

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D. C.

June 14, 1940

WARNING TO ALL COMMERCIAL RADIO OPERATORS

All classes of commercial radio operators were today formally warned by the Federal Communications Commission to heed the strict letter of the law and international regulations which specifically prohibit superfluous and unnecessary personal chatter by radio. The Commission served notice that it intends to enforce these provisions vigorously, and that it will hold station licensees as well as commercial operators strictly accountable for any violation.

This warning applies to radiotelephone and radiotelegraph services both. It augments the Commission notice of June 10 which particularly cautioned ship radio operators and ship station licensees against transmission of superfluous, unnecessary or unidentified conversation.

The full text of today's formal notice follows:

"On June 10, 1940, the Commission issued a warning specifically addressed to ship radio operators and ship station licensees against the transmission of superfluous, unnecessary or unidentified communications. The purpose of this notice is to emphasize the importance of strict compliance with the previous notice and at the same time to call attention specifically that the provisions of statute and treaty prohibiting the transmission of superfluous, unnecessary or unidentified communications apply to all commercial operators as well as those communicating from ship stations.

"The General Radio Regulations (Cairo Revision, 1938) annexed to the International Telecommunications Convention (Madrid, 1932), to which this Government is a party, and the Communications Act of 1934, specifically prohibit the transmission of superfluous, unnecessary or unidentified communications. The Commission intends to uphold vigorously these provisions of law and treaty and will hold all commercial radio operators and station licensees strictly accountable for any violations."