

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
Washington, D. C.

PUBLIC NOTICE

July 6, 1943

ACTIONS BY THE COMMISSION

Report No. 66 - (RULES AND REGULATIONS)

Because the demands of the military have greatly decreased the supply of trained personnel available for broadcast station operation, the Commission en banc today adopted Order No. 111-A which further relaxes Section 3.261 of its Rules with respect to minimum operating requirements of high frequency (FM) stations. Order 111-A continues the requirement that each FM station shall render at least 6 hours program service each day, except Sunday, between 6 a.m. and midnight, but suspends the requirement that two hours of this service shall be devoted to programs not duplicated simultaneously as primary service in the same area by any standard or any high frequency broadcast station.

It is noted, however, the Commission did not suspend that section of its Rule 3.261 which places upon each FM licensee the duty to develop, insofar as possible, a distinct and separate broadcast service from that otherwise available in the service area.

At the same time, the Commission announced that it will authorize technical changes in the operation of high frequency (FM), television and noncommercial educational broadcast stations during the war period, where desirable to conserve equipment, particularly vacuum tubes, or where necessary to permit continued operation of a station, provided such changes are consistent with the maintenance of a substantial public service. Under this arrangement, licensees may file with the FCC informal requests to reduce operating power or to make other changes in the operation of authorized equipment. In view of the difficulty of obtaining replacement tubes and equipment and the shortage of skilled personnel needed in effecting repairs, the Commission feels this simplified procedure will aid in maintaining continuous FM and television service during the war.