Immediate ban on amateur radio communication with foreign stations was today ordered by the Federal Communications Commission. There are approximately 55,000 amateurs licensed by the Commission.

This prohibition, however, does not apply to amateur communication between licensed amateur stations in the continental United States and its territories and possessions; nor does it apply to United States citizens authorized to operate amateur stations in the Philippine Islands or the Canal Zone when such persons are communicating with amateurs in the United States.

Order No. 72, pursuant to Section 303 of the Communications Act and in accordance with Article 8, Section 1, General Radio Regulations (Cairo Revision, 1938) annexed to the International Telecommunications Convention (Madrid, 1934), as issued today, reads in the main:

"IT IS ORDERED, That amateur radio operators and amateur radio stations licensed by the Federal Communications Commission shall not exchange communications with operators or radio stations of any foreign government or located in any foreign country; Provided, however, that this Order is not intended to prohibit the exchange of communications between licensed amateur operators and licensed amateur stations in the continental United States and licensed amateur operators and licensed amateur stations in the several Territories and possessions of the United States, or between licensed amateur operators and licensed amateur stations in the Continental United States and United States citizens authorized to operate amateur stations in the Philippine Islands or the Canal Zone, or between licensed amateur operators and licensed amateur stations in the several Territories and possessions of the United States.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, That all Rules and Regulations of the Commission inconsistent with this Order BE, AND THE SAME ARE HEREBY, SUSPENDED, pending the further Order of the Commission.

This Order shall become effective immediately."