

KBJR-TV

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CATALOG NO. 4550L 1/5

B.S. NDEA

BROADCASTING STATION LICENSE RECORD CCM TV

FIRST (C.O. 2-9-54) (Started 3-1-54) NDEA
per Atty)

6 KBJR-TV (EFF 11-13-74)

Date first licensed 7-21-55 (Official No. 140)

Call letters ~~W.D.S.M.~~ ^{XX} KBJR-TV

(Station Location: SUPERIOR, WISCONSIN

EFF: 10-9-74 Waiver Section 73.652(a) Rules GR. 2-16-66 to identify as "a" SUPERIOR-DULUTH, STATION

RJR COMMUNICATIONS, INC. (BAPLCT-112 9-5-74

XXX NORTHWEST PUBLICATIONS, INC. (BAPCT-143 gr. 2-28-55 EFF: 4-1-55)

X W D S M TELEVISION COMPANY (BPCCT-12-22-53)

Name of licensee ~~RIDSON, INC.~~

4th Avenue W. and 10th St., Duluth, Minnesota (BPCCT-2283, 4-9-57 not a move)

Transmitter location ~~5th Avenue West & 10th Street, Duluth, Minnesota~~

~~921 Tower Avenue, Superior, Wisconsin EFF: 10-21-59 see Comm.ltr. 10-16-59. ERROR: Corrected by~~

230 East Superior Street, Duluth, Minnesota (BMLCT-52. 12-11-57) ←

X 921 Tower Ave., Superior, Wisc. (701 dated 11-9-54)

Main studio location ~~917 Tower Avenue, Superior, Wisconsin~~

CONSTRUCTION PERMIT AND LICENSE RECORD

Appl. No.	Date Issued	Freq.	Power	Time Div.	Period From- To-
BPCT-728	10-14-53	Ch.#6 82-88 mc	V: 100 kw A: 50 kw	U	12-14-53 6-14-54
C. P. for a new Commercial TV B/C Station					
BMPCT-1651	12-22-53	same	same	same	12-14-53 6-14-54
Mod. CP (BPCT-728) to change corp. name to WDSM Television Company.					
2-9-54 STA Opr. Comm basis accordance CP BMPCT-1651 except using GE TY-13A single section antenna mounted on 90 foot tower, overall height above ground 108 feet, no obstruction marking required, using GE TT-10 A transmitter, power output 5 kw Vis, 2.7 kw Aur & with studio located at transmitter site outside city limits of superior. Period Ending 6-14-54					
4-22-54 Mod STA Oprl Comm basis accordance CP BMPCT-1651 except using GE TY-13 A single section Ant. mounted on 90 foot tower, overall height above ground 108 feet, using GE TF-3A transmitter, power output 26 kw Vis, 13 kw Aur. & with SL at transmitter site outside city limits of Superior. Period Ending 6-14-54					
BMPCT-2121	5-20-54	same	same	same	12-14-53
Mod CP(BPCT-728), to extend completion date 12-14-54					
5-21-54 EXT STA Operate Comm. basis accordance CP BMPCT-2121 except using GE TY-13A single section antenna mounted on 90 foot tower, overall height above ground 108 feet, using GE TF-3A transmitter, power outout 26 kw Visual, 13 kw Aur & with studio located at transmitter site outside city limits of superior. Per End. 12-14-54.					
Wire 7-9-54 Mod. of STA operate comm. basis in accor CP(BMPCT-2121) except with studio located at transmitter site outside city limits of Superior. Period ending 12-14-54					
Wire 10-8-54 STA Originate programs at studios located at 230 East Superior St. Period Ending 11-7-54.					
BMPCT-2618	11-22-54	Same	Same	Same	12-14-53
Mod. CP(BPCT-728, as mod) to extend completion date 6-14-55					
Wire 11-24-54 EXT STA, Opr. Comm. basis accord CP BMPCT 2618 pending filing of Lic. appl. Period Ending 6-14-55.					
BAPCT-143	2-28-55	Assignment of CP from WDSM Television Company to Northwest Publications, Inc.			
BLCT-272	7-21-55	CH 6 82-88	V=100 kw A=50 kw	U	7-21-55 12-1-55
License to cover CP(BPCT-728, as mod) which auth. new C					

June 1954

CARD #2

BROADCASTING STATION LICENSE RECORD

Date first licensed

Call letters WDSM-TV

Name of licensee NORTHWEST PUBLICATIONS, INC.

Transmitter location SEE CARD # 1

SEE CARD #1

Main studio location

CONSTRUCTION PERMIT AND LICENSE RECORD

Appl. No.	Date Issued	Freq.	Power	Time Div.	Period From- To-
BRCT-140	11-9-55	same	same	same	12-1-55 12-1-58
RENEWAL OF LICENSE					
BPCT-2283	4-9-57	CH#6	V-100 kw	U	6-9-57
AH:1010'		82-88	A-50 kw		10-9-57
CP to install new Ant. Sys. specify TL, & make minor equipment changes. (COND. FORM 720 CRITICAL OBSTRUCTION)					
BPCT-2412	10-11-57	same	same	same	6-9-57
CP to replace expired CP (BPCT-2283)					1-11-58
BMPCT-4922	11-14-57	CH#6	V-100 kw	U	6-9-57
AH: 1010'		82-88	A-50 kw		12-15-57
Mod. CP (BPCT-2283, replaced by BPCT-2412) to chg. antenna Sys.					
WIRE	11-14-57	RE BLCT-751. AUTH. OPER. PROGRAM TEST			
ACCORD. BMPCT-4922					
BLCT-751	12-5-57	CH # 6	V-100 kw	U	12-5-57 12-1-58
AH: 1010'		82-88	A-50 kw		
License to cover CP (BPCT-2412, as mod).					
BMLCT-52	12-11-57	same	same	same	12-11-57 12-1-58
Mod. of License to chg. Studio Location (long form)					
BRCT-140	11-25-58	SAME	SAME	SAME	12-1-58
AH:1010'		RENEWAL OF LICENSE			12-1-61
RENEWAL OF LICENSE					
ACTION ON RENEWAL DEFERRED 11-29-61					
BRCT-140	2-28-62	same	same	same	2-28-62
RENEWAL OF LICENSE					
BPCT-3452	11-25-64	CH.6	V.100 kw	U	1-25-65
AH:1010'		82-88	A. 50 kw		7-25-65
Construction Permit to chg. type of transmitter.					
WIRE	1-4-65	RE TENDERED LIC. APPL. AUTH. GRANTED			
OPERATE WDSM-TV ON PROG. TEST ACCORD. SEC. 73.629 & BPCT-3452.					
BRCT-140	11-30-64	same	same	same	12-1-64
RENEWAL OF LICENSE					
BLCT-1442	3-15-65	CH.6	V.100 kw	U	3-15-65
AH:1010'		82-88	A. 50 kw		12-1-67
License to cover CP (BPCT-3452) which auth. chgs. in station					
CONSTR. ACTION 2-16-66 GRANTED WAIVER SECTION 73.652(a) RULES TO PERMIT IDENTIFICATION AS A "SUPERIOR-DULUTH, STATION"					

Form BC 126 Card # 3
June 1954

COMM. TV.

BROADCASTING STATION LICENSE RECORD

Date first licensed

Call letters WDSM-TV

Station location

Name of licensee NORTHWEST PUBLICATIONS, INC.

Transmitter location See Card # 1

Main studio location

CONSTRUCTION PERMIT AND LICENSE RECORD

Appl. No.	Date Issued	Freq.	Power	Time Div.	Period From - To
BMLCT-537	2-28-66	Same	Same A-20 kw	Same	2-28-66 12-1-67
Mod. of license to reduce Aural ERP.					
BRCT-140 AH: 1010'	11-24-67	CH. 6 82-88	V-100 kw A- 20 kw	U	12-1-67 12-1-70
RENEWAL OF LICENSE AND NDEA					
BRCT-140	11-25-70	RENEWAL OF LICENSE (S) & NDEA			12-1-73
BMLCT-726 AH: 1010' MSL: 804.5'	12-6-71	Ch. 6 82-88	V. 100 kw A. 10 kw	U	
ML reduce AURAL ERP & chg. type of aural trans. 12-1-73					
EBSA	5-15-72				
BRET-140	11-30-73	RENEWAL OF LICENSE (S)			12-1-76
BPCT-4721 CP to chg trans.	7-8-74	CP to chg trans.		U	9-8--74 1-8-76
BRCTV-184 (1)	7-19-74	Remote control authority			
BAPLCT-112	9-5-74	VOL AL			
BMPCT-7572	2-10-75	MP(BPCT-4721) to make chgs in transmission line.			9-8-75 1-8-76
WIRE oper KBJR-TV on program and CP BMPCT-7572.	6-12-75	Re tendered lic. appl., auth. grtd. accord. Sect. 73.629 rules			
BLCT-2419 AH: 1010' MSL: --- Lic(BPCT-2419 as mod)	8-12-75	Ch. 6 82-88	V. 100 kW A. 10 kW	U	12-1-76
to chg. trans.					
BRCT-140	11-17-76	Renewal of license (S)			12-1-79
BRCT- 790801LC	12-31-79	RENEWAL OF LICENSE (S)			12-1-82

CARD # 1

Comm. TV

FORM A-170

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

FORMERLY FCC FORM 94

NORTHWEST PUBLICATIONS, INC.

Call

Letters ~~-----New~~ WDSM-TVName ~~RIDE N Incorporated~~ WDSM TELEVISION COMPANY~~x (PO) Mr. Prevest Gaultor, 921 Tower Avenue Superior, Wisconsin)~~

230 N. Superior Street, Duluth, Minnesota LTR. 3-8-60 & LTR. 7-12-60 Action

File No.	Dated	Application for	Nature	Date
BFCT-728	6-14-51	Construction permit for new comm. TV B/c Station.	GRANTED	10-14-53
Recd & Filed	6-21-51	Freq: Ch.# 6, 82-88 Mcs. E.P: Vis. 15.8 KW, Aur. 7.9 KW. Hours operation: Unlimited. S-L: Block 135, 3d Division. Lots 69 & 71 thru 80, Duluth, Minnesota. T-L: Block 135, 3d Division. Lots 69 & 71 Thru 80, Duluth, Minnesota (Vis. & Aur. G. E. TT-10A) Filed by Peter Shuebruk, Atty.	Order Docket 10291	

Engr. By "orthington C. Lont

Also John M. Sherman

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

COMMERCIAL TV BROADCAST

Call

Letters N E W WDSM-TVName PITSON, INC. WDSM TELEVISION COMPANY~~(921 Tower Avenue, Superior, Wis.)~~

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BPCT-728 Rec'd Filed (AMENDED)	7-5-52 7-7-52 7-9-52	(PURSUANT TO SIXTH REPORT & ORDER 4-11-52) Frequency: Ch. #6 (82-88 Mos.) ERP: Vis. 100 kw, Aur. 50 kw Hours of operation: Unlimited S-L: 921 Tower Ave., Superior, Wis. T-L: 5th Ave. West and 10th St., Duluth, Minnesota (Vis. & Aur. GE TT-22A) (747') Filed by William J. Durka, Atty.	See Action	CARD #1
AMENDED Rec'd Filed	11-10-52 11-10-52 11-19-52	Amended 7-9-52 Articles of Incorporation Amended to chg. ant. height above average terrain from 747' to 791' and studio location from 921 Tower Ave., Superior, Wis. to 917 Tower Ave., Superior, Wis.		
AMENDED Rec'd Filed	11-10-52 11-12-52 11-19-52	Amended to change Officers and Directors		

John M. Sherman, Engr.

Card # 3

FORM A-170

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

COMM. TV B/C

FORMERLY FCC FORM 94

Call
Letters WDSM-TVName ~~RIDSON, INC.~~ WDSM TELEVISION COMPANY
Superior, Wisconsin

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BMPCT-1651 Recd. Filed	12-10-53 12-15-53 12-15-53	Modification of CP (BPCT-728, which authorized a new Comm. TV B/C Station) to change corporate name from Ridson, Inc. to WDSM Television Company. Filed by Peter Shuebruk, Atty.	GRANTED	12-22-53
AMENDED Recd. Filed	12-8-53 12-15-53 13-15-53	Amended re: Amendment to Articles of Incorporation. Filed by Peter Shuebruk, Atty.		
BMPCT-2121 Recd. Filed	5-7-54 5-17-54 5-17-54	Mod. of CP (BPCT-728, which authorized a new Comm. TV B/C Station) to extend completion date from 6-14-54 to 12-14-54. Filed by Peter Shuebruk, Atty.	GRANTED	5-20-54
BMPCT-2618 Recd & filed	11-9-54 11-15-54	Mod. of CP (BPCT-728 as mod., which auth. a new comm. TV b/c station) to extend completion date from 12-14-54 to 3-14-55 Filed by Peter Shuebruk, Atty.	GRANTED	11-22-54

FORM A-170

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

FORMERLY FCC FORM 94

NORTHWEST PUBLICATIONS, INC.

Call
Letters WDSM-TVName WDSM TELEVISION COMPANY
Superior, Wisconsin

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BLCT-272 * Recd & filed 2-1-55	1-26-55	License to cover CP (BPCT-728 as modified) which authorized a new commercial TV b/c station. Filed by Peter Shuebruk, Atty.	GRANTED	7-21-55
BAPCT-143 Recd & filed 2-15-55	2-10-55	Assignment of CP from WDSM Television Company to Northwest Publications, Inc. Filed by Peter Shuebruk, Atty.	GRANTED EFF;	2-28-55 4-1-55
BLCT-272 * Amended Recd & filed 4-13-55	4-11-55	Amended to specify applicant's name as Northwest Publications, Inc.	SEE Action above	
BRCT-140 RECD & FILED 9-23-55	9-15-55	Renewal of license. Filed by William J. Durka, Atty.	GRANTED	11-9-55

CARD #5

FORM BC-121

AUG. 1955

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

COMM. TV

Call
Letters

WDSM-TV

Name **NORTHWEST PUBLICATIONS, INC.**
Superior, Wisconsin

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BMLCT-32 Recd & Filed	9-30-55 10-3-55	Mod. of license to change studio location from 921 Tower Avenue, Superior, Wisc. to 230 East Superior St., Duluth, Minn. <u>Filed by William J. Durka, Atty.</u>	Dismissed ltr. request of Atty.	11-9-55
BPCT-2283 Recd & Filed	1-31-57 2-18-57	CP to make changes in existing Comm. TV b/c station to install new antenna system, specify trans. location as 4th Ave. West & 10th St., Duluth, Minn. in lieu of 5th Ave. West & 10th Street, Duluth, Minn. (not a move) and make minor equipment changes. (1010 ') <u>Filed by Peter Shuebruk, Atty.</u>	GRANTED	4-9-57
BMLCT-52 Recd Filed SEE: CARD # 5-A PROTEST AGAINST GRANT	8-26-57 9-10-57 9-26-57	Mod. of License to change studio location from 921 Tower Avenue, Superior, Wisconsin to 230 East Superior Street, Duluth, Minn. and requests waiver of Sec. 3.613 of the Rules. <u>Peter Shuebruk, Atty./ SEE: CARD # 5-A</u>	GRANTED Comm. Action	12-11-57
BPCT-2412 Recd. & filed	10-10-57 10-10-57	CP to replace expired CP (BPCT-2283) which ^{changes in existing} authorized Comm. TV B/C Station. <u>Filed by J.P. Blumov, Atty. N. D. C.</u>	GRANTED	10-11-57

Card # 5-A

FORM BC-121

AUG. 1955

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Call
Letters WDSM-TVName NORTHWEST PUBLICATIONS, INC.
Superior, Wisconsin

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
CONTINUED FROM CARD # 5 <u>EMLC-52</u>				
		PETITION FOR REHEARING filed 1-10-58 by Paul M. Segal & Robert A. Marmet on behalf of Red River B/C Company (KDAL-TV)		
		1-20-58 MOTION TO DISMISS AND OPPOSITION TO PETITION FOR REHEARING filed by Peter Shuebruk on behalf of Northwest Publications, Inc. (WDSM-TV)		
		MEMORANDUM OPINION & ORDER ADOPTED 3-19-58 Petition for Rehearing DENIED.		

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

COMM. TV

Call
Letters

WDSM-TV

Name **NORTHWEST PUBLICATIONS, INC.****Superior, Wisconsin (P.O. 230 East Superior St. Duluth, Minn. Lt. 12-20-60)**

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BMPCT-4922 Recd & Filed	11-1-57 11-7-57	Mod. of CP (BPCT-2283, as replaced by BPCT-2412 which auth. changes in existing station) to make changes in antenna system. Peter Shuebruk, Atty.	GRANTED	11-14-57
BLCT-751 Recd Amended filed	10-25-57 10-30-57 11-8-57 11-14-57	License to cover CP (BPCT-2283, as replaced by BPCT-2412 which auth. changes in existing station. Filed by Peter Shuebruk, Atty.	GRANTED	12-5-57
BRCT-140 Recd & filed	8-22-58 9-2-58	Renewal of license Filed by Peter Shuebruk, Atty.	GRANTED	11-25-58
BRCT-140 Recd. & filed	8-25-61 9-5-61	RENEWAL OF LICENSE Peter Shuebruk, Atty.	GRANTED	2-28-62
BRCT-140 Recd. & Filed	6-25-64 10-9-64	RENEWAL OF LICENSE Peter Shuebruk, Atty.	GRANTED	11-30-64

FORM BC-121

AUG. 1955

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Call
Letters WDSM-TVCH. 6 Name NORTHWEST PUBLICATIONS, INC.
SUPERIOR, WISCONSIN

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BPCT- 3452 Recd & Filed	10-22-64 10-26-64	Construction Permit to change type of transmitter from GE TT-22-A TO GE TT-42-A, and make other equipment changes. Joseph J. Kessler, Atty. (FLY, SHUEBRUK, BLUME)	GRANTED	11-25-64
BLCT-1442 Recd. & Filed	12-20-64 12-24-64	License to cover CP (BPCT-3452) which authorized changes in existing station. Joseph J. Kessler, Atty.	GRANTED	3-15-65
LETTER (1) Received	12-21-65 12-22-65	REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF SECTION 73.652(a) OF COMMISSION'S RULES to permit identification as "SUPERIOR, WISCONSIN-DULUTH, MINNESOTA" Benito Gaguine (Fly, Shuebruk, Blume & Gaguine) Atty	GRANTED 2-16-66 LETTER ADOPTED	FEB 16 1966
BMLCT-537 R & F	2-10-66 2-17-66	Mod. of License to reduce Aural ERP from 50 kw to 20 kw. Joseph J. Kessler, Esq.	GRANTED	2-28-66
BRCT-140 R & F	9-5-67 9-6-67	RENEWAL OF LICENSE Benito Gaguine, atty. (FLY, SHUEBRUK, BLUME)	GRANTED	11-24-67
Engr. data filed	7-2-70			

Form BC-121
September 1969

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Call
Letters WDSM-TVName NORTHWEST PUBLICATIONS, INC.
Ch. 6 Superior, Wisconsin

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BRCT-140 Rec. & filed PN RECD PRESS	8-27-70 9-2-70 9-2-70 SEP 14 1970	RENEWAL OF LICENSE James K. Edmundson (Fly, Shuebruk)	GRANTED	11-25-70
BMLCT-726 R & F #513075 \$50 AC: 062 PRESS	10-30-71 11-4-71 11-4-71 NOV 11 1971	ML to decr. Aur. ERP to 10kw. (Specify type Aur. trans. as GE TT-40).	GRANTED	12-6-71
BRCT-140 R & F PN REC'D PRESS:	8-30-73 9-4-73 9-4-73 SEP 25 1973	RENEWAL OF LICENSE Atty: James K. Edmundson (Fly, Shuebruk, Blume & Gaguine) Amended 9-6-73 re financial	GRANTED	11-30-73

#8

COMM. TV.

Form BC-121
September 1969

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Call
Letters WDSM-TVName
CH-6 NORTHWEST PUBLICATIONS, INC.
SUPERIOR, WISCONSIN

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BRCTV-184 R & F #284542\$50 AC: 058 PRESS:	2-22-74 2-26-74 2-26-74 MAY 20 1974	Request auth. to oper. trans. by remote control from 230 E. Superior Street, Duluth, Minnesota. James Edmundson (Attorney) Additional Engr. filed 5-3-74.	GRANTED	7-19-74
BPCT-4721 R&F #294238\$50 AC: 058 PRESS:	3-18-74 3-21-74 3-21-74 MAY 21 1974	CP to change type trans. to RCA TT-25FL Atty: James Edmundson (Fly, Shuebruk, Blume & Gaguine)	GRANTED	7-8-74

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

COMMERCIAL TV

Call Letters **KBJR-TV**
XXWDSM-TV

RJR COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

CH-6 Name **X NORTHWEST PUBLICATIONS, INC.**
SUPERIOR, WISCONSIN

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BAPLCT-112 R & F #327110 \$1000 AC: 051 PRESS: PN REC'D: GRANT FEE: GRANT FEE PAID: \$30,000. AC: 052 (Form 314)	7-18-74 7-19-74 7-19-74 JUL 23 1974 8-12-74 \$30,000 \$30,000. 10-22-74	Voluntary assignment of construction permit and license to RJR Communications, Inc. Atty.: Fly, Shuebruk, Blume and <u>Gaguine</u> Amer 8-15-74 re supplemental material. PETITION FOR TAX CERTIFICATE filed 6-8-76 PRESS: 14 JUN 1976	GRANTED EFF: 10-9-74	9-5-74 9-74
BMPCT-7572 R & F #384570 \$50 AC: 058 PRESS: JAN 22 1975	1-17-75 1-20-75 1-20-75 JAN 22 1975	MP(BPCT-4721) to make chgs. in transmission line. Atty.: James K. Edmundson (Fly, Shuebruk, Blume and Gaguine) AMENDED 1-24-75 re transmission line.	GRANTED	2-10-75

CLASS 1 REFUND
~~500~~ Paid to
Seller

TRANS. #
~~500~~
500



DATE
791212

291.50

INITIALS
PBE3

#10

Form BC-121
September 1969

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Call
Letters KBJR-TVName RJR COMMUNICATIONS, INC.
CH-6 Superior, Wisconsin

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BLCT-2419 R & F #433016 \$100. AC: 058 PRESS:	5-27-75 5-29-75 5-29-75 1 AUG 1975	License to cover (BPCT-4721, as mod.) to change type transmitter to RCA TT-25FL. Atty: James K. Edmundson (Fly, Shuebruk)	GRANTED	8-12-75

PHASE 1 REFUND ACTION

BCT-2419
433016

TRANS.
CODE
500

DATE
791211

AMT.
55.00

INITIALS
BEB

#11

F. BC-121
September 1969

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

COMMERCIAL TV

Call
Letters KBJR-TVName RJR COMMUNICATIONS, INC.
Ch-6 SUPERIOR, WISCONSIN

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BRCT-140 R&F PN RECD PRESS	7-20-76 8-2-76 8-2-76 25 NOV 1976	RENEWAL OF LICENSE Atty.: Herbert Schulkind (Fly Shuebruk, Blume & Gaguine) (Contours filed, Annual report filed) Amended 10-29-76 re Submit Sup/ Exhibit 6	GRANTED	11-17-76
BRCT 790801LC R & F PN REC'D PRESS	7-19-79 8-1-79 8-1-79 '79 08 30	RENEWAL OF LICENSE ATTY: HERBERT M SCHULKIND {FLY, SHUEBRUK}	GRANTED	12-31-79

DEMAND FOR BROADCASTIN OF CORRECTION 11-3-80 by Benito Gaguine for RJR Communications, Inc.
re broadcast by NBC TV Network concerning a Mr. Wayne Newton.

About the History Cards ...

History Cards were first used by the Department of Commerce to keep track of applications filed by, and changes to, the earliest AM broadcast radio stations in the early 1920s. The records were subsequently transferred to the Federal Radio Commission in 1927, and after that to the Federal Communications Commission when that agency was created in 1934. These cards gradually grew into a large card file.

TV History Cards were initiated in the early 1940s, with the authorization of the earliest TV stations. History Cards remained in use until the creation of the first computerized database in 1980 to track broadcast applications, the Broadcast Application Processing System (BAPS). However, the Commission did not transfer the data from the History Cards to the new system. Instead, it retained the History Cards in their original form for reference.

In 1999, the Commission moved to a new location (445 12th Street SW), and also at that time created the successor database to BAPS, the Consolidated DataBase System (CDBS). Prior to that move, the History Cards were transferred to microfiche by a contractor (only a few sets of microfiche exist), and the original paper cards were destroyed. The History Cards were stored on the microfiche as negative images, like those you see above.

History Cards contain very brief entries and notes about station facilities, applications, and ownership. They are not, and never were intended to be, a comprehensive record of a station's operations. Nevertheless, they can be useful to help determine, for example, when a station first went on the air and its call letters at that time. History Card comments were generally typed onto the cards, and thus some records will show more faintly or with more smudging than others, depending on the quality of typewriter and ribbon then used. Occasional handwritten comments, corrections, and strikeouts may also be found. Cards may be incomplete, missing, or occasionally out of sequence.

The History Cards are presented here as they were copied to microfiche, to preserve this record for public use, and with the hope that they will be of value to future researchers of television station history.

