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NAEB COMPUTER STUDY EXTENDED TO INCLUDE MICROWAVE AND AIRBORNE

The USOE has made a supplemental grant to the NAEB under its contract for a determination and evaluation of a nationwide assignment of TV channels. This will permit the NAEB to make a study (using electronic computer methods) of the need for an availability of microwave frequencies. The problem has two major aspects. First, what are the relationships of standards (both equipment and frequency) to the allocation of microwave frequencies; and second, the equitable distribution of microwave frequencies for TV interconnection and relay. This study will make use of the information already obtained in the original assignment study and in the earlier study of the needs of education for TV channels. The project will also include a study of standards and allocation feasibilities for airborne television channels. This study will be conducted by the NAEB Office of Research and Development of which Vernon Bronson is the Director and James Fellows is the Assistant Director, with engineering work being done by Jansky & Bailey, NAEB's engineering consultants.

NAEB WOULD BE REPRESENTED ON JOINT UHF COMMITTEE PROPOSED BY FCC

The NAEB would be represented on a "Committee for the Full Development of UHF Broadcasting" which the FCC proposes to establish to help expedite the expansion of UHF TV service which will be ushered in by all-channel receivers. The Commission believes it is vital to follow up the all-channel regulations with all appropriate steps to enhance the development of UHF broadcasting. Through the proposed committee the FCC could obtain insight into the problems as they arise and, where appropriate, take corrective rulemaking or other actions. The committee could also perform the very useful function of collecting and disseminating information concerning the practical problems confronting the UHF broadcaster in differing market circumstances, the methods used by broadcasters to meet these problems, and whether a particular method was successful or effective.

In addition to an NAEB representative, the committee would be composed of representatives of the FCC and the various groups which could be helpful in promoting the growth of UHF, such as: the UHF broadcasters (including the recently formed Association for Competitive Broadcasting), Electronics Industry Association, NAB, NEMTRC, and the three major networks. The FCC made clear that the list is by no means complete and others who believe they could contribute would, of course, be welcome.

TENNESSEE LEGISLATURE APPROPRIATES \$1.5 MILLION FOR ETV

On Feb. 20, the Tennessee State Legislature appropriated \$1.5 million for capital expenditures to implement a statewide ETV network. The state's two existing stations - WKNO-TV, Memphis, and WDCN-TV, Nashville - will be increased to maximum power, and plans contemplate construction of three more stations at Knoxville, Chattanooga, and Lexington. The transmitter for the University station (Knoxville)

will actually be built at Sneedville where Ch. 2 is reserved for ETV since only a UHF frequency is reserved at Knoxville. This station will have studios at both Knoxville and Johnson City and will serve all of eastern Tennessee. The appropriation approved by the legislature is not contingent upon the receipt of matching Federal funds, although the state plan envisions requesting \$1 million in Federal funds when they become available.

NAEB CONDUCTS SURVEY RE STATE ETV FUNDS

In view of the fact that the 1963 supplemental appropriations bill now being considered by Congress includes a request for funds to implement the Federal ETV Facilities Act during the current fiscal year (which ends June 30, 1963), the NAEB sent (on Feb. 18) a questionnaire to all State ETV Agencies to determine what funds such agencies have available (or can obtain for ETV construction) which would not be available after June 30, and thus would be lost to them unless Federal matching funds are forthcoming. The source of such funds was also asked. This information, when received, will be passed along to the HEW ETV office for their information.

UHF CHANNEL RESERVED FOR ETV IN COTATI, CALIF.

By Report & Order (Feb. 13), the FCC finalized rulemaking in Docket 14779 and assigned Ch. *16 for noncommercial educational use in Cotati, Calif., and deleted that commercial channel from Pittsburg. This stems from a petition by the Sonoma State College Foundation, Inc., of Cotati.

MISCELLANEOUS FCC ACTIONS

On Feb. 6, Monterey (Calif.) Peninsula College requested institution of rulemaking proceeding so as to reserve Ch. 35 (Salinas-Monterey) for educational use. (This reservation was recommended in the NAEB's recent channel allocations study.)

Carmel-Clay Schools (Carmel, Ind.) filed an application (Feb. 7) for CP for new educational FM station to operate on 91.3 mc, at 10 w.

FCC granted (Feb. 8) CP to U. of Maine (Orono) for a new ETV station to operate on Ch. 12; ERP 299 kw visual and 150 kw aural; antenna height 990 ft.

Granted (Feb. 13) CP to U. of Bridgeport (Conn.) for new Class D noncommercial educational FM station to operate on 88.1 mc, 10 w.

Bowling Green (Ohio) State University filed an application (Feb. 13) for a CP for a UHF ETV station to operate on Ch. 70, with Visual ERP of 8.61 kw and Aural ERP of 4.12.

Scanned from the National Association of Educational Broadcasters Records
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