25 airing of 28th Annual Grammy Awards.

February 3:

CNN is only TV network providing live coverage of launch of Space Shuttle Challenger that turned to tragedy when it exploded minutes after launch at 11:40 a.m. ET. Other networks switched to story within five minutes and carried continuous, commercial-free coverage for rest of afternoon.

Roone Arledge, president of ABC News and Sports, turns over sports duties to Dennis Swanson.

February 10:

Management-led, leveraged buyout group led by Outlet Communications Chairman Bruce Sundlun reaches agreement to buy broadcast group owner from

Rockefeller Group for \$625 million cash. Three TV stations would be spun off to help finance deal.

February 24:

MCA wins bidding for GenCorp.'s WOR-TV New York with offer of \$387 million.

March 3:

After months of public posturing and behind-the-scenes negotiations, cable and broadcasting cut deal on must carry. Next step is FCC approval of package.

March 24:

MGM and Color Systems Technology sign agreement for conversion of 100 of studio's black-and-white films to color.

March 31:

Metromedia and Katz radio groups sold in leveraged buyouts. Metromedia's nine stations plus Texas State Network sold to investor group led by Carl Brazell Jr., Metromedia Radio president, and Morgan Stanley & Co., for \$285 million. Katz Communications' 11 stations are going to employ group headed by Dick Ferguson, president of Katz Broadcasting, for \$68.3 million.

NBC pays \$300 million for rights to 1988 summer Olympic games in Seoul, South Korea.

April 21:

Josephson Communications agrees to sell its six radio stations to new company created by Josephson radio division president, Ed Christian, for estimated \$38.5 million.

May 5:

Fox Broadcasting Co. President Jamie Kellner announces plans to launch regularly scheduled "satellite-delivered national program service for independent stations" beginning March 1987. It would start with original programming on one or two nights per week and hopes to expand to other nights and at least one other daypart.

BDDO International, Doyle Dane Bernbach Group and Needham Harper Worldwide merge to form world's largest advertising agency. Stock transaction is worth more than \$600 million.

May 19:

Rollins family will sell controlling 43.5% interest in Rollins Communications for roughly \$260 million. Atlanta-based company owns cable systems, five AM's, one FM, four TV's and outdoor advertising firm.

May 26:

Lorimar Telepictures buys seven major-market television stations from Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co. for \$1.85 billion.

June 2:

Canadian Broadcasting Corp. 13-hour mini-series will use Sony's high-definition gear, making it first major project to employ HDTV technology.

July 7:

Three TV networks had net revenue in 1985 of \$6,457,573,000, down 3% from 1984.

July 21:

Tele-Communications Inc. buys 51% of United Artists Communications for \$500 million. UACI is San Francisco-based theater chain owner that also owns 24 cable systems serving 750,000 subscribers.

July 28:

Spanish International Communications Corp. will sell its five TV stations and five low-power TV stations for \$301.5 million to First Chicago Venture Capital and Hallmark Cards.

August 4:

Senate votes 78-21 to allow gavel-to-gavel television and radio coverage, following five-month test.

August 11:

FCC adopts temporary must-carry rules that sunset in five years. It also adopted A/B switch policy requiring cable operators to educate customers about such devices and offer free A/B switches, enabling subscribers to switch between over-the-air and cable reception.

Storer Communications will pay \$600 million for Wometco Cable, MSO with systems serving more than 310,000 basic subscribers.

September 1:

GE and NBC choose GE insider Robert Wright to succeed Grant Tinker as president-CEO of NBC.

September 15:

CBS Inc. Chairman Thomas Wyman is forced out. Laurence Tisch, chairman of Loews Corp., CBS's largest stockholder, is named acting CEO, while CBS founder William Paley is named acting chairman.

September 22:

Handful of Viacom International's top management—but not including its chairman-founder, Ralph Baruch—proposed a \$2.7 billion leveraged buyout. But with several major stockholders threatening to block deal, LBO may not be final offer.

CBS closes its Technology Center in Stamford, CT, victim of cost cutting.

Gordon McLendon, radio format pioneer, who along with Todd Storz is credited with creating mix of colorful disc jockeys playing list of most popular records that evolved into top 40 format, dies at 65.

October 13:

Fox Broadcasting Co. launches what it hopes will be beginning of fourth network with debut of *The Late Show Starring Joan Rivers*.

In deal that would include transfer of largest block of radio station licenses ever, Telstar Corp. signs deal for control (56%) of Resort Broadcasters' 22 East Coast stations for \$71 million.

October 27:

Wometco Cable TV Inc. signed agreement to sell its cable systems to joint venture of Taft Broadcasting Co., Robert M. Bass Group and members of Wometco's management for \$625 million.

TWA Chairman Carl Icahn announced plans to launch *The Travel Channel* cable service.

November 3:

WOR-TV New York pays Viacom Enterprises \$43,680,000 for 182 weeks of *The Cosby Show*. Winning bid represents \$240,000 per week and \$349,440 per episode for 125 episodes that will debut in fall 1988. Viacom has set minimum price of \$125,000 per week (more than twice market record of \$80,000 paid by WPIX(TV) for *Cheers*).

November 10:

Satellite Television Industry Association and Direct Broadcast Satellite Association merge to form Satellite Broadcasting and Communications Association of America (SBCA).

November 24:

Taft Broadcasting sells its five independent TV stations to TVX Broadcast Group for \$240 million.

December 1:

Broadcasting is sold by Lawrence B. Talshoff to Times Mirror Co. for approximately \$75 million.

Top Intelsat officials, Director General Richard Colino and Deputy Director General Jose L. Alegrett, are placed on administrative leave following internal audit that uncovers questionable mortgage-related transaction.

December 8:

Intelsat's Richard Colino and Jose Alegrett are fired by board of governors. U.S. Attorney of District of Columbia is conducting criminal investigation.

December 15:

Grant Broadcasting System Inc. files Chapter 11 bankruptcy for its three independent TV stations.

December 22:

Fox Broadcasting Co. tells advertisers it will roll out three-hour prime time block on Sunday, April 5. Shows already include hour drama *Jump Street Chapel* and half-hour sitcom *Married...With Children*. Saturday schedule will debut May 30 with two half-hour comedies followed by hour-long special.

Former NBC Chairman Grant Tinker is forming joint venture with Gannett Co. to produce TV programming.

Federal jury in Las Vegas orders NBC to pay entertainer Wayne Newton \$19.2 million in damages for defamation arising from investigative pieces that aired on *Nightly News* in 1980 and 1981. Network will appeal.

December 29:

FCC reverses itself and votes to indefinitely stay implementation of its new cable must-carry rules, including A/B switch requirement while it releases order addressing petition for reconsideration.

1987

January 5:

Jack Kent Cooke, business and sports entrepreneur, buys McCaw Communications, nation's 22nd largest cable MSO, for between \$775 million and \$800 million. McCaw has 42 systems serving 433,000 subscribers.

January 12:

Turner Broadcasting is trying to raise up to \$500 million to recapitalize company through equity placement with group of cable operators led by Tele-Communications Inc.

Nielsen will institute an integrated peplemeter system in September to measure national TV audiences, replacing 30-year old diary method.

January 19:

FCC Chairman Mark Fowler tells President Reagan he will resign, perhaps by spring.

National Association of Broadcasters is about to launch \$28,000 campaign to persuade nation's 5,000 AM stations to adopt uniform preemphasis curve and limit audio bandwidth of their programming to improve quality of AM broadcasting.

Five-station radio group of Summit Communications has been sold to new group headed by Summit VP, Stephen L. Robertson, for price said to be more than \$30 million.

January 26:

Broadcasting prepares to move to new headquarters—1705 DeSales Street, N.W., Washington 20036—on Feb. 2.

White House is expected to name FCC Commissioner Dennis Patrick to be agency's next chairman, succeeding Mark Fowler.

KRON-TV San Francisco will air condom ads in six-month trial. Revenue from spots will be donated to AIDS research.

At Ted Turner's request, 14 cable operators and entrepreneur Kirk Kerkorian will acquire 35% of Turner Broadcasting for \$550 million.

Home Shopping Network buys rival cable channel C.O.M.B. for \$650 million.

R. Budd Dwyer, Pennsylvania state treasurer recently convicted for his part in bribery scandal, shot himself to death during press conference in front of broadcast cameras and microphones and room of about 20 journalists.

February 2:

Westinghouse Broadcasting pulls out of its proposed \$310 million acquisition of RKO General's independent KHJ-TV Los Angeles.

February 9:

Broadcast station trading in 1986 totaled record \$6,192,669,871 in transactions, beating previous record set year earlier of \$5,668,261,073.

February 16:

FCC proposes reinstating syndicated exclusivity rules and began separate proceeding aimed at building case against cable's compulsory copyright license.

February 23:

Garrison Keeler, host of *American Public Radio's* weekly *A Prairie Home Companion*, announces that show will end June 13. Companion began airing locally in Minnesota in 1974 and went national in 1980. It is public radio's most listened to program.

Proposed \$650 million merger of Home Shopping Network and C.O.M.B. falls apart.

March 2:

Supreme Court overturns appeals court decision that said FCC could not regulate pole attachment rates.

March 9:

Supreme Court upholds \$36 million decision against Tele-Communications Inc. MSO violated antitrust laws in trying to keep Jefferson City, MO., franchise from being awarded to competitor.

Sconnix Broadcasting Corp., Laconia, NH.-based limited partnership that owns eight radio stations agrees to buy eight radio stations from John Blair & Co. for \$152 million cash. Deal is second-largest radio-only transaction in history.

March 16:

Gaylor Broadcasting will sell its WTVT(TV) Tampa, FL., to George Gillett and Clarence McKee for \$365 million, while GenCorp agrees to sell its KHJ-TV Los Angeles to Walt Disney Co. for \$320 million.

Intelsat board of governors chooses former FCC Chairman Dean Burch to be its director general.

March 23:

TV evangelist Jim Bakker resigned as chairman-president of PTL Television Network and turned broadcast-cable ministry over to fellow TV evangelist and Moral Majority founder Jerry Falwell. Resignation followed Bakker's admission that he had been blackmailed about sexual encounter seven years ago.

April 6:

Fox Broadcasting Co. introduces its prime time lineup with 108 affiliates.

April 13:

Lanesborough, New York-based investment holding corporation, buys broadcast equipment manufacturer Ampex Corp. from Allied Signal for \$479 million.

April 20:

FCC says it will step up its efforts to police "indecent" broadcasts. It defines indecency and says such material will be considered in violation if broadcast when "there is a reasonable risk that children are in the audience."

April 27:

Senate passes legislation codifying fairness doctrine; it's expected House will also give its approval, but Reagan White House is opposed to measure.

May 4:

Price Communications sells 75% of seven radio stations for \$120 million to Fairfield Broadcasting Inc., headed by former Blair Radio President Jim Hillard and former SFN Companies Chairman Jack Purcell.

May 18:

Roger D. Rice, president of Television Bureau of Advertising, announces he will retire in early 1988 after serving 13 years in that post.

May 25:

Intelsat files civil suit against its former Director General, Richard Colino, alleging kickbacks, phony bills, imaginary consulting firms and Swiss bank accounts. It says Colino's actions resulted in damages of \$11.5 million and is seeking award of treble damages.

June 8:

House passes fairness doctrine legislation; measure now goes to White House. Whether President will veto measure is not known, although administration has opposed it.

June 29:

President Reagan vetoes legislation to write fairness doctrine into law. He says, "This kind of content-based regulation by the federal government is...antagonistic to the freedom of expression guaranteed by the First Amendment."

Jackie Gleason, veteran comedian-actor, TV and film star and creator of *The Honeymooners*, dies at 71.

July 13:

Group broadcaster Media Central Inc. and its eight independent UHF stations file for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection.

July 20:

Home Box Office signs exclusive agreement for pay TV rights to 85 Paramount Pictures films. Five-year deal begins with movies released in May 1988 and is estimated to be worth more than \$500 million.

Former Intelsat Director General Richard Colino pleads guilty to defrauding Intelsat of \$4.8 million; sentencing scheduled for September.

July 27:

Westwood One signs letter of intent to buy NBC Radio Networks from General Electric for \$50 million and stock transaction in which NBC will receive five-year warrants to purchase one million shares of Westwood One common stock for \$36.40 per share.

August 10:

Declaring it unconstitutional, FCC abolishes its 38-year old fairness doctrine. Says FCC Chairman Dennis Patrick: "Our action today should be cause for celebration because, by it, we introduce the First Amendment into the 20th century."

August 17:

FCC administrative law judge rules that RKO General is unfit to hold broadcast licenses for KHJ-TV Los Angeles and 13 other stations. Says Judge Edward Kuhlmann, "There is not a single case of fraudulent billing practices investigated and reviewed by this commission, which exhibits as many practices affecting as many advertisers over as many years." Value of properties affected are estimated at \$1 billion.

August 24:

After two months in captivity, former ABC News correspondent Charles Glass escaped from his captors, believed to be south Lebanese Shiite Muslims.

August 31:

Broadcasting calculations find value of cable TV industry is roughly \$67 billion, while that of TV broadcasting industry is about \$33 billion.

September 7:

Nielsen and AGB introduce peplemeter audience measurement systems.

Coca-Cola Co., already leading TV producer, plans to create \$3 billion film and video colossus by combining its entertainment business sector with Tri-Star Pictures.

Jacor Communications, radio group operator, signs letter of intent to acquire Eastman Radio, national radio rep firm, in stock transaction worth about \$8 million.

September 21:

DKM Broadcasting, Atlanta-based owner of AM-FM combinations in eight cities, is being purchased by Winston-Salem, NC-based Summit Communications for price reported to be between \$195 million and \$200 million.

Roughly one year after it began sales of The Cosby Show for fall 1988 syndication debut, Viacom Enterprises says show has been sold to 137 stations covering 83% of country. Sources estimate Viacom's cash total for Cosby is roughly \$520 million.

September 28:

Strike by members of National Football League Players Association is collectively costing ABC, CBS and NBC \$12 million or more each week.

Former Intelsat Director General Richard Colino, convicted of defrauding Intelsat of \$5.4 million, is sentenced to up to six years in prison and must pay back \$865,000.

October 12:

FCC Commissioner Mimi Weyforth Dawson is chosen by President Reagan to become deputy secretary of transportation.

Ted Turner announces plans to start new basic cable channel, Turner Network Television.

FCC is planning to launch inquiry into children's advertising on TV that could eventually lead to FCC regulation of such advertising.

October 19:

Two major cable deals announced: United Artists and United Cable, two companies in which Tele-Communications Inc. owns large blocks of stock, agreed to merge into new company-New-UA, and Continental Cablevision agrees to buy American Cablesystems for \$481.7 million.

Masla Radio, one of few independent radio rep firms, closes after 30 years.

October 26:

Forward Communications sells its five TV stations to Adams Communications Corp. for \$126.5 million.

November 9:

Bradley P. Holmes, chief of FCC's policy and rules division, is nominated to be FCC commissioner.

November 16:

White House is considering nominating Washington communications attorney Susan Wing to FCC.

November 23:

CBS Inc. sells its CBS Records Group to Sony Corp. for \$2 billion.

November 30:

FCC says programming it might otherwise label "indecent" may be broadcast between midnight and 6 a.m. only if preceded by warning.

December 14:

Three-judge panel of U.S. Court of Appeals throws out FCC's must-carry rules, which require cable systems to carry local broadcast signals, saying they violate cable operators' First Amendment Rights.

Florida repeals 5% tax on services, including advertising.

1988

January 4:

A consortium of cable operators buys Storer Communications cable systems owned by Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co. for more than \$2.8 billion, making it largest cable deal ever. Consortium comprises American Television & Communications, Comcast and Taft Cable Partners.

January 11:

Television viewing in U.S. declined last season for first time since Nielsen began measuring household usage in 1966, according to media research firm.

January 25:

NBC puts its seven radio stations up for sale; six to be offered as package and one, WKYS(FM) Washington, separately. Brokers estimate six-station group to be worth \$140 million-\$150 million; WKYS at \$45 million.

February 1:

CBS anchor Dan Rather's fiery exchange with presidential candidate George Bush takes up nine minutes of 22-minute newscast, inspires thousands of calls to network and its affiliates.

United Artists agrees to purchase cable system operating division of Daniels & Associates for \$190 million. Daniels will continue its brokerage and investment banking operations.

Group of broadcasters and broadcast organizations ask U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington to review FCC's stepped up enforcement of federal statute barring indecency on radio and TV under stricter definition of indecency adopted last spring.

February 8:

Total dollar value for all broadcast stations sold in 1987 set new record—for third year in row—with total of \$7,509,154,473.

February 15:

EmmIs Broadcasting buys five NBC radio stations for \$121.5 million.

Planned Parenthood calculates there were 65,000 episodes of sexual behavior or references to it during prime time on NBC, ABC and CBS, with scant reference to contraception.

February 29:

CBS announces that starting in fall it will broadcast all of its programming in stereo.

WNW Group Inc. acquires control of UPI from Mexican newspaper publisher Mario Vazquez-Rana for "present and future considerations that may total more than \$55 million." WNW is investment group headed by Dr. Earl W. Brian.

March 14:

Board of Turner Broadcasting System approves Ted Turner's plan for new basic cable service—Turner Network Television—featuring big-time sports, expensive original programming and major motion pictures. Launch date is October 3; first offering will be "Gone With the Wind."

Writers Guild of America goes on strike over syndication residuals and creative control. Screen Actors Guild and American Federation of Radio and Television Artists also vote to strike on March 21 over pay structure for commercials on cable.

CBS Radio's World News Roundup celebrates its 50th anniversary.

April 4:

After 18 years as host of American Top 40 on ABC Contemporary Network, Casey Kasem moves to Westwood One for five-year package estimated to be worth \$13 million-\$14 million.

April 11:

Sillerman Magee Communications Management Corp. makes largest-ever radio-only purchase when it announced it will buy Metropolitan Broadcasting Corp. for more than \$300 million. Also, largest FM stand-alone sale was announced: Albimar Communications will buy WKYS(FM) Washington from NBC for \$46.74 million.

April 25:

Westwood One buys WYNY(FM) New York from Emmis Broadcasting for \$39 million plus other consideration.

May 2:

Tele-Communications Inc. and Comcast sign definitive agreement to buy Storer's cable properties from Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co. for \$1.55 billion.

Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission sold its ACTS Satellite Network, a cable service that reaches six million homes, to nonprofit entity owned by San Antonio, TX, advertising executive Chip Atkins, who currently sells time on network. Deal is combination cash-program time valued at roughly \$170 million.

Wometco cable group that serves 440,000 subscribers is reportedly for sale by Robert Bass Group. Also, Rogers Cablesystems has put its U.S. Systems serving 525,000 subscribers on block.

May 9:

Viacom Enterprises completed last lap of first round of sales of The Cosby Show with sale of show's barter minute to Procter & Gamble, General Foods and Group W for \$60 million. Deal moves total take for Cosby in syndication to close to \$600 million for initial three-and-a-half years, easily breaking previous off-network sales record by almost three times.

May 16:

Federal jury in Missouri found ABC guilty of "fraudulent misrepresentation" and awarded KDEB-TV Springfield, MO, \$3.5 million in damages in suit involving network's termination of station's affiliation contract.

May 23:

FCC votes unanimously to reimpose new syndicated exclusivity rules giving broadcasters exclusive rights to syndicated programming.

May 30:

CBS outbids ABC to win rights to 1992 winter Olympics in Albertville, France, for \$243 million.

Cablevision Industries signed letter of intent to purchase Wometco cable systems from Robert M. Bass Group for about \$725 million. Systems serve about 311,000 subscribers.

June 13:

Rupert Murdoch will launch three and possibly four advertiser-supported TV channels on 16-channel Luxembourg DBS satellite, Astra, in 1989.

June 20:

Report by Commerce Department's National Telecommunications and Information Administration makes number of recommendations, including allowing telephone companies to deliver programming by other providers. It also says FCC should study concentration of cable system ownership; repeal rule prohibiting TV networks from owning cable systems, and calls for waiver to enable owners of TV stations to own cable systems in station's service area.

Three senior executives of Infinity Broadcasting, the largest publicly held radio-only station group with 15 major market outlets, offer to buy back company for \$484 million, making it largest radio deal in history.

June 27:

King World Productions buys its first station—WIVB-TV Buffalo, NY—from Howard Publications for \$100 million.

July 25:

FCC decides to allow RKO to sell its radio and TV stations and get out of broadcasting, ending 23-year-old case.

CNBC, Consumer News and Business Channel, will be name of NBC's cable programming venture to debut in early 1989.

FCC proposes adoption of AM technical quality improvement standards, including industry-adopted National Radio Systems Committee audio standards developed in joint effort by National Association of Broadcasters and Electronic Industries Association.

August 8:

After nearly six months, striking members of Writer Guild of America and Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers reach tentative settlement. ABC, CBS, NBC scramble to see how quickly they can revive fall schedules.

August 15:

Houston Industries, 50-50 partner with American Television & Communications in Paragon Cable, agrees to buy U.S. cable systems of Rogers Communications serving 525,000 subscribers for 1.265 billion.

CBS buys WCIX(TV) Miami from TVX Broadcast Group for \$59 million, putting network's TV station total to five and increasing its coverage to 20.8% of U.S. TV households.

Rupert Murdoch, whose News Corp. also owns Fox TV network, buys Triangle Productions, publisher of TV Guide, from Walter H. Annenberg for \$3 billion.

August 22:

Cablevision Systems buys Viacom cable systems serving Long Island and suburban Cleveland and took 5% interest in Showtime/The Movie Channel in deal valued at \$575 million.

RKO nears deals to sell its KRTH-AM-FM Los Angeles to Beasley Broadcast Group for \$86.6 million and WRKS-FM New York to Summit Communications for \$50 million.

Radio group owner Robert F.X. Sillerman is buying New York-based TV rep firm Seltel for \$20 million-\$25 million.

September 5:

In hopes of pushing ahead development of high-definition television, FCC makes "rough cut" of HDTV ground rules. It says new service must be compatible with current NTSC receivers and it won't allocate any spectrum outside VHF and UHF bands.

September 19:

SportsChannel America, Cablevision's proposed ad hoc network of regional cable sports channels and cable systems, will debut on October 6.

After almost 30 years, Television Information Office is shut down due to lack of support by stations.

October 3:

Common Market-sanctioned Eureka, led by Dutch electronics giant Philips, Thompson of France and Bosch of Germany, demonstrates working HDTV system based on 50 hz and using 1,250 lines of resolution on 16:9 aspect ratio screen.

RKO sells WAX-Y(FM) Fort Lauderdale, FL, to Evergreen Media Corp. for \$24 million.

October 10:

Knight-Ridder announces desire to sell its eight TV stations, saying it prefers to invest in cable television and database information services. Stations are estimated to be worth \$500 million-\$600 million.

October 17:

NBC unveils new HDTV standard—1,050 lines/59.94 Hz—and seeks approval from Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers. It is in competition with one proposed by Japanese of 1,125/60.

October 24:

Congress passes bill that would reimpose limits on amount of advertising during children's programs and require broadcasters to "serve the special needs of children." It also approves measure creating six-year compulsory license for satellite distribution of broadcast signals to home dish owners.

November 14:

Broadcasters generally pleased with election of George Bush to presidency; hope prosperity of Reagan years will continue.

President Reagan uses pocket veto on children's television bill that would have put commercial limits on children's shows, citing incompatibility with First Amendment prohibitions against content regulation.

Telemundo Group announces sale of its WKAQ-TV San Juan, PR, to investor group organized by Cohen Cassara & Co. for \$147.5 million cash, plus \$10 million in subordinated debentures.

November 28:

Following successful test in its Dallas cable system, Tele-Communications Inc. says it will phase in fiber optics for trunking applications in its systems over next several years.

Walt Disney Co. agrees to jointly market new pay Disney Channel in UK with Rupert Murdoch's Sky Television movie service.

December 5:

NBC wins 1992 summer Olympic rights with bid of \$411 million for Barcelona games.

Soviet Union stops jamming signals of Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty for first time since U.S. service's inception in early 1950's.

December 12:

The Nashville Network Radio launches its 24-hour satellite-delivered country format to 85 affiliates.

December 19:

CBS pays \$1 billion to Major League Baseball for North American TV rights to four years of All Star game, all post-season play and 12 regular season games each year.

FCC votes to consider waivers of prohibition against owning TV and radio stations in same city in cases where outlets involved are in larger markets.

December 26:

NBC spends \$138 million for 50% stake in Cablevision's Rainbow Program Enterprises, sports, news and entertainment programming service. Rainbow will provide multichannel, pay-per-view cable coverage of 1992 summer Olympics in Barcelona.

1989**January 9:**

ESPN pays \$400 million in four-year cable rights deal for 175 Major League Baseball games over four nights beginning in 1990.

January 16:

Jack Kent Cooke signs deal to sell his 700,000 subscriber Cooke Cable Vision to consortium of cable operators for estimated \$1.47 billion. Also, New York Times Co. agreed to sell its 162,000 subscriber New Jersey cable system for \$420 million to partnership comprising J. Bruce Llewellyn, Comcast Corp. and Lenfest Communications.

January 23:

President Bush chooses Bruce S. Gelb, vice chairman of Bristol-Myers Co., to be director of U.S. Information Agency.

February 13:

Total dollar value for all broadcast stations sold in 1988 was \$4,947,838,198, down from previous year's \$7,509,154,473.

Among pilots Fox Broadcasting is considering is animated series from Jim Brooks' Gracie Films called The Simpsons. Show is spin-off from short cartoons seen each week in Fox's Tracey Ullman Show.

March 13:

Time Inc. and Warner Communications agree to swap stock and merge into what will be the world's largest media and entertainment company.

CBS Radio spends \$50 million for four years of rights to Major League Baseball.

March 20:

Showtime Networks and Walt Disney Studios sign deal for more than \$500 million. Pay network will have exclusive pay cable rights to all movies from Disney subsidiaries Touchstone and Hollywood Pictures through 1996.

March 27:

Centel Corp. sells six groups of cable properties totaling more than 575,000 subscribers for more than \$1.4 billion.

Dick Clark announces that after 33 years he will step down as host of American Bandstand.

President Bush chooses Janice Obuchowski to head National Telecommunications and Information Administration. She was NYNEX executive director for international affairs.

April 3:

FCC Chairman Dennis Patrick announces intention to step down upon swearing in of his successor.

April 10:

MGM/UA, on and off block for at least a year, is being split up in billion-dollar deal. Its distribution operations, film production unit and film library will go to Australian Qintex Group. After \$250 million buyback, its television production unit and library will go to MGM/UA majority shareholder Kirk Kerkorian.

April 17:

FCC votes to require AM stations to adhere to industry-developed NRSC-2 RF emission standard starting June 30, 1990.

April 24:

Westinghouse Broadcasting signs letter of intent to buy 10 stations from Legacy Broadcasting and Metropolitan Broadcasting for \$350 million-\$370 million. If completed, deal would give Westinghouse 24 stations.

QVC announces plans to start second cable shopping channel.

May 1:

Lucille Ball, queen of television comedy, dies at 77.

May 22:

HBO and Viacom both announce creation of cable comedy services. HBO's will be called The Comedy Channel; Viacom's MTV Networks' will be "HA" TV Comedy Network.

Group W Satellite Communications pays \$10 million for 50% interest in Request TV pay-per-view service.

June 5:

Surgeon General Everett Koop urges Congress to adopt legislation that would restrict alcohol advertising and marketing aimed at youth and would provide government funds for counteradvertising.

June 12:

Fox announces plans for Fox Kids Net, weekday children's block, to launch in fall 1990.

June 19:

White House announces nominations of Washington attorney Sherrie Marshall and Illinois Commerce Commission member Andrew Barrett to FCC. And expected shortly is announcement of Alfred Sikes, head of National Telecommunications and Information Administration, to FCC chairman.

June 26:

New cable service, Science Fiction Network, is announced with late 1990 launch target.

July 3:

QVC Network proposes to buy all stock in home shopping channel competitor CVN Companies for at least \$384 million.

August 7:

Consortium including telco US West and Paramount get approval to build and program in Hong Kong what will be world's largest cable system. Franchise, which will serve 1.5 million households, will take \$500 million and five to six years to complete and is scheduled to launch in 1991.

August 14:

Outlets Communications agrees to sell four TV stations to Chase Communications for \$120 million.

August 21:

Representative Mickey Leland (D-TX), 44-year-old congressman and member of House Telecommunications Subcommittee, dies in plane crash in Ethiopia.

September 18:

Paramount Communications will spend \$110 million to buy 79% block of TVX Broadcast Group, seven TV stations owned by Salomon Brothers.

October 2:

Sony Corp. reached definitive agreement to buy Columbia Pictures for \$3.4 billion and Guber-Peters Entertainment Co. for \$200 million.

October 16:

\$1.9 billion merger between Qintex Group and MGM/UA falls apart. Each side accused other of bargaining in bad faith.

October 23:

ABC-TV, on air live from San Francisco with pre-game coverage of third game of World Series between Giants and Oakland A's, is thrown into spot news reporting as earthquake hits. Other radio and TV networks and local stations are soon offering coverage of effects of quake that registered 6.9 on Richter scale.

November 13:

NBC pays \$600 million for four years of rights to National Basketball Association games, ending CBS's 17-year relationship with NBA.

November 27:

President Bush nominates Ervin Duggan to fill Democratic vacancy on FCC. Former journalist, Duggan is a Washington communications consultant.

CBS spends \$1 billion for seven-year rights contract to NCAA basketball tournament.

December 4:

Turner Network Television signs four-year, \$275 million agreement with National Basketball Association for 75 games per year.

December 25:

Fox Broadcasting reported best-ever ratings—11.4—on Sunday, Dec. 17. Night included debut of animated half-hour, The Simpsons, which placed second in its 8:30 pm time slot.

1990**January 15:**

FCC launches inquiry that could bring back widespread regulation of cable TV rates. Commission seeks comments on how to encourage competition.

Supreme Court refuses to review lower court decision upholding FCC's repeal of fairness doctrine.

Tele-Communications Inc. pays \$250 million for 18% interest in parent of Family Channel cable service.

January 22:

ABC pays \$210 million for five-year College Football Association rights package.

Tele-Communications Inc. plans to divide, spinning off nearly all its cable programming interests and some of its cable systems into separate company; move made to head off action by Congress concerned about industry integration and also hopes stock price will benefit.

January 29:

Fox Broadcasting discloses it will ask FCC for waiver from financial interest and syndication rules and for commission to resume its long-dormant docket aimed at relaxing or eliminating fin-syn rules, which prohibit ABC, CBS, NBC and potentially Fox from acquiring financial interests in programming produced by others for their networks and from competing in domestic syndication market.

NBC, Thomson and Philips form joint venture to develop simulcast HDTV transmission system using 1,050 lines.

February 5:

National Cable Television Association, Community Antenna Television Association and Disney file two suits against Broadcast Music Inc. alleging BMI's music licensing scheme violates antitrust laws.

Total dollar value for all broadcast stations sold in 1989 was \$3,235,436,376, down from previous year's \$4,947,838,198.

CBS merges its CBS Radio Network and CBS RadioRadio into CBS Spectrum Radio Network to "compete more effectively for adult advertising dollars."

February 12:

ESPN claims it is first cable network to reach 60% of U.S. TV households—it's in 55,340,000 homes.

February 19:

Hoping to cool cable reregulation fever raging in Washington, cable industry promises to clean up its customer service act with adoption by National Cable Television of "comprehensive, highly specific" standards that most cable operators pledge to comply with by July 1991.

February 26:

NBC, Cablevision, Rupert Murdoch and Hughes announce plans for Sky Cable, a high-power direct broadcast satellite with 108 channels and HDTV potential, to launch in 1993.

March 3:

Capital Cities/ABC, through ABC-TV and its 80% interest in ESPN, will spend about \$1.35 billion for rights to National Football League games over next four years.

March 12:

Paris-based Pathe Communications will buy MGM/UA for \$1.2 billion.

March 19:

NBC agrees to sell 51% of its WKYC-TV Cleveland to Multimedia for roughly \$65 million. The sale, if approved and closed, would reduce TV household coverage of stations attributable to NBC, giving it opportunity to purchase additional stations.

USA Network pays estimated \$18 million for four-year rights deal to World League of American Football.

Cable service Movietime changes format and name to Entertainment Television.

April 2:

TV Marti, U.S. government service aimed at Cuba, goes on air on Tuesday, March 27, and is promptly jammed by Cuban government.

April 16:

FCC proposes package of rule changes designed to help ailing AM band. Among suggestions: giving stations causing most interference problems preferences in applying for frequencies in new expanded portion of band; stricter interference protection standards; relaxing duopoly rules to allow two commonly owned AM's in market if broadcaster agrees to reduce interference caused by either; prohibiting AM-FM simulcasting; encouraging broadcasters to negotiate deals in which one or more stations agree to go dark or reduce power for money, issue tax certificates to stations that receive money, and mandating AM stereo broadcasting, or, award preferences or condition grant of applications on agreement to go stereo.

Digital audio broadcasting is demonstrated at NAB convention, and is heralded as HDTV of radio.

April 30:

Broadcast segments of ABC, CBS and NBC combined showed 13% increase in profits in 1989, compared to '88, according to exclusive *Broadcasting* figures. Capacities/ABC posted broadcast segment profits of \$836,100,000 on revenue of \$3,900,000,000; CBS had profits of \$294,600,000 on revenue of \$2,959,500,000, while NBC had profits of \$603,000,000 on revenue of \$3,392,000,000.

May 7:

FCC grants Fox Broadcasting one-year limited waiver of financial interest and syndication rules, permitting Fox to sell advertising time for planned 18 1/2-hour fall schedule.

May 21:

ABC realigns its radio networks, reducing them in number from seven to five. Three adult networks are Prime, Platinum and Galaxy, while two young adult services are Genesis and Excel.

June 4:

Complexion of FCC's drive to set standard for terrestrial transmission of high-definition television changes dramatically when General Instrument announces it is proposing all-digital HDTV system using digital compression to increase satellite capacity.

Two U.S. digital audio broadcasting systems emerge to challenge European Eureka system.

June 11:

Association of Maximum Service Telecasters changes its name on its 34th birthday to Association for Maximum Service Television.

June 25:

PBS announces formal agreement with The Discovery Channel to study creation of national, non-commercial cable service.

July 16:

FCC votes unanimously to adopt report recommending 24-hour ban against indecent programming as only

way to protect children. Report now is forwarded to U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington.

July 30:

Opryland Television, which owns The Nashville Network, agrees to buy Country Music Television, another cable service, for \$30 million. It will then sell part of CMT to Group W Satellite Communications, which handles marketing and distribution of TNN.

August 6:

Hammond, LA-based Strother Communications asks FCC for one-year experimental license to test technical characteristics and market reaction to European Eureka 147 digital audio broadcasting system.

August 13:

Fox proposes plan for extending reach of both its network and syndicated barter programming by wrapping both in packages to be offered on local cable channels in "white areas" not served by over-the-air signal of Fox affiliate.

August 20:

Highly-leveraged group owner Jacor Communications agrees to sell its rep firm, Eastman Radio to Katz Communications, for \$11,750,000.

August 27:

FCC Chairman Alfred Sikes orders Office of Plans and Policy and Mass Media Bureau to conduct review of broadcasting marketplace to determine if commission's rules are still necessary in face of increased competition among broadcasters and between broadcasters and other media.

September 10:

Fox Tele-Communications Inc. announces agreement creating Fox cable affiliates on TCI systems in areas in which there are no Fox broadcast affiliates.

September 17:

Judicial Conference of the United States agrees to three-year test of cameras in select federal courts.

September 24:

U.S. Court of Appeals rules FCC overstepped its authority in granting GTE waiver of statutory cable-telco crossownership ban so GTE could build coaxial-fiber optic cable system in Cerritos, CA, as technical and marketing test bid for advanced video services.

October 1:

During fall TV season's first full week, PBS is surprise factor with its 12-hour documentary, *The Civil War*. Show averages 9 rating/13 share, making it highest rated series in service's history.

FCC seeks comments on different spectrum options for DAB prior to 1992 World Administrative Radio Conference: 728-788 mhz, 1493-1525 mhz and 2390-2450 mhz.

Request Television has agreed to use its PPV channels to carry NBC/Cablevision Systems' Pay-Per-View Olympics in 1992.

October 8:

House gives final congressional approval to legislation limiting commercial time in children's TV programming and giving broadcasters explicit license renewal obligation to serve children. Hill proponents expect President Bush to sign it, or at least allow it to become law by not vetoing it within 10 days of receiving it. Bill also creates programming endowment—to be administered by Commerce Department or Corporation for Public Broadcasting—of \$2 million in fiscal 1991 and \$4 million in fiscal '92.

October 15:

In first head-to-head airing of new episodes of Fox's *The Simpsons* and NBC's *The Cosby Show*, NBC wins by 1/10 of rating point—18.5 versus Fox's 18.4. Both shows captured 29% share of audience. Rating was best ever for *Simpsons* and was highest ever for Fox show.

NBC O&O WRC-TV Washington announces it is buying half hour on competitor WFTY(TV) to air news at 7:30 pm, WRC-TV will retain all ad inventory, probably 7-8 minutes.

FCC eases up on its rules regulating wireless cable, making 33 channels available and prohibiting cable operators from warehousing frequencies.

October 22:

Year-long effort by leaders of House and Senate Commerce Committees to enact tough legislation aimed at reining in and fostering competition among cable TV industry comes to end when Senate Republicans block any further consideration of legislation.

Children's television bill becomes law as President Bush chose not to sign or veto measure within 10 days of receiving it.

Under legislation signed by President Bush, all television sets with 13-inch or larger screens sold in U.S. after July 1, 1993, must be capable of displaying closed captions for hearing impaired.

October 29:

Primestar, midpower Ku-band DBS service of K Prime Partners, is one week away from launch. It will provide seven superstations and three PPV channels to subscribers across country, targeting those unwired areas first.

November 5:

Election day will mark debut of Voter Research & Surveys, a four-network venture that will produce exit polls and winner projections simultaneously for ABC, CBS, CNN and NBC.

William S. Paley, founder and chairman of CBS Inc., dies at age 89.

Congress passes legislation giving broadcasters and cable programmers three-year exemption from antitrust laws to establish industry guidelines limiting televised violence.

November 12:

FCC limits commercial time on children's TV programming to 10 1/2 minutes per hour on weekends and 12 minutes per hour on weekdays, and tells broadcasters their commitment to serving needs of children will be considered at license renewal time.

New cable service, Golden American Network, is planned. It will target adults over 50 and is aiming for September 1991 launch.

House Copyright Subcommittee member Robert Kastenmeier (D-WI), author of 1976 Copyright Act that created cable superstations and strong advocate of opening federal courtrooms to broadcast cameras and microphones, was defeated on election day by Scott Klug, former anchor at WKOW-TV Madison, WI, and reporter at WJLA-TV Washington.

Supreme Court rules cable operators cannot be prosecuted for content of programs they carry on channels "surrendered" under 1984 Cable Act.

November 26:

Two proposed cable networks with plans to showcase live court trials agree to merge. Courtroom Television Network is new service created by Rainbow Holdings' in Court (Cablevision Systems and NBC joint venture) and Time Warner's American Courtroom Network, Time Warner, through its American Lawyer Media unit, will manage partnership.

December 3:

In Hollywood's biggest merger, Japanese electronics manufacturer Matsushita Electric Industrial Co. buys MCA Inc. for \$6.59 billion. Matsushita will have to sell MCA's WWOR-TV New York to comply with FCC rule prohibiting foreign ownership of broadcast stations.

December 17:

FCC proposes new "effective competition" standard for cable. Systems that would otherwise be subject to municipal rate regulation can avoid it by offering basic service at "competitive" price and adhering to customer service guidelines.

1991**January 7:**

FCC says that for cable system to be exempt from local regulation-to be "good actors"—it must provide basic service comparable to what it did prior to deregulation in December 1986 and adhere to NCTA's customer service guidelines.

NBC News launches its 24-hour affiliate news service, NBC News Channel, to provide raw and edited footage of late-breaking news, sports and features for use on local newscasts.

January 21:

U.S. air attack on Iraq begins Jan. 16 with dramatic live coverage from network reporters in Baghdad. CNN, which had established four-wire phone line with approval of Iraqi government, was alone among networks to maintain contact with its Baghdad reporters through night.

February 4:

General Instrument Corp.'s VideoCipher division and Massachusetts Institute of Technology agree to merge their efforts to develop all-digital high-definition television transmission systems. New joint project, American Television Alliance, will submit two digital simulcast HDTV systems to FCC's advisory committee on advanced television service for possible approval as FCC standard in 1993.

February 11:

Total dollar value for all broadcast stations sold in 1990 was \$1,976,626,100, down from previous year's \$3,235,436,376.

Family Channel plans to launch UK service and is exploring other overseas channels, including Europe-targeted version of its U.S. cable network.

President Bush's proposed \$1.45 trillion fiscal 1992 budget proposes new annual "user fee" for users of FCC services.

February 18:

Joint venture of Dow Jones and Westinghouse Broadcasting has reached agreement to purchase assets of Financial News Network, including its cable and business radio networks for estimated \$90 million. Also, FNN is selling its 51% stake in The Learning Channel to The Discovery Channel for \$12.75 million.

February 25:

FCC is considering plan that would phase out 20-year-old financial interest and syndication rules over three years and give broadcast networks near total freedom to share in \$3-billion-a-year broadcast syndication business.

John Sie, senior VP of Tele-Communications Inc., is leaving MSO to launch new, low-cost pay movie service, Encore; majority owned by TCI's Liberty Media.

John E. Fetzer, pioneer broadcaster, dies at age 89.

March 4:

FNN backs out of deal to sell to Dow Jones-group W, opting for higher bid from CNBC of \$105 million in cash.

Paramount Communications is set to acquire remaining 17% of TVX Broadcast Group it doesn't own for about \$60 million, giving it station group that reaches 10% of nation's television viewers and outlet for its syndicated programming.

March 11:

Time Warner unveils state-of-the-art plan for its Queens, NY, cable system: 150 channels, 40 of them pay per view, using combination of coaxial cable and fiber optics to double system's channel capacity with 1 ghz bandwidth.

Broadcast Programming International, Seattle-based radio format syndicator, buys assets of Drake-Chenault Enterprises from Wagontrain Communications. Agreement joins country's two largest tape-distributed radio format producers.

Cable sports service Prime Network will program and jointly operate new sports service across Asia. Denver-based programmer signs deal with Hong Kong-based Hutchvision, and plans to launch four-to-six-hour daily prime time service later in year via AsiaSat 1 satellite.

March 18:

Three months after its negotiations with Comsat Video Enterprises broke down, and several weeks short of its own deadline to gain \$100 million-\$200 million in startup equity, SkyPix signs another letter of intent that could make Home Shopping Network \$30 million equity partner in proposed launch of SkyPix's mid-power direct broadcast satellite service in summer.

Strother Communications Inc. requests FCC experimental license to test digital audio broadcasting in L band (spectrum near 1500 mhz).

March 25:

Arbitron says cable penetration reached 59.2% in February, or 54,955,000 homes.

April 1:

Buena Vista Television completes deal to sell 50-title film package into broadcast syndication for more than \$125 million. Television programmers say deal is syndication first because stations buying package agreed to do so, even though less than half of films have been produced.

April 15:

FCC votes to relax its financial interest and syndication rules, eliminating all restrictions on networks' ability to acquire financial interest in and syndicate programs aired during non-prime time hours. Networks would also be permitted to acquire financial interest and domestic and foreign syndication rights in outside-produced prime time programming subject to two-step "anti-extraction" safeguard that required networks to wait 30 days after negotiating for backend rights. Networks could syndicate outside-produced programs overseas themselves, but would require them to syndicate such programs domestically through "independent third-party distributors." It would permit networks to syndicate domestically and internationally programs produced in-house, but limit the amount of in-house programming to 40% of prime time schedule. Networks may produce programs for first-run syndication, but require them to syndicate such programs

through third parties. New rules would apply to all networks that deliver more than 15 hours of prime time programming to affiliates reaching 75% of nation's TV homes.

April 22:

Japanese broadcaster NHK announces plans for 24-hour-a-day Global News Network to compete with CNN. Service will cost \$1 billion and probably will be based in New York. NHK will seek U.S. and European partners.

Supreme Court rules that sales tax on cable service imposed by state of Arkansas is constitutional.

In what may be first, federal government is operating commercial television station. Resolution Trust Corp., which sells assets for failed savings and loans, was appointed receiver of WCVX(TV) Vineyard Haven, MA, when Sentry Federal Savings Bank went under.

April 29:

FCC will launch rulemaking to consider raising cap on ownership limits on radio stations. It will also consider repealing or relaxing its duopoly rules to allow AM-AM or FM-FM combinations in same market.

New cable service, Monitor Channel, is set to launch on May 1.

May 6:

Broadcast segments of ABC, CBS and NBC each showed drop in profits in 1990 compared to 1989, according to exclusive *Broadcasting* figures. Capacities/ABC posted broadcast segment profit of \$830,500,000 (down 1%) on revenue of \$4,283,600,000; CBS turned in loss of \$49,800,000 on revenue of \$3,261,200,000, while NBC had profit of \$477,000,000 (down 21%) on revenue of \$3,236,000,000.

Cox Enterprises hopes to break new ground between broadcasters and cable operators with proposal for statewide news channel in California.

May 13:

James Leonard Reinsch—radio, television and cable pioneer and retired head of Cox Broadcasting—dies at 82.

HBO announces plans to turn both of its cable services - HBO and Cinemax - into three-channel services in attempt to limit churn by giving subscribers more choice.

FCC grants Strother Communications, Hammond, LA, temporary licenses to operate experimental digital audio broadcasting stations on UHF-TV band in Boston and Washington.

May 20:

U.S. Court of Appeals strikes down as unconstitutional FCC's 24-hour-a-day ban against broadcast indecency and orders commission to establish so-called "safe harbor" period during which number of children in audience is small and broadcasters may air indecent programming with impunity.

Times Mirror Co. sells *Broadcasting* and its associated publications, *The Broadcasting Yearbook* and *Broadcasting Abroad*, to Cahners Publishing Co. for \$32 million. Cahners is subsidiary of Reed International.

June 10:

Hubbard Broadcasting-led United States Satellite Broadcasting signs \$100 million deal with Hughes Communications, committing Hughes to build and launch at least one high-power direct broadcast satellite by mid-1994.

NBC announces that comedian Jay Leno will take over as host of The Tonight Show when 29-year incumbent Johnny Carson leaves on May 22, 1992.

June 17:

FCC adopts new "effective competition" standard for cable systems. In order to escape municipal regulation, system must be competing with either six broadcast channels or another "multichannel video provider" reaching half the market and serving 10% of its homes.

FCC recommends U.S. seek allocations for both satellite and terrestrial digital audio broadcasting in 1992 World Administrative Radio Conference.

June 24:

National Association of Broadcasters joint radio-television board decides to begin planning for research and development laboratory to develop new technologies. Next step will be industry summit in early 1992.

July 1:

FCC Office of Plans and Policy issues paper predicting gloomy future for broadcast television because viewers, advertising and programming will continue to migrate to cable TV.

July 8:

Enhanced and high-definition television in U.S. begins transition from theory to hardware as Advanced Television Testing Center begins yearlong scrutiny of six advanced systems, four of them proposing to allow delivery of digital HDTV via broadcast, cable, wireless and satellite.

Michael Landon, veteran television actor-writer-producer-director of *Bonanza*, *Little House on the Prairie*, *Father Murphy* and *Highway to Heaven*, dies at 54.

July 22:

FCC launches rulemaking to restore must-carry rules requiring cable TV systems to carry local broadcast signals.

July 29:

District Court Judge Harold Greene lists long-standing restriction on seven regional Bell operating companies' entry into "information services" such as video newspapers, video classified ads, video yellow pages and video program distribution outside their regional service area.

CBS buys WCCO-TV Minneapolis and other properties from Midwest Communications for \$200 million. Move will expand CBS's reach from 20.8% to 22.7% of nation's TV households.

After two years of haggling with West Coast affiliates over prime time rollbacks, NBC gives KCRA-TV Sacramento go-ahead to shift its prime time programming from 8-11 pm to 7-10 pm. Station will add half-hour 10 pm newscast and, if FCC will grant it waiver of prime time access rules, schedule *Tonight* show at 10:35.

August 5:

Reversing earlier decision, FCC votes to exempt broadcast of back-to-back interviews and speeches by "major party" candidates—Republicans and Democrats—from stations' statutory obligation to provide "equal time" to all legally qualified candidates for federal offices.

MTV Networks announces it will begin programming three MTV channels starting in mid-1993, with testing to begin in '92 with at least four cable operators in five markets.

August 12:

Dean Burch, director general of Intelsat and former FCC chairman, dies at age 63.

Harry Reasoner, veteran CBS News reporter, 60 Minutes anchor-correspondent and ABC News anchor, dies at age 68.

August 29:

Free to move around Moscow, and ready to commit resources to coverage, television and radio provide gripping details of short-lived Soviet coup and collapse of communism in Soviet Union. During his detention in Crimea, Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev keeps track of events by listening to BBC, Voice of America and Radio Liberty.

September 2:

Museum of Television and Radio cuts ribbon on new 17-story home at 25 West 52nd Street, New York. New facility is four times size of old building and cost \$50 million.

September 9:

ABC Radio Networks and all-sports cable service ESPN will launch jointly managed sports radio network in January 1992. ESPN Radio Network will consist of 16 weekend hours of original programming.

October 7:

FCC is moving to shield broadcasters from rising number of lawsuits arising from overcharges of political candidates for commercial time under lowest unit rate charge. Commission will issue tentative order asserting sole jurisdiction over determining whether stations have violated law, which requires them to sell time to candidates at their most favorable commercial rates. Candidates would be precluded from suing stations to recover overpayments unless FCC had already made initial judgement that law had been violated.

Bush administration's plan to raise revenues for FCC through "user fees" charged to commission licensees is dead for fiscal 1992. House and Senate conferees on Commerce/Justice/State department appropriations bill—which include appropriations for FCC—agree to Senate plan for \$126 million in FCC funding and no fees.

October 14:

U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington lifts Judge Harold Greene's stay on decision allowing regional Bell operating companies to produce and deliver information services.

October 21:

ABC, CBS and NBC lose estimated \$15 million-\$20 million in ad revenue while covering Senate confirmation hearings of Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas. CNN estimated its losses at more than \$1 million.

BBC moves step closer in its plans to establish news channels around world with launch of BBC World Service Television in 38 Asian countries.

Beginning in September 1993 at Miami Convention Center, Radio-Television News Directors Association and Society of Broadcast Engineers will hold "concurrent but entirely separate conferences" while merging their exhibitions.

October 28:

Report by National Telecommunications and Information Administration concludes U.S. could strengthen its competitive standing with world's major industrialized countries and advance level of communication technology if it lifts cable-telephone company cross-ownership restrictions in 1984 Cable Act.

Gene Roddenberry, creator of TV's Star Trek, dies at age 70.

November 4:

\$1 billion agreement between Time Warner, Toshiba Corp. and C. Itoh & Co. creates limited partnership called Time Warner Entertainment, whose operating

business would include Warner Bros., HBO and Time Warner Cable.

Turner Broadcasting buys Hanna-Barbera Productions for \$320 million. Purchase opens door for Turner's stated desire to start channel devoted to animated programming.

Sheridan Broadcasting Networks Inc. and NBN Broadcasting Inc. sign letter of intent to merge two black-owned radio companies into new firm.

November 18:

Fox Broadcasting Co. becomes first U.S. TV network to accept paid commercials for condoms.

November 25:

Fox Broadcasting Co. plans to test second channel called FoxPlex in 1992 that will time-shift its schedule, and possibly its affiliates' local programming. Channel will not use over-the-air signal, but will be delivered via cable.

The Television Consortium, ad hoc group of approximately 30 independent TV stations, sign agreement with Warner Bros. Domestic Television Distribution to produce two hour-long action-adventure series for 8-10 pm Wednesday block starting Jan. 20, 1993.

December 9:

CBS News unveils plans to launch early-morning newscast in early 1992, joining NBC and ABC in an-

chored overnight news business now dominated by CNN and All News Channel.

Scientific-Atlanta joins with Zenith Electronics and AT&T to develop single system to transmit both digital high-definition television and digitally compressed standard NTSC signals to cable systems.

Comsat Corp. Chairman-CEO Irving Goldstein will become director general of Intelsat if confirmed by Intelsat Assembly of Parties at meeting in January 1992.

December 16:

Emmis Broadcasting reaches agreement in principle to sell its WFAN(AM) New York to Infinity Broadcasting for \$70 million; believed to be highest price for AM standalone.

December 23:

VNU Business Information Services announces it will "discontinue its unprofitable Birch Radio ratings product line by Dec. 31."

Time Warner unveils 150-channel cable system in Queens, NY.

December 30:

Mairite Communications and Legacy Broadcasting Partners form Radio One Marketing, a joint operating venture that combines sales and client services of two groups' Cleveland radio stations.