

Union Calendar No. 799

83^D CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. 2453

[Report No. 2285]

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 16, 1954

Referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce

JULY 19, 1954

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union
and ordered to be printed

AN ACT

To amend the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, with respect to implementing the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea relating to radio equipment and radio operators on board ship.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That (a) paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 351 (a) of
4 the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, are amended
5 to read as follows:

6 “(1) For any ship of the United States, other than a
7 cargo ship of less than five hundred gross tons, to be navi-
8 gated in the open sea outside of a harbor or port, or for
9 any ship of the United States or any foreign country, other

1 than a cargo ship of less than five hundred gross tons, to
2 leave or attempt to leave any harbor or port of the United
3 States for a voyage in the open sea, unless such ship is
4 equipped with an efficient radio installation in operating
5 condition in charge of and operated by a qualified operator
6 or operators, adequately installed and protected so as to
7 insure proper operation, and so as not to endanger the ship
8 and radio installation, as hereinafter provided, and in the case
9 of a ship of the United States, unless there is on board a
10 valid station license issued in accordance with this Act:
11 *Provided*, That the Commission may defer the application of
12 the provisions of this section for a period not beyond January
13 1, 1955, with respect to cargo ships of less than sixteen
14 hundred gross tons not subject to the radio requirements
15 of the Safety Convention when it is found impracticable to
16 obtain or install equipment necessary for compliance there-
17 with;

18 “(2) For any ship of the United States of sixteen
19 hundred gross tons, or over, to be navigated outside of a
20 harbor or port, in the open sea, or for any such ship of the
21 United States or any foreign country to leave or attempt to
22 leave any harbor or port of the United States for a voyage
23 in the open sea, unless such ship is equipped with an efficient
24 radio direction finding apparatus (radio compass) properly
25 adjusted in operating condition as hereinafter provided, which

1 apparatus is approved by the Commission: *Provided*, That
2 the Commission may defer the application of the provisions
3 of this section with respect to radio direction finding ap-
4 paratus to a ship or ships between one thousand six hundred
5 and five thousand gross tons for a period not beyond No-
6 vember 19, 1954, if it is found impracticable to obtain or
7 install such direction finding apparatus.”

8 (b) Paragraph (3) of section 352 (a) of such Act is
9 amended to read as follows:

10 “(3) A foreign ship belonging to a country which is a
11 party to any Safety Convention in force between the United
12 States and that country which ship carries a valid certifi-
13 cate exempting said ship from the radio provisions of that
14 Convention, or which ship conforms to the radio require-
15 ments of such Convention or Regulations and has on board a
16 valid certificate to that effect, or which ship is not subject to
17 the radio provisions of any such Convention;”.

18 (c) Section 352 of such Act is amended by adding at
19 the end thereof a new subsection as follows:

20 “(c) If, because of unforeseeable failure of equipment,
21 a ship is unable to comply with the equipment requirements
22 of this part without undue delay of the ship, the mileage
23 limitations set forth in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection
24 (b) shall not apply: *Provided*, That exemption of the ship
25 is found to be reasonable or necessary in accordance with

1 subsection (b) to permit the ship to proceed to a port where
2 the equipment deficiency may be remedied.”

3 (d) Section 353 of such Act is amended to read as
4 follows:

5 “OPERATORS, WATCHES, AUTO-ALARM—RADIOTELEGRAPH
6 EQUIPPED SHIPS

7 “SEC. 353. (a) Each cargo ship required by this part
8 to be fitted with a radiotelegraph installation and which is
9 not fitted with an auto-alarm, and each passenger ship re-
10 quired by this part to be fitted with a radiotelegraph in-
11 stallation, shall, for safety purposes, carry at least two
12 qualified operators.

13 “(b) A cargo ship, required by this part to be fitted
14 with a radiotelegraph installation, which is fitted with an
15 auto-alarm in accordance with this title, shall, for safety
16 purposes, carry at least one qualified operator who shall have
17 had at least six months’ previous service in the aggregate
18 as a qualified operator in a station on board a ship or ships
19 of the United States.

20 “(c) Each ship of the United States required by this
21 part to be fitted with a radiotelegraph installation shall,
22 while being navigated outside a harbor or port, keep a con-
23 tinuous watch by means of qualified operators: *Provided,*
24 That in lieu thereof, on a cargo ship fitted with an auto-alarm
25 in proper operating condition, a watch of at least eight hours

1 per day, in the aggregate, shall be maintained by means of
2 a qualified operator.

3 “(d) The Commission shall, when it finds it necessary
4 for safety purposes, have authority to prescribe the particu-
5 lar hours of watch on a ship of the United States which is
6 required by this part to be fitted with a radiotelegraph
7 installation.

8 “(e) On all ships of the United States fitted with an
9 auto-alarm, said apparatus shall be in operation at all times
10 while the ship is being navigated outside of a harbor or port
11 when the operator is not on watch.”

12 SEC. 2. (a) Such Act is amended by—

13 (1) redesignating sections 354, 355, 356, 357, 358,
14 359, 360, 361, and 362 thereof as sections 355, 357,
15 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, and 364 thereof, re-
16 spectively; and

17 (2) amending each such section number wherever
18 it appears therein to conform to the redesignation pre-
19 scribed by paragraph (1) of this subsection.

20 (b) Such Act is amended by inserting, immediately
21 after section 353 thereof, the following new section:

22 “OPERATORS, WATCHES—RADIOTELEPHONE
23 EQUIPPED SHIPS

24 “SEC. 354 (a) Each cargo ship fitted with a radiotele-
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1 phone installation in accordance with section 356 shall, for
2 safety purposes, carry at least one qualified operator who
3 may be a member of the crew holding only a certificate
4 for radio telephony.

5 “(b) Each cargo ship of the United States fitted with a
6 radiotelephone installation in accordance with section 356
7 shall, while being navigated outside a harbor or port, keep
8 a listening watch in such manner and during such periods
9 as determined by the Commission.”

10 (c) That portion of section 355 of such Act, as re-
11 designated hereby, which precedes subsection (b) thereof
12 is amended to read as follows:

13 “TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS—RADIOTELEGRAPH EQUIPPED
14 SHIPS

15 “SEC. 355. The radio installation and the radio direction
16 finding apparatus required by section 351 of this part shall
17 comply with the following requirements:

18 “(a) The radio installation shall comprise a main and
19 an emergency or reserve radiotelegraph installation: *Pro-*
20 *vided*, That, in the case of an existing installation on a cargo
21 ship and a new installation on a cargo ship of five hundred
22 gross tons and upwards but less than one thousand six
23 hundred gross tons, if the main installation complies with
24 all requirements of an emergency or reserve installation,
25 the emergency or reserve installation may be omitted, except

1 that a separate emergency receiver must, in all cases, be
2 provided.”

3 (d) Such Act is amended by inserting, immediately
4 after section 355 thereof, as redesignated hereby, the fol-
5 lowing new section:

6 “TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS—RADIOTELEPHONE EQUIPPED
7 SHIPS

8 “SEC. 356. Cargo ships of less than sixteen hundred
9 gross tons may, in lieu of the radiotelegraph installation
10 prescribed by section 355, carry a radiotelephone installation
11 meeting the following requirements:

12 “(a) The ship’s radiotelephone installation shall be in
13 the upper part of the ship and, unless situated on the bridge,
14 there shall be efficient communication with the bridge.

15 “(b) The radiotelephone installation shall be capable
16 of transmitting and receiving on the frequencies and with
17 types of emissions designated by the Commission pursuant to
18 law for the purpose of distress and safety of navigation.

19 “(c) The transmitter shall be capable of transmitting
20 clearly perceptible signals from ship to ship during daytime,
21 under normal conditions and circumstances, over a minimum
22 normal range of one hundred and fifty nautical miles.

23 “(d) There shall be available at all times a source of
24 energy sufficient to operate the installation over the normal
25 range required by paragraph (c). If batteries are provided

1 they shall have sufficient capacity to operate the transmitter
2 and receiver for at least six hours continuously under normal
3 working conditions. In new installations an emergency
4 source of energy shall be provided in the upper part of
5 the ship unless the main source of energy is so situated.”

6 (e) The text of section 357 of such Act, as redesignated
7 hereby, is amended to read as follows:

8 “SEC. 357. Every ship required to be provided with
9 lifeboat radio by treaty to which the United States is a
10 party, by statute, or by regulation made in conformity with
11 a treaty, convention, or statute, shall be fitted with efficient
12 radio equipment appropriate to such requirement under such
13 rules and regulations as the Commission may find necessary
14 for safety of life. For purposes of this section, ‘radio equip-
15 ment’ shall include portable as well as nonportable
16 apparatus.”

17 (f) Subsection 361 (b) of such Act, as redesignated
18 hereby, is amended to read as follows:

19 “(b) Appropriate certificates concerning the radio par-
20 ticulars provided for in said Convention shall be issued upon
21 proper request to any vessel which is subject to the radio pro-
22 visions of the Safety Convention and is found by the Commis-
23 sion to comply therewith. Safety Radiotelegraphy Certif-
24 icates and Safety Radiotelephony Certificates, as prescribed
25 by the said Convention, and Exemption Certificates issued in

1 lieu of such certificates, shall be issued by the Commission.
2 Other certificates concerning the radio particulars provided
3 for in the said Convention shall be issued by the Commandant
4 of the Coast Guard or whatever other agency is authorized by
5 law to do so upon request of the Commission made after
6 proper inspection or determination of the facts. If the holder
7 of a certificate violates the radio provisions of the Safety Con-
8 vention or the provisions of this Act, or the rules, regulations
9 or conditions prescribed by the Commission, and if the ef-
10 fective administration of the Safety Convention or of this
11 part so requires, the Commission, after hearing in accord-
12 ance with law, is authorized to modify or cancel a certifi-
13 cate which it has issued, or to request the modification or
14 cancellation of a certificate which has been issued by another
15 agency upon the Commission's request. Upon receipt of
16 such request for modification or cancellation, the Comman-
17 dant of the Coast Guard, or whatever agency is authorized by
18 law to do so, shall modify or cancel the certificate in ac-
19 cordance therewith."

20 SEC. 3. Section 3 of such Act is amended by inserting
21 at the end thereof the following new subsections:

22 "(ee) 'Existing installation', as used in section 355 of
23 this Act, means an installation installed on a ship prior to
24 November 19, 1952, in the case of a United States ship sub-
25 ject to the radio provisions of the Safety Convention, or one

1 installed on a ship prior to a date one year after the effective
2 date of this subsection in the case of other ships subject to
3 part II of title III of this Act.

4 “(ff) ‘New installation’, as used in sections 355 and
5 356 of this Act, means an installation which replaces an
6 existing installation or, in the case of a United States ship
7 subject to the radio provisions of the Safety Convention, one
8 installed on a ship subsequent to November 19, 1952, and,
9 in the case of other ships subject to part II of title III of this
10 Act, one which is installed subsequent to a date one year
11 after the effective date of this subsection.”

Passed the Senate June 15 (legislative day, June 11),
1954.

Attest:

J. MARK TRICE,

Secretary.

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4 the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, are amended
5 to read as follows:

6 “(1) For any ship of the United States, other than a
7 cargo ship of less than five hundred gross tons, to be navi-
8 gated in the open sea outside of a harbor or port, or for
9 any ship of the United States or any foreign country, other

1 than a cargo ship of less than five hundred gross tons, to
2 leave or attempt to leave any harbor or port of the United
3 States for a voyage in the open sea, unless such ship is
4 equipped with an efficient radio installation in operating
5 condition in charge of and operated by a qualified operator
6 or operators, adequately installed and protected so as to
7 insure proper operation, and so as not to endanger the ship
8 and radio installation, as hereinafter provided, and in the case
9 of a ship of the United States, unless there is on board a
10 valid station license issued in accordance with this Act:
11 *Provided*, That the Commission may defer the application of
12 the provisions of this section for a period not beyond January
13 1, 1955, with respect to cargo ships of less than sixteen
14 hundred gross tons not subject to the radio requirements
15 of the Safety Convention when it is found impracticable to
16 obtain or install equipment necessary for compliance there-
17 with;

18 “(2) For any ship of the United States of sixteen
19 hundred gross tons, or over, to be navigated outside of a
20 harbor or port, in the open sea, or for any such ship of the
21 United States or any foreign country to leave or attempt to
22 leave any harbor or port of the United States for a voyage
23 in the open sea, unless such ship is equipped with an efficient
24 radio direction finding apparatus (radio compass) properly
25 adjusted in operating condition as hereinafter provided, which

1 apparatus is approved by the Commission: *Provided*, That
2 the Commission may defer the application of the provisions
3 of this section with respect to radio direction finding ap-
4 paratus to a ship or ships between one thousand six hundred
5 and five thousand gross tons for a period not beyond No-
6 vember 19, 1954, if it is found impracticable to obtain or
7 install such direction finding apparatus.”

8 (b) Paragraph (3) of section 352 (a) of such Act is
9 amended to read as follows:

10 “(3) A foreign ship belonging to a country which is a
11 party to any Safety Convention in force between the United
12 States and that country which ship carries a valid certifi-
13 cate exempting said ship from the radio provisions of that
14 Convention, or which ship conforms to the radio require-
15 ments of such Convention or Regulations and has on board a
16 valid certificate to that effect, or which ship is not subject to
17 the radio provisions of any such Convention;”

18 (c) Section 352 of such Act is amended by adding at
19 the end thereof a new subsection as follows:

20 “(c) If, because of unforeseeable failure of equipment,
21 a ship is unable to comply with the equipment requirements
22 of this part without undue delay of the ship, the mileage
23 limitations set forth in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection
24 (b) shall not apply: *Provided*, That exemption of the ship
25 is found to be reasonable or necessary in accordance with

1 subsection (b) to permit the ship to proceed to a port where
2 the equipment deficiency may be remedied.”

3 (d) Section 353 of such Act is amended to read as
4 follows:

5 “OPERATORS, WATCHES, AUTO-ALARM—RADIOTELEGRAPH
6 EQUIPPED SHIPS

7 “SEC. 353. (a) Each cargo ship required by this part
8 to be fitted with a radiotelegraph installation and which is
9 not fitted with an auto-alarm, and each passenger ship re-
10 quired by this part to be fitted with a radiotelegraph in-
11 stallation, shall, for safety purposes, carry at least two
12 qualified operators.

13 “(b) A cargo ship, required by this part to be fitted
14 with a radiotelegraph installation, which is fitted with an
15 auto-alarm in accordance with this title, shall, for safety
16 purposes, carry at least one qualified operator who shall have
17 had at least six months’ previous service in the aggregate
18 as a qualified operator in a station on board a ship or ships
19 of the United States.

20 “(c) Each ship of the United States required by this
21 part to be fitted with a radiotelegraph installation shall,
22 while being navigated outside a harbor or port, keep a con-
23 tinuous watch by means of qualified operators: *Provided,*
24 That in lieu thereof, on a cargo ship fitted with an auto-alarm
25 in proper operating condition, a watch of at least eight hours

1 per day, in the aggregate, shall be maintained by means of
2 a qualified operator.

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4 for safety purposes, have authority to prescribe the particu-
5 lar hours of watch on a ship of the United States which is
6 required by this part to be fitted with a radiotelegraph
7 installation.

8 “(e) On all ships of the United States fitted with an
9 auto-alarm, said apparatus shall be in operation at all times
10 while the ship is being navigated outside of a harbor or port
11 when the operator is not on watch.”

12 SEC. 2. (a) Such Act is amended by—

13 (1) redesignating sections 354, 355, 356, 357, 358,
14 359, 360, 361, and 362 thereof as sections 355, 357,
15 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, and 364 thereof, re-
16 spectively; and

17 (2) amending each such section number wherever
18 it appears therein to conform to the redesignation pre-
19 scribed by paragraph (1) of this subsection.

20 (b) Such Act is amended by inserting, immediately
21 after section 353 thereof, the following new section:

22 “OPERATORS, WATCHES—RADIOTELEPHONE

23 EQUIPPED SHIPS

24 “SEC. 354 (a) Each cargo ship fitted with a radiotele-

1 phone installation in accordance with section 356 shall, for
2 safety purposes, carry at least one qualified operator who
3 may be a member of the crew holding only a certificate
4 for radio telephony.

5 “(b) Each cargo ship of the United States fitted with a
6 radiotelephone installation in accordance with section 356
7 shall, while being navigated outside a harbor or port, keep
8 a listening watch in such manner and during such periods
9 as determined by the Commission.”

10 (c) That portion of section 355 of such Act, as re-
11 designated hereby, which precedes subsection (b) thereof
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14 SHIPS

15 “SEC. 355. The radio installation and the radio direction
16 finding apparatus required by section 351 of this part shall
17 comply with the following requirements:

18 “(a) The radio installation shall comprise a main and
19 an emergency or reserve radiotelegraph installation: *Pro-*
20 *vided*, That, in the case of an existing installation on a cargo
21 ship and a new installation on a cargo ship of five hundred
22 gross tons and upwards but less than one thousand six
23 hundred gross tons, if the main installation complies with
24 all requirements of an emergency or reserve installation,
25 the emergency or reserve installation may be omitted, except

1 that a separate emergency receiver must, in all cases, be
2 provided.”

3 (d) Such Act is amended by inserting, immediately
4 after section 355 thereof, as redesignated hereby, the fol-
5 lowing new section:

6 “TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS—RADIOTELEPHONE EQUIPPED
7 SHIPS

8 “SEC. 356. Cargo ships of less than sixteen hundred
9 gross tons may, in lieu of the radiotelegraph installation
10 prescribed by section 355, carry a radiotelephone installation
11 meeting the following requirements:

12 “(a) The ship’s radiotelephone installation shall be in
13 the upper part of the ship and, unless situated on the bridge,
14 there shall be efficient communication with the bridge.

15 “(b) The radiotelephone installation shall be capable
16 of transmitting and receiving on the frequencies and with
17 types of emissions designated by the Commission pursuant to
18 law for the purpose of distress and safety of navigation.

19 “(c) The transmitter shall be capable of transmitting
20 clearly perceptible signals from ship to ship during daytime,
21 under normal conditions and circumstances, over a minimum
22 normal range of one hundred and fifty nautical miles.

23 “(d) There shall be available at all times a source of
24 energy sufficient to operate the installation over the normal
25 range required by paragraph (c). If batteries are provided

1 they shall have sufficient capacity to operate the transmitter
2 and receiver for at least six hours continuously under normal
3 working conditions. In new installations an emergency
4 source of energy shall be provided in the upper part of
5 the ship unless the main source of energy is so situated.”

6 (e) The text of section 357 of such Act, as redesignated
7 hereby, is amended to read as follows:

8 “SEC. 357. Every ship required to be provided with
9 lifeboat radio by treaty to which the United States is a
10 party, by statute, or by regulation made in conformity with
11 a treaty, convention, or statute, shall be fitted with efficient
12 radio equipment appropriate to such requirement under such
13 rules and regulations as the Commission may find necessary
14 for safety of life. For purposes of this section, ‘radio equip-
15 ment’ shall include portable as well as nonportable
16 apparatus.”

17 (f) Subsection 361 (b) of such Act, as redesignated
18 hereby, is amended to read as follows:

19 “(b) Appropriate certificates concerning the radio par-
20 ticulars provided for in said Convention shall be issued upon
21 proper request to any vessel which is subject to the radio pro-
22 visions of the Safety Convention and is found by the Commis-
23 sion to comply therewith. Safety Radiotelegraphy Certif-
24 icates and Safety Radiotelephony Certificates, as prescribed
25 by the said Convention, and Exemption Certificates issued in

1 lieu of such certificates, shall be issued by the Commission.
2 Other certificates concerning the radio particulars provided
3 for in the said Convention shall be issued by the Commandant
4 of the Coast Guard or whatever other agency is authorized by
5 law to do so upon request of the Commission made after
6 proper inspection or determination of the facts. If the holder
7 of a certificate violates the radio provisions of the Safety Con-
8 vention or the provisions of this Act, or the rules, regulations
9 or conditions prescribed by the Commission, and if the ef-
10 fective administration of the Safety Convention or of this
11 part so requires, the Commission, after hearing in accord-
12 ance with law, is authorized to modify or cancel a certifi-
13 cate which it has issued, or to request the modification or
14 cancellation of a certificate which has been issued by another
15 agency upon the Commission's request. Upon receipt of
16 such request for modification or cancellation, the Comman-
17 dant of the Coast Guard, or whatever agency is authorized by
18 law to do so, shall modify or cancel the certificate in ac-
19 cordance therewith."

20 SEC. 3. Section 3 of such Act is amended by inserting
21 at the end thereof the following new subsections:

22 "(ee) 'Existing installation', as used in section 355 of
23 this Act, means an installation installed on a ship prior to
24 November 19, 1952, in the case of a United States ship sub-
25 ject to the radio provisions of the Safety Convention, or one

1 installed on a ship prior to a date one year after the effective
2 date of this subsection in the case of other ships subject to
3 part II of title III of this Act.

4 “(ff) ‘New installation’, as used in sections 355 and
5 356 of this Act, means an installation which replaces an
6 existing installation or, in the case of a United States ship
7 subject to the radio provisions of the Safety Convention, one
8 installed on a ship subsequent to November 19, 1952, and,
9 in the case of other ships subject to part II of title III of this
10 Act, one which is installed subsequent to a date one year
11 after the effective date of this subsection.”

Passed the Senate June 15 (legislative day, June 11),
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Attest:

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5 condition in charge of and operated by a qualified operator
6 or operators, adequately installed and protected so as to
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8 and radio installation, as hereinafter provided, and in the case
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12 the provisions of this section for a period not beyond January
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1 apparatus is approved by the Commission: *Provided*, That
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3 of this section with respect to radio direction finding ap-
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5 and five thousand gross tons for a period not beyond No-
6 vember 19, 1954, if it is found impracticable to obtain or
7 install such direction finding apparatus.”

8 (b) Paragraph (3) of section 352 (a) of such Act is
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16 purposes, carry at least one qualified operator who shall have
17 had at least six months’ previous service in the aggregate
18 as a qualified operator in a station on board a ship or ships
19 of the United States.

20 “(c) Each ship of the United States required by this
21 part to be fitted with a radiotelegraph installation shall,
22 while being navigated outside a harbor or port, keep a con-
23 tinuous watch by means of qualified operators: *Provided*,
24 That in lieu thereof, on a cargo ship fitted with an auto-alarm
25 in proper operating condition, a watch of at least eight hours

1 per day, in the aggregate, shall be maintained by means of
2 a qualified operator.

3 “(d) The Commission shall, when it finds it necessary
4 for safety purposes, have authority to prescribe the particu-
5 lar hours of watch on a ship of the United States which is
6 required by this part to be fitted with a radiotelegraph
7 installation.

8 “(e) On all ships of the United States fitted with an
9 auto-alarm, said apparatus shall be in operation at all times
10 while the ship is being navigated outside of a harbor or port
11 when the operator is not on watch.”

12 SEC. 2. (a) Such Act is amended by—

13 (1) redesignating sections 354, 355, 356, 357, 358,
14 359, 360, 361, and 362 thereof as sections 355, 357,
15 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, and 364 thereof, re-
16 spectively; and

17 (2) amending each such section number wherever
18 it appears therein to conform to the redesignation pre-
19 scribed by paragraph (1) of this subsection.

20 (b) Such Act is amended by inserting, immediately
21 after section 353 thereof, the following new section:

22 “OPERATORS, WATCHES—RADIOTELEPHONE

23 EQUIPPED SHIPS

24 “SEC. 354 (a) Each cargo ship fitted with a radiotele-

1 phone installation in accordance with section 356 shall, for
2 safety purposes, carry at least one qualified operator who
3 may be a member of the crew holding only a certificate
4 for radio telephony.

5 “(b) Each cargo ship of the United States fitted with a
6 radiotelephone installation in accordance with section 356
7 shall, while being navigated outside a harbor or port, keep
8 a listening watch in such manner and during such periods
9 as determined by the Commission.”

10 (c) That portion of section 355 of such Act, as re-
11 designated hereby, which precedes subsection (b) thereof
12 is amended to read as follows:

13 “TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS—RADIOTELEGRAPH EQUIPPED
14 SHIPS

15 “SEC. 355. The radio installation and the radio direction
16 finding apparatus required by section 351 of this part shall
17 comply with the following requirements:

18 “(a) The radio installation shall comprise a main and
19 an emergency or reserve radiotelegraph installation: *Pro-*
20 *vided*, That, in the case of an existing installation on a cargo
21 ship and a new installation on a cargo ship of five hundred
22 gross tons and upwards but less than one thousand six
23 hundred gross tons, if the main installation complies with
24 all requirements of an emergency or reserve installation,
25 the emergency or reserve installation may be omitted, except

1 that a separate emergency receiver must, in all cases, be
2 provided.”

3 (d) Such Act is amended by inserting, immediately
4 after section 355 thereof, as redesignated hereby, the fol-
5 lowing new section:

6 “TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS—RADIOTELEPHONE EQUIPPED
7 SHIPS

8 “SEC. 356. Cargo ships of less than sixteen hundred
9 gross tons may, in lieu of the radiotelegraph installation
10 prescribed by section 355, carry a radiotelephone installation
11 meeting the following requirements:

12 “(a) The ship’s radiotelephone installation shall be in
13 the upper part of the ship and, unless situated on the bridge,
14 there shall be efficient communication with the bridge.

15 “(b) The radiotelephone installation shall be capable
16 of transmitting and receiving on the frequencies and with
17 types of emissions designated by the Commission pursuant to
18 law for the purpose of distress and safety of navigation.

19 “(c) The transmitter shall be capable of transmitting
20 clearly perceptible signals from ship to ship during daytime,
21 under normal conditions and circumstances, over a minimum
22 normal range of one hundred and fifty nautical miles.

23 “(d) There shall be available at all times a source of
24 energy sufficient to operate the installation over the normal
25 range required by paragraph (c). If batteries are provided

1 they shall have sufficient capacity to operate the transmitter
2 and receiver for at least six hours continuously under normal
3 working conditions. In new installations an emergency
4 source of energy shall be provided in the upper part of
5 the ship unless the main source of energy is so situated.”

6 (e) The text of section 357 of such Act, as redesignated
7 hereby, is amended to read as follows:

8 “SEC. 357. Every ship required to be provided with
9 lifeboat radio by treaty to which the United States is a
10 party, by statute, or by regulation made in conformity with
11 a treaty, convention, or statute, shall be fitted with efficient
12 radio equipment appropriate to such requirement under such
13 rules and regulations as the Commission may find necessary
14 for safety of life. For purposes of this section, ‘radio equip-
15 ment’ shall include portable as well as nonportable
16 apparatus.”

17 (f) Subsection 361 (b) of such Act, as redesignated
18 hereby, is amended to read as follows:

19 “(b) Appropriate certificates concerning the radio par-
20 ticulars provided for in said Convention shall be issued upon
21 proper request to any vessel which is subject to the radio pro-
22 visions of the Safety Convention and is found by the Commis-
23 sion to comply therewith. Safety Radiotelegraphy Certif-
24 icates and Safety Radiotelephony Certificates, as prescribed
25 by the said Convention, and Exemption Certificates issued in

1 lieu of such certificates, shall be issued by the Commission.
2 Other certificates concerning the radio particulars provided
3 for in the said Convention shall be issued by the Commandant
4 of the Coast Guard or whatever other agency is authorized by
5 law to do so upon request of the Commission made after
6 proper inspection or determination of the facts. If the holder
7 of a certificate violates the radio provisions of the Safety Con-
8 vention or the provisions of this Act, or the rules, regulations
9 or conditions prescribed by the Commission, and if the ef-
10 fective administration of the Safety Convention or of this
11 part so requires, the Commission, after hearing in accord-
12 ance with law, is authorized to modify or cancel a certifi-
13 cate which it has issued, or to request the modification or
14 cancellation of a certificate which has been issued by another
15 agency upon the Commission's request. Upon receipt of
16 such request for modification or cancellation, the Comman-
17 dant of the Coast Guard, or whatever agency is authorized by
18 law to do so, shall modify or cancel the certificate in ac-
19 cordance therewith."

20 SEC. 3. Section 3 of such Act is amended by inserting
21 at the end thereof the following new subsections:

22 "(ee) 'Existing installation', as used in section 355 of
23 this Act, means an installation installed on a ship prior to
24 November 19, 1952, in the case of a United States ship sub-
25 ject to the radio provisions of the Safety Convention, or one

1 installed on a ship prior to a date one year after the effective
2 date of this subsection in the case of other ships subject to
3 part II of title III of this Act.

4 “(ff) ‘New installation’, as used in sections 355 and
5 356 of this Act, means an installation which replaces an
6 existing installation or, in the case of a United States ship
7 subject to the radio provisions of the Safety Convention, one
8 installed on a ship subsequent to November 19, 1952, and,
9 in the case of other ships subject to part II of title III of this
10 Act, one which is installed subsequent to a date one year
11 after the effective date of this subsection.”

Passed the Senate June 15 (legislative day, June 11),
1954.

Attest:

J. MARK TRICE,

Secretary.

83^d CONGRESS
2^d SESSION

S. 2453

AN ACT

To amend the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, with respect to implementing the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea relating to radio equipment and radio operators on board ship.

JUNE 16, 1954

Referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign
Commerce