

Many Stations Join Trek To 8 M.C. Band

In spite of the fact that the interzone day frequencies 7480, 7805 and 7935 kc have not yet been allocated to the police service, and that use of them is by special temporary authority for short periods only, a total of 18 interzone stations have already made application for them.

The following stations are known to be using or have made application for 7935 kc only:

WPDY Atlanta, Ga.
WPEC Memphis, Tenn.
WPEK New Orleans, La.
WPHN Tampa, Fla.
WRJI Jackson, Miss.
KGPX Denver, Colo.
KGZC Topeka, Kans.
KHPF Jefferson City, Mo.
KHTP Houston, Texas.
KQEI Tulsa, Okla.

The following stations are known to be using or to have applied for all three frequencies:

WCK Detroit, Mich.
WENB Cleveland, Ohio.
WPHE Indianapolis, Ind.
WPWV S. Charleston, W. Va.
WQPC Chicago, Ill.
WQPS Springfield, Ill.
WQPX Portable, Ill.
WRMP Romney, W. Va.

In addition to these stations, other stations probably are preparing to utilize these channels. For instance, it is known that WPKD at Milwaukee, Wisc., has all three crystals on hand for use in its new CW transmitter. So has KHPF for new transmitter at Jefferson City.

Use of these channels will reduce the number of relays at present required for handling long haul addressed traffic, and will expedite the distribution of WPPA traffic. These channels will help greatly in moving traffic at those numerous times during the summer when the 5100 kc band drops out completely.

These channels were accepted by APCO and IACP in lieu of the 2036, 2040 and 2044 kc channels which the police will lose to the amateurs when the 160 meters amateur band is shifted. The wide spacing of these channels, and the interference on them from amateur 80 meter phone harmonics makes them unsatisfactory for permanent use. However, APCO will attempt to trade them for more suitable frequencies at a later date.

Prospective users of these channels should keep in mind that the frequency tolerance is 0.01%, which will probably mean air gap temperature controlled crystals at half the operating frequency. Close adherence to frequency is necessary on these channels, particularly in view of the fact that we will need more power than the 500 watts at present allowed in order to obtain commercial signals over the distances involved through the high noise levels at

most police receiving points, summer static, partial wipe-outs, etc.

2000 Kc Channels Out

Colonel White of the FCC engineering staff stated at the Chicago APCO committee meetings on February 10th and 11th that the FCC would not expect any police zone station to spend money for crystals for the 2036, 2040 and 2044 kc channels. These frequencies are to be allocated to the 160 meter amateur band any day now.

New zone stations will have to apply for special authority to operate on a secondary basis as zone stations on 2804 and 2808 kc, as provided in Rule 10.44 (a) footnote 5. One zone station has also applied for special temporary authority to conduct transmission tests on 2812 kc, which is an interzone frequency only. We must remember that the FCC cannot license any zone station to operate on 2804 and 2808 kc on a primary basis until the rules have been changed. However, this should not interfere with operation of new zone police stations on 2804 and 2808 kc. It simply means that permits and licenses will be issued on a temporary basis giving special temporary authority until the rules are changed.

Here and There In APCO

New York—Member George Searle reports that the New York State Police now has a "TWX" machine at Albany—Albany 87.

Ohio—Youngstown is on 2044 kcs during two 8-hour shifts daily. As soon as the remainder of the staff obtain radiotelegraph licenses the station will be open for 24-hour service. C. A. Vimmerstedt, radio supervisor at Youngstown, reports he was in Cleveland the other day and had a nice chat with Lloyd Chatterton at WENB-WRBH. An eastern Ohio-western Pennsylvania APCO chapter organization was discussed and both agreed much good would be accomplished, especially in furnishing information to municipalities contemplating addition of communication facilities. Member Vimmerstedt advises also that an attempt is being made to get approval for re-installation of teletype from Ohio into Pennsylvania. Good news!

Detroit—The item re this city in the Here and There column in the March Bulletin was written by President Herb Wareing, who had obtained his information from correspondence with WCK supervisor Ed Denstead. Ed now advises that the interference trouble mentioned has been completely cleared. As a convincer, however, that WCK was putting in a whale of a signal at Baltimore he quotes from an FCC report as follows: "Observations made this date, indicate that WCK can be heard with good signal strength in the

daytime—observations indicate that the signals fade and are at times equal to those of WPDW (Washington)". How do you like those apples, Herb?

Oklahoma—Ralph Hicks, genial supervisor at KGPO-KQEI, Tulsa, says getting along very nicely down that way and have been busy rebuilding their CW transmitter to include push-button frequency selection. It uses a 6L6 Pierce oscillator, 807 buffer-doubler and two 813s paralleled in the final, running between 500 and 800 watts input. A QPO transmitter is also in service at headquarters.

Supervisor Hicks also has a "pet peeve" to add to the list begun in the March Bulletin. It is the uselessly wide distribution of certain types of WPPA messages. Operators at KGPO-KQEI act as phone dispatcher as well as take care of a multitude of other police headquarters duties. Being the only interzone station in Oklahoma puts an extra load on the CW station.

No news lately from Oklahoma City but we hope the rumor heard last month which indicated that a CW transmitter was soon to be installed there was not without foundation.

Oke City and Austin, Texas, are two capital cities that could well use a police radiotelegraph contact with the intercity net.

Indiana—Francis J. Bock, Supervisor at WPGN, South Bend, reports they now have eight cars and two 3-wheel motorcycles equipped with two-way and are getting good results. Twelve new receivers have recently been installed in squad cars. Mishawaka, five miles from South Bend, also uses the WPGN transmitter. A remote control, interlocking dispatch system is used, arranged to prevent "stealing" the air by one or the other control position. Mishawaka also has several two-way cars. A 24-hour link with the Indiana State Police is maintained by radio. By means of cooperation between a number of northern Indiana cities a very effective law enforcement network has been built up in the area.

SUGGESTS STANDARD WORD LIST

In line with others who have made similar suggestions, APCO President Herb Wareing comes out in favor of a standard list of words for alphabet letters, preferably suitable for both radiophone and radiotelegraph use. Herb says some states use names of cities in their state. The result is that when a guy with a deep south or Yankee accent shoots them at us midwest boys it just doesn't work. It will require careful study to develop a list suitable for both phone and CW. "Sugar" is okay for CW but "Sam" would be NG, since some of the Jitterbug Artists would make "Ham" out of it every time.

As for FPC letters, the proper fingerprint word should always be

used. Your identification Bureau will undoubtedly be inclined to razz the use of such words as "Union" and "Robert" for Ulnar and Radial.

Is it too much to hope that somebody will jot down a few suggestions re the above and mail them to Ted Lowe, chairman of the Standards Committee?

REQUESTS TO SECRETARY INCREASING

The offices of the Secretary have been receiving an ever-increasing number of requests for information relative to many aspects of our field during the past several weeks, and the present files of information upon some of the subjects included are woefully scant.

In this regard, may we once again urge Communication men in MUNICIPAL departments, who have not as yet returned the North American Police Communications Questionnaire to do so as quickly as is possible, in order that the information on your systems may be included in our files.

There has been some question upon the part of certain department executives as to whether or not they were free to divulge some of the information requested, and in such cases it is our recommendation that those sections be left blank, and that such portions as may be completed without question be filled in and directed to our attention.

Of course, in connection with the facts contained in the sections under question, the information is primarily intended for the purpose of providing a national center with data for the use of other police departments in setting up their departmental structures. In no instances would such information be divulged to authorities other than those actively engaged in the work of police departments.

We have been encouraged by the returns thus far, and in most cases the complete questionnaire has been returned—but in the interest of permitting the document to serve its greatest purpose, we earnestly request YOUR return!

We regret to report the receipt of a WPPA from WMJ stating that, effective May 1, Buffalo will no longer act as contact and transfer point between the police teletype and radiotelegraph nets.

Although no one can blame the Buffalo department for its action, the severance of these two major police communication systems will seriously affect our communication channels. WMJ has carried a terrific load for quite some time and being a municipal station has done a great deal more than its share toward developing this very important police service. Buffalo has repeatedly asked for help and has been unanswered. They rate our sincere appreciation.