

# COPY

March 30, 1937

Lieutenant George M. Kinsey  
Chief Communication Officer  
State Highway Patrol  
Columbus, Ohio

Dear Lieutenant Kinsey:

I was sorry to learn in your letter of March 22, 1937 that you have been having difficulty in finding suitable operators for your police radio service. I certainly can sympathize with you in this matter. I have spent a great deal of time and effort in trying to obtain the right type of operators here in Illinois. With everything in my favor, I have only been partially successful. The fact remains that there are only a few operators who are really well qualified for these positions. The only way you can hold good men on the job is to pay them higher wages than they can earn elsewhere. This method is also the best way of combatting any attempt at unionization of the operators. Perhaps if these facts were presented to your superior officers, together with a list of salaries being paid operators in this state, you might find it easier to solve the problems which you are confronted with.

The last APCO bulletin came out in printed form and I have read everything contained therein. The APCO is certainly doing a lot for us and we should be willing to do whatever we can to help the cause along. I am still pulling strong for a change in the license requirements for police stations. In contrast to this, a bill has recently been introduced in the House of Representatives concerning Section 318 of the Communications Act. This bill apparently would let down the bars and permit the Commission to allow anyone, regardless of whether they held a license or not, to operate an ultra high frequency police mobile transmitter. If you have not already read this item, look it up in the APCO bulletin for March 19, page one.

When I mentioned the reservation of a few frequencies between 9 and 15 meters for State Police use, I had in mind mobile service. I have no experimental facts with which to back up my contention, but I am of the opinion that wave lengths around 9 meters will be most satisfactory for two-way communication in State police use. That is why I recommended the reservation of frequencies in that region.

The band from 1500 to 1600 kilocycles has, so I understand, been opened up for general broadcast use. Reports indicate that the Commission is being flooded with applications for broadcast stations

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in this region. I agree with you that this would be a fine place to put relay broadcast, marine fire, and geophysical stations, but I am afraid that the commercial people who want these frequencies for broadcast purposes will gobble them up before we have even a chance to express our ideas.

Our arguments against the allocation of services such as geophysical surveys in our band will probably be discounted by the Commission by virtue of the fact that we have no instances of interference to report.

I was sorry to learn that our Illinois police stations have caused interference with reception in your squad cars. Here in Illinois we never hear the Ohio stations, or the stations of any other state in our squad cars, or on our motorcycle receivers. This statement might not be quite true in case of motorcycle receivers since these latter do not use the compensating condensers to hold the oscillators in tune. However, when the sets are in tune, we never hear the stations of other states. In this connection, I might say that before we purchased R.C.A. receivers, we tried out the Bosch receivers along side of the R.C.A. receivers in the same car, and using the same antenna. In the evening we could hear as many as fifteen different police transmitters on the Bosch receiver. But on the R.C.A. receiver, we were not able to hear any except the one station to which we were tuned. This test proved to us definitely that the Bosch receivers were not selective enough for our service.

The question as to whether state police stations should be separated by 8 kilocycles or 10 kilocycles as you have suggested, is still open for debate I hope. You will remember that I argued for 8 kilocycles separation at the meeting in Columbus last spring. I am still of the opinion that 8 kilocycles is sufficient when the best type of crystal control transmitters are used and when sufficiently selective receivers are installed in the cars. I know that our transmitters here in Illinois cover a band greater than 8 kilocycles in width. So far we have not found it necessary or advisable to cut off the high frequencies. If we continue to interfere with your receivers, we shall be glad to consider such a move.

Thanking you for your long letter and hoping to hear from you again soon,

Very truly yours,

*Glenn E. West*

Glenn E. West  
Chief Radio Engineer  
Radio Division  
Bureau of Police

GEW:LR

CC: E. C. Denstaedt  
Everett Fisher ✓