

CPRA

RECEIVE REPORT OF MICROWAVE MEETING FROM CROWDER

Foster Strong, Communications Engineer, City of Long Beach, was host for the April 22nd meeting of CPRA at the Lakewood Country Club in Long Beach.

The meeting was called to order by President Harvey Platt at 10:30 a.m. A self introduction of the 46 members and guests present followed. Jay Brady, Dumont Communications Equipment representative, made application for commercial membership in CPRA and was introduced to the membership.

James Homsy, FCC Engineer, gave a very interesting and informative presentation on Conelrad.

Mr. Homsy very carefully quoted from executive orders, 606 of the Communications Act, FCC proposed rules for public-safety Conelrad, and the FCC voluntary Conelrad plans.

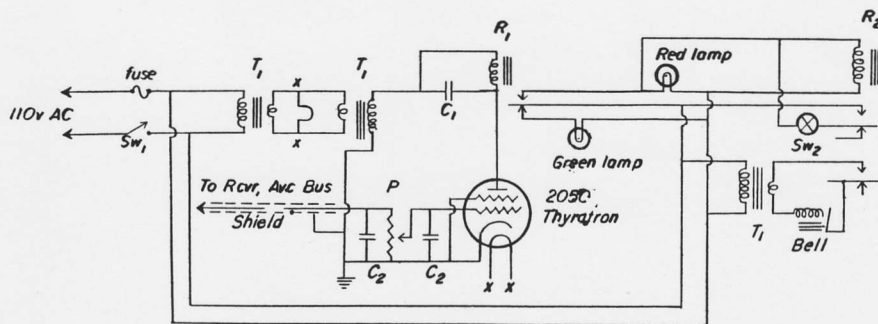
Mr. Homsy pointed out that all stations operating from 10 kc to 100,000 mc, suitable for navigation beyond five miles, except Federal Government Departments, must comply with Conelrad plans; that reception of the alert signal is the responsibility of the user—"licensee." That during Conelrad emergency all public-safety radio must minimize radiation; use only for extreme emergency, (national safety — people and property) must be off except for stated emergencies and no call signs or locations are to be used.

Mr. Homsy stated, "That all affected radio users should have a copy of FCC voluntary Conelrad publication Number 11653 — That the final rules for Conelrad operation are not out, that the final rules must be a compromise of the need for security and the need to do a job. (Radio users should go to the FCC with suggestions.)"

Chief of Police Arthur Hohman gave a review of the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company contract offer for the California Highway Patrol, the P.T.&T. contract with Southern Counties and Southern California Gas Companies, and of the following microwave resolution passed by the City of Los Angeles:

Resolution of the Council of the City of Los Angeles

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles has for three years operated a system of microwave communications under a de-



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|--------|---|-------|----------------------|
| T_1 | 110 to 6 volt transformer (Triad F-16X) | P | 3 meg. potentiometer |
| Sw_1 | On-off switch | C_1 | 1 mfd 250v paper |
| Sw_2 | Push button switch, normally closed | C_2 | .005 mfd 400v paper |
| R_1 | 5000 DC coil relay | | |
| R_2 | 110v AC relay | | |

CONELRAD ALERT ALARM DEVICE USED IN LOS ANGELES AREA. FCC Engineer James Homsey discussed Conelrad at the April 22 meeting of the CPRA.

velopmental permit granted by the Federal Communications Commission, and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles under this permit has used such microwave system on a primary basis for handling emergency traffic, and on a secondary basis for handling communications of the City in the inter-departmental conduct of its official business, and

WHEREAS, a substantial part of governmental communications traffic is of an emergency or non-emergency nature, according to variable circumstances, and delay before transmission for determination of the facts and of the character of a message would result in many cases in unnecessary hazards to or in losses of life and property, and

WHEREAS, non-emergency administrative communications traffic can be handled more efficiently and economically over a licensed publicly owned short wave system than by any other means, with resulting savings to local taxpayers, and

WHEREAS, the continued maintenance and operation of the existing microwave system in the City of Los Angeles will insure its instant availability as supplementary and stand-by communications facilities in the event of local or national disaster, and

WHEREAS, there is sufficient microwave space available to permit the continuing orderly development of private microwave systems for the foreseeable future, and the use of additional channels on the basic microwave carrier does not require the use of an appreciably greater portion of the available spectrum or contribute appreciably to potential interference between systems, and

WHEREAS, the Federal Communications Commission has set for hearing on April 5, 1955, the question of establishing formal rules for the operation of microwave systems of the character now used by the City of Los Angeles, and

WHEREAS, a tentative rule, apparently originating from communications common carriers, has been proposed, which would prohibit the City from using its microwave system for any purpose other than strictly emergency traffic, and

WHEREAS, the introduction in the Congress of bills to the same end is proposed,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that it is the sense of the Council of the City of Los Angeles that:

(1) The principal effect of the proposed rule would be to require the disbursement of public funds to common carrier utility companies for the transmission of communications in the conduct of the public business, without regard to whether there would be any resultant saving by not using an existing publicly owned communications system.

(2) The proposed rule is without justification except to impose costs upon

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John F. Bulmer, Chairman

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local taxpayers for the benefit of privately owned communications common carriers.

(3) The state and local governments should be left free, according to their own determinations, to provide for services to their citizens and taxpayers at minimum cost.

(4) Another effect of the adoption of any such rule would be to impel or compel the sale of publicly owned communication systems to privately owned utility common carriers. The rule is wholly without justification for any such purpose.

(5) Decisions as to the manner in which local public funds should be expended, and decisions as to the manner in which local government operations should be conducted, should be made as much as possible by local governing bodies which have the duty and responsibility of determining what local functions shall be discharged by local government and which have the duty and responsibility of levying local taxes for the support of such local functions. This is inherent in the American system of government, and exercise of this local authority in local affairs should not be circumscribed by federal regulations which serve no compelling federal purpose.

(6) The issue is not whether municipal or state government communications can be carried on through the agency of privately owned utility common carriers better than by publicly owned and administered communication systems. The issue is, rather, whether that question should be decided by the local or state governments rather than that it be controlled or directed, either directly or indirectly, by federal agencies under the power of their rule making authority.

(7) If the decision were to be made by the federal government or by one of its agencies, questions of security, of efficiency, and of economy would be raised, many of which would be affected in any particular case by wholly local

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considerations. No decision could be made on the national level which would be valid in its application to every local situation, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Los Angeles hereby urges the Federal Communications Commission to incorporate in its formal rules for the use of publicly owned microwave systems provisions to allow the continued use of such systems on a primary basis for the emergency traffic of the licensee, and on a secondary basis for other traffic in the conduct of the licensee's official business, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the position of the City of Los Angeles as established herein be urged to the Federal Communications Commission, and to the Congress when appropriate, by the City Attorney, and by Mr. Frederick G. Crowder, and that the City Clerk address copies of this resolution to the Federal Communications Commission, to each of its members, to the honorable William F. Knowland, United States Senator from California, to the Honorable Thomas H. Kuchel, United States Senator from California, to each representative in the Congress from the State of California, and to Charles S. Rhyne, General Counsel of the National Institute of Municipal Law Officers.

* * *

After lunch the commercial members were introduced. Bill Miller of the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company stated that P.T.&T. is about ready to start their split channel test.

The March 25, 1955, minutes were accepted as read, by the membership present.

Fred Crowder gave a very interesting and detailed report on the formulation of proposed microwave rules by the joint effort of the FCC and the Microwave Users Council. Mr. Crowder stated, "That the Microwave Council was in

almost complete agreement with the use of microwave as stated in the Resolution of the City of Los Angeles. The Council has a complete list of all microwave users and proposed future users. Microwave users should clear first through their own radio group, then the Microwave Users Council, and then the FCC. Arrangements with the FCC will give the Council notification that license has been issued, antenna height, and direction of beams.

"It was the opinion of the Council that in most systems the carrier runs constantly; thus it should be used to its maximum extent.

"It was suggested that microwave rules be incorporated into the FCC rules that the various services are now operating under; rather than start a new Part 22 for microwave only. Approximately 130 out of the 135 representatives were in agreement on most all issues."

Fred Crowder, Frequency Chairman, reported the following: Madera Sheriff, 45.14 mc, approved; Chula Vista, 155.79 mc, approved; Los Angeles Harbor Department, 45.62 mc, approved for base and mobile with the understanding that other users may possibly share the frequency; San Bernardino, 453.95 mc and 458.95 mc, approved as long as no interference is caused to the City of Pasadena. A request of the County of Ventura was referred to the Frequency Committee with power to act.

Lieutenant Brooks Whitney, Chairman of the Teletype Operating Committee, conducted the meeting on improved teletype operating procedures. Many good points for improvement were brought out by the membership. Committee recommendations are to be completed and presented to the Police Officers meeting next month at Stockton, California.

Eddie Simon stated that the radar speed meter bill passed the State Assembly, 55-7 (for California Highway Patrol use only). It was the opinion of the group that cities and counties should be permitted to make traffic control and use of the radar speed units when needed. Captain Berkett from San Diego stated, "Radar speed equipment has greatly reduced traffic accident volume and severity."

On a motion by Herschel Calvert, seconded by Patricia Amerine, and approved by the body, CPRA went on record as favoring radar speed units for all law enforcement agencies that may wish to make use of them.

The June meeting will be in Orange County, Friday, June 24, 1955. The July meeting will be in Los Angeles, Friday, July 22, 1955.

WARREN L. DAVIS, Sec'y

May, 1955

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