

**The original documents are located in Box 7, folder “Citizen's Band Radio” of the James M. Cannon Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

### **Copyright Notice**

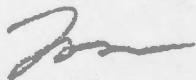
The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Gerald Ford donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

OFFICE OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20504

GENERAL COUNSEL

May 25, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR F. LYNN MAY

FROM: THOMAS J. KELLER   
SUBJECT: WHITE HOUSE MEETING ON CB RADIO

Attached is a copy of the letter that has been sent to the following individuals inviting their participation in the meeting scheduled for next Tuesday afternoon:

Richard Horner - President, E.F. Johnson Company  
William Thomas - President, PATHCOM, Inc.  
Andrew Andros - Hy-Gain Electronics  
Carl Korn - President, Dynascan Corporation

(These four companies are the largest manufacturers of CB equipment. Thomas and Korn may be unable to attend themselves and will send representatives at the Executive Vice President level. I can give you the names of the attendees later this week.)

Lawrence LeKashman - Executive Vice President  
Lafayette Radio Electronics

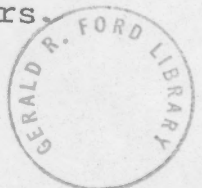
(Lafayette is the largest importer and retailer of CB equipment.)

Peter Kreer - National Director, REACT  
Robert Thompson - President, ALERT, Inc.

(REACT and ALERT are the two largest volunteer emergency organizations involved in CB use.)

George Martin - President, U.S. Citizens Radio Council

(This organization is the largest user group in the U.S., representing approximately 1 million CB users. The Council is holding its semi-annual membership



meeting this week in Birmingham, Alabama, and Mr. Martin advised me that he would raise the subject of next Tuesday's meeting with the members; he seems to have his finger on the pulse of the average CB user and should be able to provide some valuable "grass roots" insight.)

Randy Knowles - Radio Communication Director  
North Shore Emergency Association

(This is a small volunteer emergency association located in Chicago. It is significant in that it is the first organization to operate a cooperative shared-use repeater service for Class A CB use. This experience will be quite relevant if higher frequencies (e.g., in the neighborhood of 400 or 900 MHz) are allocated for widespread CB use, thus necessitating the development of repeater services.)

Colonel Sam Smith - Superintendent, Missouri State  
Highway Patrol

(The Missouri State Highway Patrol was the first state police organization to recognize the value of CB for highway safety purposes and develop a formal program of cooperative use of CB by the state patrol and motorists.)nt - Communications Division

John Sodolski - Vice President - Communications Division  
Electronic Industries Association

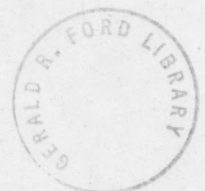
I am contacting representatives of OMB, Justice, CEA and State. Charles Higgenbotham, Chief of the Safety and Special Radio Service Bureau at the FCC will attend as an observer.

*ok*  
*Just*  
I suggest that we contact a few trade periodicals such as Communications Retailing, Electronics Magazine, CB Times and Industrial Communications, as well as the general press, and arrange for a photo opportunity at the beginning of the meeting and a press briefing following the meeting. Please advise.

Also, let me know when you have confirmed a time and place for the meeting so that we can notify the attendees.

Attachment

cc: Mr. Foster Chanock



DRAFT AGENDA FOR CB MEETING

- I. Introductions
- II. Explanation of prior Executive Branch involvement in CB
  - A. Presidential interest in deregulation generally
  - B. President's message to EIA Personal Communications Conference
  - C. Present efforts to review Government frequencies for possible CB use
- III. Citizens Band licensing
  - A. Impact on users
  - B. Value for enforcement purposes, data collection, etc.
  - C. Alternatives to present licensing system
  - D. International implications of licensing
- IV. Frequency allocation
  - A. Technical suitability of present frequencies (27 MHz)
  - B. Adequacy of present number of channels
  - C. Desirability of expanding CB channels at 27 MHz
  - D. Suitability of other bands, e.g., 220, 450, 900 MHz, etc.
- V. Other issues
  - A. Impact of CB on existing and new services
  - B. Government role in designating special channels for particular uses
  - C. Other



Communications

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 9, 1976

REQUEST

6/8/76  
Lynn  
Members  
very much  
Jim

MEMORANDUM FOR JIM CANNON

FROM: LYNN MAY *Lynn*

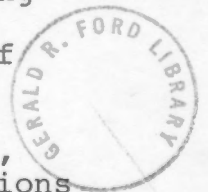
SUBJECT: Citizen Band Radio

BACKGROUND

Last Tuesday, June 1, 1976, members of the DCRG met with representatives of both C.B. manufacturers and users groups (see attached list of participants). The agenda of the meeting revolved around two questions which members of the DCRG have been investigating: (1) the current FCC licensing requirement for C.B. and (2) the need for additional frequency allocation for C.B. as a result of growing congestion on the channels currently available.

In regard to the first question, both manufacturers and users indicated that the recent alteration of FCC licensing policy, wherein C.B. users receive a temporary permit upon purchase, followed by a permanent license upon processing, had eliminated the frustration of C.B. users, who had earlier been forced to wait months for a license after purchase because of the backlog of applications with the FCC. They also indicated that a point of sale licensing procedure - receipt of a permanent license upon purchase (similar to that used for firearms) - might be preferable to the current FCC licensing system, but, to a man, they maintained that they believed licensing of C.B. was desirable because it served as a symbol to users that they are responsible for the operation of their sets. Thus, contrary to our earlier beliefs, responsible C.B. users do not feel that licensing in a large demand market is unnecessary and costly. In fact, they believe it serves as a force for proper use of the medium.

In regard to the issue more frequency space for C.B. use, the participants uniformly believed additional allocations are necessary but were not unanimous in identifying a frequency range which would serve them best. They applauded the Administrations efforts to locate other bands for their use and responded favorably to OTP's initiative to develop certain channels for specific public service use, like reporting accidents, road conditions, etc.



\* No list attached — attached

CONCLUSION

Based upon the C.B. manufacturer's and user's opposition to eliminating the licensing requirement for C.B., I can see no sense in pushing this issue. I will work with ~~OTF~~ and the Interdepartmental Radio Advisory Committee to further examine the possible allocation of some part of the government's spectrum for C.B. use. I have been advised that this should be accomplished by the end of August.

cc: Jim Cavanaugh  
Paul MacAvoy  
Ed Schmults  
Foster Chanock

*Jim - who is pushing  
the elimination of  
licensing ?  
Jim*



The feeling among the Counsel of Economic Advisers was that licensing serves no useful purpose as far as law enforcement goes.

WITHDRAWAL SHEET (PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARIES)

FORM OF DOCUMENT	CORRESPONDENTS OR TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
List	List of CB meeting attendees. (5 pages)	N.D.	C

File Location:

James M. Cannon Files, Box 7, "Citizen's Band Radio" / SMD/ 2/12/2015

RESTRICTION CODES

- (A) Closed by applicable Executive order governing access to national security information.
- (B) Closed by statute or by the agency which originated the document.
- (C) Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in the donor's deed of gift.

CB MEETING ATTENDEES

CB REPRESENTATIVES

ANDROS, ANDREW  
Hy-Gain Electronics  
[REDACTED]

8-18-24  
Lincoln, Nebraska

BROWN, RICHARD L.  
Brown & Effros  
[REDACTED]

11-9-44  
New York City

GOLDSTEIN, RICHARD  
Dynascan  
[REDACTED]

4-27-23

HORNER, RICHARD  
E.F. Johnson So.  
[REDACTED]

Wrenshall, Minnesota

KENNEDY DAVID B.  
Pathcom, Inc.  
[REDACTED]

7-15-33  
Boston, Massachusetts

KNOWLES, RANDALL  
North Shore Emergency Association  
[REDACTED]

Pittsburg, Pennsylvania

KORN, CARL  
Dynascan  
[REDACTED]

7-15-21  
New York City

LEKASHMAN, LAWRENCE  
Lafayette Radio Electronics  
[REDACTED]

8-4-22  
Long Island, New York





MARSHALL, TRAVIS  
Motorola

[REDACTED]  
1-31-26  
Apalachiocola, Florida

MARTIN, GEORGE  
U.S. Citizens Radio Council

[REDACTED]  
10-29-10  
Cullman, Ct., Alabama

PASSINI, JON  
Dynascan

[REDACTED]  
1-22-38  
Spring Valley, Illinois

REESE GERALD H.  
REACT

[REDACTED]  
9-18-32  
Cleveland, Ohio

SMITH, LT. COL. J.C.  
Missouri State Police

[REDACTED]  
9-20-16  
Boone Ct., Missouri

SODOLSKI, JOHN  
Electronic Industries Assoc.

[REDACTED]  
4-11-31  
Menasha, Wisconsin

THOMPSON, ROBERT  
ALERT

[REDACTED]  
11-7-35  
Minerva, Ohio

WOLFE, HOWARD D.  
International CB Radio Opeators Assoc.

[REDACTED]  
1-12-27  
Marion, Virginia



PRESS

ARIEFF, IRWIN  
TV DIGEST

[REDACTED]  
6-26-46  
Chicago, Illinois

CARVER, TED  
CB News

[REDACTED]  
8-2-34  
Baltimore, Md.

CONNALLY, RAY  
Electronics Magazine

[REDACTED]  
4-26-29  
Boston, Mass

COOPER, CHARLES M.  
CB Magazine

[REDACTED]  
9-19-26  
Sweetwater, Texas

HANLIN, DONALD  
CB Today

[REDACTED]  
6-8-46  
Scott AFB, Illinois

HUNTON, EDWARD  
Photographer - CB News

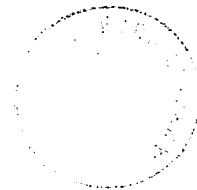
[REDACTED]  
7-24-37  
Baltimore, Md.

MELVOIN, JEFFREY  
Fairchild Publications

[REDACTED]  
2-21-53  
Boston, Mass

SALM, WALTER G.  
Communications Retailing

[REDACTED]  
11-5-33  
Gloversville, New York



SMITH, GUY  
CB Times

[REDACTED]  
3-16-49  
New Orleans, La.

TALL, ROBERT  
Industrial Communications

[REDACTED]  
5-15-26  
Baltimore, Md

WILLIAMS, DAVID  
Electronic News

[REDACTED]  
3-29-41  
Wilkesboro, Pa

GOVERNMENT

BUSS, LEO  
OTP

[REDACTED]  
6-9-21  
Bennington, Vermont

CHANOCK FOSTER  
White House

EGER, JOHN  
OTP

FANNON, PETER  
OMB

HIGGENBOTHAM, CHARLES  
FCC

[REDACTED]  
1-11-17  
New Martinsville, West Virginia

HUFFCUTT, GORDON  
State

[REDACTED]  
2-14-21  
Iola, Wisconsin

MACAVOY, PAUL  
Council of Economic Advisors

MAY, LYNN  
Domestic Council

MORRIS, STAN  
OMB

ROSE, JONATHAN  
Justice

ROBINSON, KEN  
Justice

ROSS, BOB  
OTP

SCHMULTS, ED  
White House

STEFANY, CAPT. SHIRL  
Transportation

[REDACTED]  
2-8-25  
Youngstown, Ohio

BLACKWELL, STEVEN  
OTP

[REDACTED]  
1-22-47  
Johnson City, Tennessee

PROBST, Samuel E.  
OTP



*Examinations*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

October 6, 1976

*Art -  
Good -  
Jan*

MEMORANDUM FOR: JIM CANNON  
FROM: LYNN MAY *Lynn May*  
SUBJECT: C.B. Radio

Attached is a proposed letter from Tom Houser, Director of the Office of Telecommunications Policy, to Richard Wiley, Chairman of the FCC, plus a Fact Sheet for a press release. In the letter Houser offers additional government controlled radio spectrum for possible C.B. use.

At your earlier request, I have worked with Foster Chanock on this issue and I am sending the attached material to him for possible press release when the Presidential party is in Oklahoma. While this is not an earth shaking initiative, the additional space will be received favorably by C.B. users.

Attachments

*Jim, I cleared this for possible use as a press release in Texas*  
*[Signature]*



OFFICE OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20504

DIRECTOR

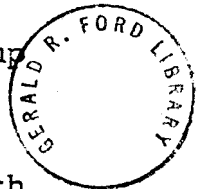
Honorable Richard E. Wiley  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20554

Dear Dick:

The phenomenal growth in the popularity of the Citizens Radio Service over the past few years continues to be a matter of concern to the Administration as I know it is to you, the other Commissioners, and your entire staff. This growth, from less than one million to over five million licenses, in less than three years, coupled with the limited frequency space available for Citizens radio use are the cause for this concern.

The President, recognizing this problem, has directed OTP to make a genuine effort to resolve the problem. Accordingly the Federal agencies who make up the Interdepartment Radio Advisory Committee (IRAC) have made a good faith effort by diligently studying all of the frequency bands currently available for Government use from 27 MHz to 960 MHz with a view to determining whether any additional spectrum might be offered to assist the Commission in meeting the growing requests for additional frequencies for CB radio use.

What follows represents the results of that study and some additional views of my staff on the subject. While no magic solutions are presented below, you may feel free to offer the information to your Personal Radio Planning Group and/or your Personal Use Radio Advisory Committee for whatever assistance it may be.



The IRAC has advised me that the band 27.54 to 28 MHz (with the stipulation that the Government would retain exclusive use of the frequencies 27.575, 27.585, 27.625, and 27.980 MHz) could be released for non-Government use. We fully recognize that the general use of 455 kHz as the intermediate frequency in most existing Class D Citizens Band radios makes it unrealistic to assume that this spectrum space could be utilized to provide additional channels for the service. We suggest however, that it might be utilized to reaccommodate other non-Government users from some other portion of the spectrum

which might then provide a resource which could be utilized for expansion of the Citizens Radio Service. Only a careful study by the Commission's staff can determine the utility of this offering but we stand ready to make it if it can be directly utilized to provide some relief for the Citizens Radio service.

If intermediate range requirements for Citizens Radio Service develop which cannot otherwise be accommodated, the 222-224 MHz band as previously offered to the Commission for this purpose might still be utilized. If the Commission should decide to pursue its deliberations in Docket 19759, we would suggest that they carefully consider the reservations that have been raised by members of the Citizens Radio Service community regarding the utility of an FM service to meet their needs. The FM "capture effect" would significantly alter the character of the Citizens Radio Service, and this fact needs to be carefully considered; as well as the objections raised by the Amateur Radio Service regarding the potential impact on their relay systems.

Regardless of any short or intermediate range solutions that might be adopted, it remains our view that the Commission should immediately reserve some portion of the spectrum near 900 MHz so that resources are available at such time as advancing technology makes the utilization of this resource realistic. This could be done, for example, by earmarking a portion of the spectrum which has currently been reserved as a result of the action taken in Docket 18262.

We recognize that the Commission would, of course, effect the necessary coordination with Canada and Mexico regarding any of the foregoing courses of action they might decide to pursue.

We applaud the actions taken by the Commission in Docket 20120 to improve the suppression of harmonic and spurious emissions from Citizens Radio Service equipment and would, of course, expect that similar action will be taken in implementing any further expansions of the Citizens Radio Service.

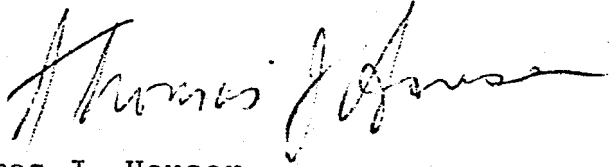
The recommendations above, insofar as they relate to the possible reallocation of spectrum now allocated for Government purposes, are based on the advice generated for



this Office by the Interdepartment Radio Advisory Committee with the FCC Liaison Representative not participating.

My staff, as always, stands ready to work with members of your staff to ensure that the requirements of the nation as a whole for the use of the spectrum are met in an appropriate and efficient manner.

All best wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Thomas J. Houser". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Thomas J. Houser





## FACT SHEET

### Proposed Release of Government Frequency Space for Use by Citizens Band Radio and other Two-Way Radio Services

Tom Houser, Director of the Office of Telecommunication Policy, at the direction of the President, has offered the release of two portions of Federally controlled radio frequency space to the Federal Communication Commission and has suggested the reservation of some additional spectrum for use by Citizens Band (C.B.) and other personal radio services.

#### BACKGROUND

In the last few years, there has been a rapid increase in the use of the C.B. and other forms of two-way, personal radio communications. This form of communications is employed for everything from recreation to business purposes and the provision of essential services.

The tremendous growth in popularity of C.B. radio has led to a congestion on assigned C.B. channels. Earlier this year, the FCC furnished 17 additional C.B. channels to relieve this congestion, bringing the total number to 40.

In an effort to foster the future development of personal use radio, the Administration has made a study of the government controlled spectrum and has offered two portions of the

spectrum to the FCC for this purpose. None of these present an ultimate resolution to C.B. overcrowding, but they provide the FCC greater flexibility in developing long term solutions to personal radio use.

OTP PROPOSAL

OTP proposed the following frequency spaces, for personal radio use:

1. 27.54 to 28 MHZ (less frequencies 27.575, 27.585, 27.625 and 27.98 MHZ)
  - While this additional frequency space could not accomodate additional C.B. channels because of interference characteristics, it could allow the reaccomodation of other non-government users and thus provide additional frequence space for possible C.B. use.
  
2. 222 to 224 MHZ
  - Would provide frequency space for proposed Class E system, short distance C.B. use, which avoids skip propagation problems at frequencies now used.
  
3. 900 MHZ Band (already non-government spectrum)
  - May provide long-term frequency space for expanded C.B. service.

READING

file

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

1976 OCT 17 PM 12 56

DATE:

File

TO:

Jim Cannon

FROM:

LYNN MAY

Comments:

*Lynn  
Mayer  
Jum*

AG 1

Re: expanded CB channels



101805

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 18, 1976

Contacts: Walda W. Roseman  
Carolyn L. Tillotson  
(202) 395-4990

PRESS RELEASE

1976 OCT 17 PM 12 56

OTP OFFERS SUGGESTIONS AT DIRECTION OF PRESIDENT FOR CB RADIO

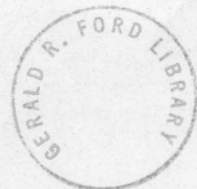
OTP announced Friday, October 15, that at the direction of President Gerald R. Ford the Office has suggested to the Federal Communications Commission that three portions of radio frequency space might be utilized in the Commission's efforts to provide for Citizen's Band (CB) and other personal radio services.

In a letter to FCC Chairman Richard E. Wiley, OTP Director Thomas J. Houser noted that at the President's request the Federal agencies which comprise the OTP-chaired Interdepartment Radio Advisory Committee have studied all of the frequency bands currently under Government control to determine whether any additional spectrum might be made available for the rapidly growing CB radio service.

While he said he has "no magic solutions", Houser noted that the Chairman could feel free to offer the Commission's Personal Radio Planning Group and/or its Personal Use Radio Advisory Committee:

- Use of the 27.54 to 28 MHz (megahertz) band - with some exceptions - for relocation of other non-government users if such relocation could provide useable CB spectrum. Because of interference problems peculiar to the Class D Citizen's Band service, those bands could not be used directly for CB; and

- Use of the 222 to 224 MHz band, as previously offered for the proposed Class E short distance CB service. Use of these bands would eliminate the "skip" problems indigenous to the frequencies now in use.



Kouser suggested that regardless of whether spectrum overcrowding problems for CB may be resolved for the short and intermediate term, "it remains our view that the Commission should immediately reserve some portion of the spectrum near 900 MHz so that resources are available at such time as advancing technology makes the utilization of this resource realistic." Space in this portion of the spectrum has already been set aside by the FCC for a variety of uses as a result of a recent FCC decision (Docket No. 18262).

The tremendous growth in popularity of CB radio and the resulting congestion of the assigned 23 channels led the FCC earlier this year to furnish an additional 17 channels for CB, bringing the total to 40. In June of this year, the White House, also concerned with administrative and spectrum problems spawned by rapid growth of CB service, convened a meeting of representatives from the government, industry and user communities. OTP was instructed by the President following the meeting to make an effort to further resolve the problem of channel congestion.

The radio frequency spectrum is the range of electromagnetic frequencies shared internationally for the over-the-air transmission of information. Since two radio signals cannot occupy the same frequency in the same place at the same time, competition for spectrum space is often fierce and can give rise to overcrowding. To avert problems of congestion and to promote the most efficient use of the spectrum, the President has legislatively delegated his responsibility for managing those portions of the spectrum used by the Federal Government to OTP. The FCC has authority over all other U.S. spectrum users. The two agencies coordinate their efforts to assure that all U.S. users can be efficiently accommodated on both a domestic and international basis.

\* \* \* \* \*

