

October 9, 1940

Colonel Edwin L. White
Principal Electrical Engineer
Federal Communications Commission,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Colonel White:-

As you no doubt are aware, the Seventh Annual National Conference of this organization is scheduled to convene at Orlando, Florida, on December 2nd, and to continue on through and including the 5th, of this year.

By setting the date of the conference at this late period in the year we have hoped that we would avoid any possibility of conflict with other important meetings which ordinarily occur at earlier periods during the Summer and Fall.

We have also, according to our former custom, issued letters of invitation to attend our conference to a number of officials in fields which are closely allied with our own, in order that the materials and the discussions at this conference might hold the maximum value for all of our membership. In this connection we have laid heavy stress upon the matter of National Defense, and the part which our facilities are likely to play, in any eventuality.

An invitation has been extended to the Honorable J. Edgar Hoover, with the request that he address our body on the occasion of the annual banquet program, in what would be the first public acknowledgement by the Director of the vital part which the men of our phase of the field play in the profession of law enforcement.

We have, upon this occasion, also drafted letters to Mr. Webster, whom a great many of us have never had the pleasure of meeting, and to Commander Jett, although we have, of course foregone the conclusion that he would possibly be able to attend.

A.P.C.O. is happy in the fact that our past dealings and associations with the Commission have been productive of the results now in evidence, and we shall strive to bring those relationships into even closer coincidence during the 1940 meetings. Therefore, with the tremendous array of routine problems, and the additional new ones, brought about through developments in the field and in the International picture, we earnestly hope that both Mr. Webster and yourself may find it possible to be with us this year.

White, E

I believe that we have already informed you, upon the occasion of the Chicago Committee sessions, as to the status of the work which the field inspectors carried on at our past two National conferences, and that though we thoroughly appreciated having these men with us, and trust that they shall still practice the channel of sitting in whenever they can, we feel, never-the-less that the nature of our problems is such that it demands official representation from Washington if we are to receive proper and unclouded answers to our questions.

The consensus of opinion of the entire membership of this organization is represented in this thought, and I have been instructed to do everything within my power to bring official representatives to the Oriskany Conference.

We used to enjoy the presence of both Commander Jett and yourself at every such occasion, and we have sincerely missed the counsel which you gave whenever it was required.

I believe that you are well aware of the fact that many decisions with regard to this type of program in the past would not have in any sense of the word gone so smoothly, had we not been able to burn midnight oil over problems, in preparation for the floor work of the following day!

Of course, if it should be the decision of the Commission that this group does not longer deserve the honor of having present the men who have truly shaped the growth of the entire program, then we are once again doomed to disappointment, but somehow I cannot believe that such will be the case.

Police Communications problems have not yet all been solved, not by a jug-full, and once the chain of command in the picture ever gets out of the hands of those who have successfully guided it thus far along the way, a great many of us had just better look up our decks and journey far far away!

The men of A.P.C.O. want you to be with us, Colonel, and are banking upon receipt of favorable reply to the official invitations forwarded through the office of Mr. Slawie, et al.

Again assuring you of our sincere appreciation of your past contributions to the task of pouring oil upon troubled waters - and other types of waves, we remain,

Respectfully yours,

ASSOCIATED POLICE COMMUNICATION OFFICERS, INC

Frank W. Morrow
Executive Secretary

FWM:MF