

Associated Public-Safety Communications Officers, Inc.



It's a privilege to belong to A P C O

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July 7, 1976

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1976 NATIONAL CONFERENCE CHAIRMAN
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1977 NATIONAL CONFERENCE CHAIRMAN
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CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60605

From: National President
To: Board of Officers
Subject: COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. You are requested to prepare and bring with you to the National Conference your final Committee reports.
2. The reason for this request is that you will be required to present a brief resume report to the Executive Committee and to the Quorum. Negative reports will be made to the Executive Committee for the record.
3. The format to be followed at the Quorum meeting will be similar in form to that done at the Regional in Phoenix. I will give an overview report on National progress, I will then introduce you to the membership and you will then present your report.
4. Please let me know if you see any problem.

Frank j. Devine
President

cc- Bd Officers
Ex Sec.
Conf. Ch.

FJD:dd

GOOD MORNING LADIES AND GENTLEMEN OF APCO, I AM HAPPY TO REPORT THAT BECAUSE OF THE DEDICATION, HARD WORK AND EXPERTIZE OF OUR MEMBERSHIP OUR ASSOCIATION CONTINUED TO GROW AND FURNISH ADDITIONAL BENIFITS TO OUR MEMBERS. I AM SINCERELY HONORED TO HAVE BEEN ABLE TO SERVE AS YOUR PRESIDENT.

I WILL NOT GO INTO GREAT DETAIL ON EACH OF OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS BECAUSE THEY WILL BE EXPLAINED FULLY BY OUR EXECUTIVE/SECRETARY, OUR PROJECT DIRECTOR AND THE BOARD OF OFFICERS WHERE IT PERTAINS TO THEIR ACTIVITIES.

FIRST, LET US REVIEW OUR NATIONAL OFFICE AND ITS ACTIVITIES. RHETT MCMILLIAN NOTIFIED THE BOARD OF OFFICERS AT OUR MEETING IN PHOENIX OF HIS IRREVOKABLE DECISION TO RETIRE AT THE COMPLETION OF HIS CONTRACT IN DECEMBER 1977. OF COURSE THIS MEANT THAT OUR EXTREMELY COMPETANT OFFICE MANAGER/COMPTROLER VIVIAN WOULD ALSO JOIN RHETT IN RETIREMENT. THE BOARD ACCEPTED THIS DECISION OF RHETT'S WITH A GREAT AMOUNT OF RELUCTANCE BECAUSE THE BOARD IN PARTICULAR KNOWS OF THE DEDICATION AND EFFORT THAT HE AND VIV. HAVE PUT INTO THE NATIONAL OFFICE TO ENSURE THAT THIS OFFICE WOULD BE A DYNAMIC EFFICIENT OPERATION TO PASS ALONG TO WHOMEVER FOLLOWS THEM. THEY HAVE PROVIDED THE NECCESSARY COHESION REQUIRED TO ENSURE THE SMOOTH FLOWING DAILY OPERATION OF OUR ASSOCIATION BECAUSE AS WE ALL KNOW THE BOARD AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHANGE MEMBERSHIP PERIODICALLY.

WE WILL NOW HAVE TO OBTAIN A NEW EXECUTIVE SECRETARY AND OFFICE MANAGER. THE BOARD IN ORDER TO PROVIDE A SMOOTH CHANGEOVER

OF OPERATIONS HAS DIRECTED RHETT TO PREPARE A JOB POSITION CLASSIFICATION AND TO START A RECRUITMENT PROGRAM, THE INTENTION IS TO HAVE OUR NEW EXECUTIVE SECRETARY UNDERGO AN INTENSIVE ON THE JOB TRAINING PROGRAM UNDER RHETT'S DIRECTION AND SUPERVISION. THIS WILL IN ADDITION TO PROVIDING A SMOOTH TRANSITIONAL PERIOD PRESENT TO THE BOARD AN OPORTUNITY TO REVIEW AND EVALUATE OUR NEW EXECUTIVE SECRETARY.

THE BOARD DECIDED THAT IT WOULD BE MOST BENEFICIAL TO THE ASSOCIATION THAT OUR RECRUITMENT PROGRAM NOT RESTRICT ITSELF TO THE APCO FAMILY BUT WOULD ALSO CANVASS OTHER AREAS. THIS WILL ENSURE THAT WE OBTAIN THE VERY BEST INDIVIDUAL THAT WE CAN AFFORD. PLEASE BE ASSURED THAT THE BOARD HAS NO PRECONCLEIVED IDEAS OF WHO WILL BE EMPLOYED BUT WE DO INTEND TO OBTAIN THE BEST.

THE BOARD HAS ALSO SHOWN A DESIRE TO KEEP OUR OFFICE IN THE NEW SMYRNA BEACH AREA BECAUSE OF THE LOWER COST OF RENTAL, PERSONNEL, AND OTHER SUPPORT FUNCTIONS OBTAINABLE IN THAT AREA. AN ADDITIONAL BENEFIT IS THAT THIS AREA IS ONLY ONE AND ONE HALF HOURS FROM WASHINGTON, NEW YORK AND CHICAGO. WE WILL CERTAINLY CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF ANOTHER LOCATION BUT FRANKLY WE BELIEVE THAT OUR PRESENT LOCATION WILL BE HARD TO BEAT. IF ANY OF YOU IN THE AUDIENCE ARE INTERESTED IN THIS POSITION AND WOULD LIKE TO BE CONSIDERED PLEASE CONTACT RHETT FOR DETAILED INFORMATOIN.

A PROBLEM ALL OF OUR NEW SECOND VICE PRESIDENTS HAVE FACED WHEN THEY TAKE THIER SEAT IN AUGUST IS THAT WHILE OF COURSE THEY ARE NOT AWARE OF NATIONAL PROBLEMS, POLICIES AND DAY TO DAY OPERATIONS ETC. THEY MUST IMEDIATELY MAKE DECISIONS RELATING TO THE ABOVE

MENTIONED FACTORS BECAUSE OUR C&B REQUIRES A MAJORITY VOTE FROM THE BOARD ON ALL MATTERS. THE ONLY INFORMATION THE NEW MEMBER HAD WAS WORD OF MOUTH FROM THE OTHER BOARD MEMBERS. IN ORDER TO ALLEVIATE THIS PROBLEM THE BOARD DIRECTED RHETT TO PREPARE AND COMPILE AN ADMINISTRATIVE MANUAL CONTAINING COPIES OF ALL OUR EXISTING GUIDELINES, PROCEDURES, POLICIES, CONTRACTS, GRANT INFORMATION, FISCAL AND BUDGET INFORMATION, TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION AND EXPENSE FORMS AND ALL OTHER MATTERS THAT A MEMBER OF THE BOARD IS REQUIRED TO KNOW. THIS RHETT HAS ACCOMPLISHED AND IT IS THE BOARD'S DESIRE THAT THIS MANUAL BE CONTINUALLY UPDATED.

ONE ACCOMPLISHMENT THAT I AM PARTICULARLY PROUD OF IN THE PAST YEAR HAS BEEN THE COMPLETION AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMON RADIO CHANNEL GUIDELINES MANUAL SUBMITTED BY MR. ELMER EYNMAN OF THE ILLINOIS CHAPTER AND HIS COMMITTEE. THEY ARE TO BE COMMENDED FOR THE FINE THOUGHTFUL AND COMPREHENSIVE REPORT. THIS HAS BEEN PUBLISHED IN ITS ENTIRETY IN THE BULLETIN. INCIDENTALLY I HAVE USED THIS REPORT AS A GUIDELINE IN MY EFFORTS TO SET UP A COMMON STATE WIDE COMMON CHANNEL SYSTEM IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY.

ONE OF THE FIRST OBJECTIVES OF MY TERM OF OFFICE WAS TO STREAMLINE AND PROVIDE OVERALL SUPERVISION TO OUR VARIOUS STANDING COMMITTEES. AS YOU RECALL I DIVIDED THESE COMMITTEES INTO THREE BROAD CLASSIFICATIONS, ADMINISTRATIVE, PLANNING AND OPERATIONAL. I ASSIGNED A MEMBER OF THE BOARD THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ACTING AS COMMITTEE ADMINIS-

TRATOR AT THE ASSOCIATION POLICY LEVEL. THIS WAS DESIGNED TO BE IN CONFORMANCE WITH THE C&B AND STILL WOULD PERMIT AN ORDERLY UPWARD AND DOWNWARD FLOW OF INFORMATION. AN INCIDENTAL BENEFIT OF THIS PROCEDURE WOULD BE THAT AS EACH OFFICER CLIMBED UP THROUGH THE CHAIRS OF OFFICE HIS COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITY WOULD ALSO CORRESPONDINGLY CHANGE ACCORDINGLY AND BY THE TIME HE REACHED THE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE HE WOULD BE INTIMATELY INVOLVED WITH ALL THE COMMITTEES AT THEIR WORKING LEVELS AND THEREFOR WOULD BE ABLE TO MAKE INTELLIGENT DECISIONS WHEN HE HAD TO SELECT HIS COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP.

A NEW CONCEPT IN THE STRUCTURE OF OUR ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE WOULD BE TO STAFF IT WITH THE CHAIRMEN OF ALL THE OTHER STANDING COMMITTEES. (COMMITTEE OF COMMITTEES). IT WAS INTENDED THAT THIS COMMITTEE WOULD MEET AS GROUP FROM TIME TO TIME BUT UNFORTUNATELY OUR BUDGET THIS YEAR DID NOT PERMIT THIS GROUP MEETING. IT IS AN UNFORTUNATE FACT THAT THAT THIS COMMITTEE WHICH BY ITS NATURE SHOULD BE THE STRONGEST AND MOST ACTIVE IN THE ASSOCIATION HAS HAD A LONG TRADITION OF BEING THE WEAKEST. WHY THIS IS SO I DO NOT KNOW BUT IN AN ATTEMPT TO GIVE THEM SOME DIRECTION I GAVE THEM THE TASK OF DEVELOPEING A SET OF LONG RANGE GOALS FOR THE ASSOCIATION. THESE GOALS SHOULD IDENTIFY THE ULTIMATE OPERATIONS AND TECHNICAL CAPABILITIES THAT PUBLIC SAFETY IS NOW OR SHOULD BE PROVIDING IN SUPPORT OF THE NATIONS PUBLIC SAFETY MISSION. ONCE ESTABLISHED THESE GOALS SHOULD PROVIDE A LONG TERM GUIDANCE MEASUREMENT FOR FUTURE BOARD REFERENCE. UNFORTUNATELY TO DATE AS I AM PREPARING THIS REPORT I HAVE NOT RECEIVED A REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE. I SINCERELY HOPE THAT OUR NEW PRESIDENT AL ARMITAGE WILL CONTINUE ALONG THESE LINE.

A PARTICULARLY VEXING PROBLEM TO MYSELF AND PRECEDING PRESIDENTS HAS BEEN FREQUENCY COORDINATION. THIS PROBLEM HAS RECENTLY BEEN COMPOUNDED BY THE RECENT DECISION OF THE FCC TO PHASE OUT THE CHICAGO REGIONAL EXPERIMENT AND RETURN COORDINATION TO THE USER GROUPS. IN OTHER WORDS THIS EXPERIMENT SEEMS TO HAVE FAILED. WE ALL AGREE THAT COORDINATION IS THE RESPONSIBILITY AND AUTHORITY OF THE COMMISSION. HOWEVER THE COMMISSION BECAUSE OF BUDGET AND POLICY DECISION HAS DELEGATED SOME OF THIS AUTHORITY TO VARIOUS USER GROUPS OF WHICH AS YOU KNOW APCO IS ONE. THIS COORDINATION FUNCTION HAS BEEN PERFORMED IN THE PAST AND IS STILL BEING DONE EXCEPT IN A LIMITED AREA BY CHAPTER VOLUNTEERS. THIS PLACES AN ADDITIONAL WORK BURDEN ON VOLUNTEERS ALREADY UNDERSTAFFED AND OVERWORKED IN THEIR VARIOUS PUBLIC SAFETY AGENCIES. INCIDENTALLY MANY YEARS AGO I SERVED IN THIS FUNCTION, IN THE MAIN I SUPPOSE TO PROTECT MY OWN SYSTEMS FROM INTERFERENCE. THIS SO CALLED PART TIME EFFORT HAS BECOME INCREASINGLY MORE TIME CONSUMING AND BURDENSOME BECAUSE OF THE IMPACT OF GRANTS AND THE RAPIDLY EXPANDING COMPLEX COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS ESPECIALLY IN THE URBAN AREAS OF THE COUNTRY. IN THIS AGE OF SEVERELY IMPACTED BUDGETS OF OUR AGENCIES MORE AND MORE QUESTIONS ARE BEING ASKED BY OUR FISCAL PEOPLE ABOUT THE AMOUNT OF TIME EXPENDED IN ACTIVITIES NOT DIRECTLY CONCERNED WITH THE FUNCTIONS OF THE AGENCY. ONE STATE (NEW JERSEY) RECOGNIZING THE TIME AND EXPERTISE AND ALSO THE NEED FOR THE COORDINATION PROCESS HAS FORMED A STATE AGENCY AND FUNDED ITS OPERATIONS. I UNDERSTAND THAT SEVERAL STATES ARE LOOKING INTO THE POSSIBILITIES OF FORMING STATE AGENCIES FOR FREQUENCY COORDINATION. IT IS A NICE POINT OF DEBATE THAT SINCE THE COMMISSION RECOGNIZES APCO AS THE COORDINATING BODY FOR PUBLIC SAFETY

LICENSES, THE APPOINTMENT OF COORDINATORS IS A CHAPTER RESPONSIBILITY WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF A CHAPTER APPOINTED A COORDINATOR DIFFERENT FROM THAT NAMED BY THE STATE. IF THE USE OF STATE EMPLOYED COORDINATORS BECOMES A GENERAL PRACTICE, WHAT WILL BE THE POSITION OF APCO IN AN AREA OF PAID AND VOLUNTEERS PERFORMING THE SAME FUNCTION? WHAT DIRECTION CAN APCO GIVE TO STATE EMPLOYEES REPORTING TO THEIR GOVERNOR.

IT IS NOT MY INTENT TO INHIBIT THE COMMISSIONS EFFORTS TO EXTRUDITE THEMSELVES FROM THE MORASS THAT HAS DEVELOPED OVER THE YEARS BUT WE ALL HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT OURSELVES FROM RADIO INTERFERENCE FROM OTHERS AND WE ALSO MUST HAVE THE CAPABILITY OF EXPANSION AS OUR SYSTEMS AND NEEDS GROW THEREFOR APCO CANNOT RESPONSIBLY GIVE UP OUR COORDINATION POLICIES BECAUSE OF THE COMPLETE CHAOS THAT WOULD RESULT IN THE ABSENCE OF COORDINATION. IT IS MY OWN PERSONAL OPINION THAT THE COMMISSION SHOULD DEVELOPE A LOCALCOORDINATION CAPABILITY OF ITS OWN. A FULL TIME PROFESSIONAL STAFF SHOULD BE PERMANENTLY LOCATED IN THOSE AREAS AS DETERMINED BY USER REQUIREMENTS. THIS STAFF SHOULD HAVE ALL THE UP TO DATE INFORMATION AVAILABLE BUT IT IS MY WAY OF THINKING THAT RAW DATA COMPUTERIZED OR NOT CANNOT SUPPLANT THE LOCAL LEVEL GUT PERSONAL DECISIONS REQUIRED. ONE OF THE PROBLEMS THAT THE CHICAGO PLAN DID NOT RECOGNIZE TO A DEGREE REQUIRED WAS THE HUMAN FACTOR. IF THE COMMISSION DOES NOT HAVE THE NECESSARY FINANCIAL RESOURCES TO PROVIDE VIABLE SPECTRUM MANAGEMENT IT SHOULD GO TO CONGRESS FOR SUPPORT, IT SEEMS TO ME THAT FOR TOO LONG WE, THE USER HAVE SUPPORTED A PROCESS WHICH ORIGINALLY COULD HAVE BEEN HANDLED WITH A MINIMUM OF EFFORT BUT HAS BECOME MORE AND MORE BURDENSOME

BECAUSE OF THE RAPIDLY EXPANDING TECHNOLOGIES. QUORUM AFTER QUORUM OF THIS ASSOCIATION HAS GONE ON RECORD AND MADE THEIR POSITION CLEAR, APCO SHOULD NOT CHARGE COORDINATION FEES.

BECAUSE OF THE RAPIDLY EXPANDING SCOPE OF THE NATIONAL OFFICE WITH ITS ATTENDANT LARGE BUDGETS, PROGRAMS, GRANTS ETC. THE BOARD WAS CONCERNED THAT THE ASSOCIATION AND ESPECIALLY ITS MEMBER PARTICIPANTS MIGHT BE HELD LEGALLY AND FINANCIALLY LIABLE FOR ITS ACTIONS OR ITS INACTIONS. WE DIRECTED RHETT TO CONSULT WITH COMPETANT CORPORATION LEGAL AUTHORITY AND OUR PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT AS TO OUR TAX STRUCTURE AND STATUS, LEGAL OBLIGATIONS, CONFERENCES, ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION ETC. RHETT AS USUAL DID HIS MASTERFUL JOB AND REPORTED BACK TO THE BOARD. BASED ON THIS INFORMATION THE BOARD HAS DIRECTED RHETT TO REMAIN INCORPORATED IN THE STATE OF INDIANA, REGISTER THE ASSOCIATION IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA. EXPERT ADVICE INDICATES THAT THIS IS OUR BEST COURSE OF ACTION. INCIDENTALLY I WOULD LIKE TO THANK DEPUTY CHIEF FRANK CABELL OF THE INDIANAPOLIS POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR HIS CONSENT TO BE THE CUSTODIAN OF OUR CHARTER IN THE STATE OF INDIANA. I HAVE REQUESTED THAT OUR CHAPTERS STUDY THEIR LEGAL STATUS IN THE VARIOUS STATES THAT THEY OPERATE WITHIN. AN ADDITIONAL PRECAUTION TAKEN BY THE BOARD WAS TO REQUEST THAT RHETT OBTAIN A SUITABLE PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY PLAN FOR THE PROTECTION OF OUR PARTICIPANTS IN ASSOCIATION MATTERS.

BECAUSE OUR PROJECT DIRECTOR DON KAVANAUGH WILL GIVE AN IN DEPTH PROGRESS REPORT ON OUR GRANT ACTIVITIES I WILL NOT GO INTO GREAT DETAIL EXCEPT TO MENTION THAT PROJECT 3 WAS DELIVERED ON TIME,

WITHIN BUDGET AND ACCEPED BY LEAA WIHOUT REVISION. PROJECT 13A
PROGRESS REPORTS TO DATE INDICATE THE SAME WILL BE TRUE FOR THIS
CURRENT GRANT. SOME INDICATION OF THE SCOPE AND MAGNITUDE OF PROJECT
13 MIGHT BE OF INTERREST. TEAMS OF CONTRACTORS AND APCO REPRESENTATIVES
VISITED THE STATE PLANNING AGENCIES OF THE 50 STATES AND THE DISTRICT
OF COLUMBIA. SURVEYS WERE ALSO DONE INTHE THREE LARGEST CITIES,
NEW YORK, CHICAGO AND LOS ANGELES AS TO THEIR TELECOMMUNICATIONS
PLANNING ACTIVITIES. THES TEAMS COMPLETED QUESTIONAIRES THAT COVERED
180 QUESTIONS EACH. THEY INSPECTED 7,686 TELECOMMUNICATIONS GRANTS.
THESE SURVEYS PRODUCED APPROXIMATLY 100,000 BITS OF INFORMATION
THAT HAVE BEEN CODIFIED,PUNCHED AND PLACED ON MAGNATIC TAPE FOR COMPUTER
AIDED ANALYSIS.

IT IS NOW TIME FOR ME TO CONCLUDE. I WANT TO THANK YOU ALL
OUT THERE FOR THE FRIENDSHIP, SUPPORT AND COOPERATION YOU ALL HAVE
EXTENDED TO ME AND MY FAMILY OVER THE LAST FOUR YEARS. IF NOTHING
ELSE WAS ACCOMPLISHED YOU NOW KNOW ALL NEW YORKERS DO NOT HAVE HORNS
AND FORKED TAILS. SERIOUSLY IF ANY OF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTION OR NEED
ANY ASSISTANCE PLEASE SEE ME DURING THE WEEK. YOU ALL KNOW THAT I
HAVE ALWAYS RESPONDED TO YOU WITHOUT LYING OR EVASION EVEN IF MY
ANSWER WAS DISAGREEABLE TO EITHER OF US.

AT THIS TIME I WOULD LIKE TO INTRODUCE OUR BOARD OF OFFICERS
WHO WILL GIVE YOU A BRIEF SUMMARY ON THEIR COMMITEES ACTIVITIES. IF
TIME PERMITS WE WILL HAVE A BRIEF QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD ON THESE
ACTIVITIES. THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU ALL.