was taken there by ambulance Friday (Nov. 1) after suffering a seizure in his Rockefeller Center office.

Mr. Frank was released from the hospital last Thursday (Nov. 7) after undergoing a series of tests and was expected back at work the next day. Although it was first feared that Mr. Frank had suffered a heart attack, final diagnosis was a malfunctioning gall bladder.

Mr. Frank sent NBC News personnel a two-page election-eve message noting that “the last time I wasn't at work at 30 Rockefeller on election night was in 1948,” when he was employed by a newspaper with an office next to a fish store in Elizabeth, N. J., and his assignment “was some dissident Republicans trying to capture the Union county board of chosen freeholders.” CBS also was without one of its men. Correspondent Hughes Rudd, who was to have been stationed at Nixon headquarters, was under treatment for injuries suffered in an election-eve mugging. Mr. Rudd was attacked by four youths on a New York city street corner when he left his apartment to buy a newspaper.

The Media

Sonderling increases TV holdings

Oblains WAST in $8-million purchase deal; Park group buys 3 stations from Gamble-Skogmo

The sales of a single TV station, selling for $8 million, and three radio stations, selling for $2.9 million, were approved by the FCC last week.

WAST-TV Albany, N.Y., on channel 13 with an ABC affiliation, was bought by Sonderling Broadcasting Corp. The $8 million consideration is in cash. The agreement also calls for an excess equal to the excess of current assets over current liabilities at the closing.

The WAST purchase was from Glen Alden Corp., a conglomerate that acquired WAST's parent company, Stanley-Warner Corp., through a merger. At that time, Glen Alden disclosed that it intended to sell WAST. Early this year, it entered into an $8.5 million contract with RKO General, but this was later cancelled. The Sonderling purchase became known last May, and the application for transfer was filed last July.

Sonderling Broadcasting is a publicly owned group broadcaster, which acquired its first TV station last year when it bought channel 36 WJKY-TV Louisville, Ky., for a record UHF sale price of $6.9 million. Sonderling's other stations: WOPA-AM-FM Oak Park, Ill.; WDIA and WTCV-FM Memphis; KDMA Oakland, Calif.; KFOX-AM-FM Long Beach-Los Angeles; WWRL New York and WOLF and WMOD-FM Washington.

Egmont Sonderling is president and 20.5% owner with Richard Goodman, first vice president with 15%, and Mason A. Loundy, secretary-treasurer, with 5.2%.

The multiple radio station sale to Roy H. Park Broadcasting Co., involved KRSI-AM-FM St. Louis Park; WWEB Duluth, both Minnesota, and WNAX Yankton, S.D. They were from Gamble-Skogmo Co., which earlier this year acquired Red Owl Stores, parent company of the stations. The sale of the stations was ordered by the FCC when it approved transfer of control of the stations to Gamble-Skogmo last March. The commission then found that an unauthorized transfer of control of the stations had occurred earlier, and told Gamble-Skogmo to dispose of the stations within six months. The commission also issued a fine of $10,000 for the unauthorized transfer, which has been paid.

The Park group contracted for the stations last July. Actually the stations are being assigned to Roy H. Park Broadcasting of the Midwest Inc. This licensee is 90% owned by Roy H. Park Broadcasting Co., which is wholly owned by Roy H. Park, and 10% by Frank J. Brady, a Yankton attorney. Park stations are WNCY-AM-FM-TV Greenville, N.C.; WOEF-AM-FM-TV Chattanooga; WJHL-TV Jackson City, Tenn.; WWVR-AM-FM-TV Richmond, Va. Park Broadcasting also holds a construction permit for station 20 in Utica, N. Y. Mr. Park's base is Ithaca, N. Y.

The radio station sales were approved by FCC Chairman Rosel H. Hyde and Commissioners Robert E. Lee and James Wadsworth. Commissioners Robert T. Bartley and Nicholas Johnson dissented. Commissioner Kenneth A. Cox abstained from voting.

Gannett adds to holdings

Gannet Co., group newspaper publisher-broadcaster, has agreed to pay $17.7 million for the San Bernardino (Calif.) Sun and Telegram. The California newspapers are being bought from the Times-Mirror Co. (Los Angeles Times), following a federal court ruling ordering Times-Mirror to divest itself of the Sun Bernardino newspaper which it bought in 1964 for $15 million. The Gannett purchase was originally announced last month (Broadcasting, Oct. 7).

FM application raises concentration question

FCC concern about concentration of control of media, frequently discussed in terms of major markets and multimillion-dollar broadcasting properties, isn't limited to cases involving those factors. Last week the commission ordered a hearing on a concentration issue in a case involving an application for an FM in Sheboygan, Wis., a community of 46,000.

The applicant is WIBI, Inc., licensee of WHBI, one of two radio stations in Sheboygan. Two of WIBI's stockholders, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Werner, who own a 36.7% interest in the application, control the local daily newspaper, the Sheboygan Press.

WIBI, in response to a commission query, had said that the station and newspaper are not under common control but, rather, compete commercially and take different editorial positions.

But the commission, in its order last week, said a hearing is necessary to determine whether the stock interests of the Werners diminish the freedom of the two media to compete and/or impinge on their ability to take differing positions; and whether a grant of the application would tend to create an undue concentration of control of local media in Sheboygan.

Commissioners Robert T. Bartley, Kenneth A. Cox and Nicholas Johnson voted for the hearing order. Commissioners Robert E. Lee and James J. Wadsworth dissented. Chairman Rosel H. Hyde concurred in the designation for hearing but would have favored a conditional grant. Commissioner H. Rex Lee did not participate.