

KFBB-TV

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CATALOG NO. 4550L 1/5

FIRST (CO 3-11-54) Requested start on 3-14-54

Date first licensed 10-23-56 (Off. No. 223)

CH 5

Call letters KFBB-TV
(Sta. Loc. Great Falls, Montana)

ADVANCE CORPORATION (AL 4-11-77; EFF:

X HARRISCOPE BROADCASTING CORPORATION (BALCT-192 7-2-62 EFF: 7-15-62)

X KFBB BROADCASTING CORPORATION (BALCT-112 4-7-60 EFF: 4-30-60)

X WILKINS BROADCAST, INC. (BMPCT-22⁵⁴ Granted 7-16-54)

Name of licensee X BUTTREY BROADCAST, INCORPORATED

US Hwy. 87 - one mile N. of Missouri River, near Great Falls, Montana (BPCT-4340 5-7-70)
 2 miles West of city limits on U.S. Highway 89-91, Near Great Falls, Montana (LIC. 10-23-56)
 X 2 miles west of city limits on U.S. Hwy. 89-91, Great Falls, Montana /
 Transmitter location X-300 Central Ave., Great Falls, Mont. Nr. (BMPCT-1196, 7-21-53)

US Hwy. 87-1 mile N. of Mo. River, nr. Great Falls, Mont. (BPCT-4340 5-7-70)

2 miles West of city limits on U.S. Highway 89-91, Near Great Falls, Montana (LIC. 10-23-56)
 X 2 miles west of city limits on U.S. Hwy. 89-91, Great Falls, Montana /
 Main studio location X-300 Central Ave., Great Falls, Mont.

CONSTRUCTION PERMIT AND LICENSE RECORD

Appl. No.	Date Issued	Freq.	Power	Time Div.	Period From- To-
BPCT-1195	1-14-53	Ch. #5, 76-82 mc	V-8.9 kw A-4.5 kw	U	3-14-53 9-14-53
Construction permit for a new Commercial TV B/C Station.					
BPCT-1195	1-14-53	Ch. #5, 76-82 mc	V-8.9 kw A-4.5 kw	U	3-14-53 9-14-53
Construction permit for a new Commercial TV B/C Station Superseding authorization deleting condition (letter 6-8-53)					
BMPCT-1196	7-21-53	same	V. 25.1 kw A. 12.6 kw	U	9-21-53 3-21-54
Mod.C.P.(BPCT-1195) to change ERP, change T-L & S-L, install new transmitters, change type antenna, make other equip.chgs					
BMPCT-1907	3-4-54	same	same	same	9-21-53 9-21-54
Mod CP(BPCT-1195,as mod) to extend completion date conversion of obstruction marking specifications 3-11-54 STA Opr. Comm basis accordance CP BMPCT-1907 pending completion of performance measurements for lic. appl. Period Ending 9-21-54					
BMPCT-2284	7-16-54	Same	Same	Same	9-21-53 1-16-55
Mod. of CP(BPCT-1195 as mod., etc.) to change corporate name and to extend completion date.					
Wire 9-10-54 EXT temporary auth. opr. Comm. basis accord. CP BMPCT-2284 pending filing of Lic. appl. Period Ending 1-16-55.					
BMPCT-2717	1-11-55	same	same	same	9-21-53 7-16-55
LF Mod.CP(BPCT-1195,as mod) to extend completion dt (condition deleted)					
WIRE 1-11-55 EXT STA Opr. Comm. basis accord CP BMPCT-2717 pending filing of Lic. Appl. Per.End. 7-16-55.					
BMPCT-3199	6-29-55	same	same	same	9-21-53 1-16-56
Mod. of CP(BPCT-1195,as mod)to extend completion dt.					
WIRE 6-30-55 EXT. STA Opr. Comm. basis accord. CP BMPCT 3199 pending filing of Lic. Appl. Auth. expires 1-16-56.					
1-16-56 Wire Pending acceptance license application, authority granted to operate temporarily period 10 days C.O. acc. BMPCT-3199.					
BPCT-429	10-23-56	CH # 5, 76-82	V-25.1 kw A-12.6 kw	U	10-23-56 4-1-59
AH: 240 feet. License to cover CP(BPCT-1195,as mod).					

Form BC-126 # 2
June 1954

COMM. TV B/C

BROADCASTING STATION LICENSE RECORD

Date first licensed

Call letters KFBB-TV

Station location Great Falls, Montana

Name of licensee WILKINS BROADCAST, INC.

Transmitter location SEE CARD # 1

Main studio location SEE CARD # 1

CONSTRUCTION PERMIT AND LICENSE RECORD

Appl. No.	Date Issued	Freq.	Power	Time Div	Period From- To-
BTC-2737	4-2-58	Voluntary transfer of control of lic. corp. from J.P. Wilkins, et al, (all stockholders) to Cascade Service, Inc. Eff: NOT CONSUMMATED (CONDITION)			
CONN. LTR.	6-11-58	(AM KFBB) Retired to Closed Files - BTC			
BRCT-223	3-25-59	same	same	same	4-1-59/4-1-62
Renewal of License					
BTC-3342	1-27-60	VOLUNTARY TRANSFER OF CONTROL OF LICENSEE CORPORATION FROM JOSEPH P. WILKINS, et al, ALL STOCKHOLDERS TO K F B B BROADCASTING CORPORATION. EFF: 3-7-60			
BALCT-112	4-7-60	Voluntary assignment of License to KFBB BROADCASTING CORPORATION. EFF: 4-30-60			
ACTION ON RENEWAL DEFERRED 3-28-62					
BRCT-223	5-11-62	CH #5	V-25.1 kw	U	5-11-62
AH: 240'		76-82	A-12.6 kw		4-1-65
RENEWAL OF LICENSE					
BTC-4016	5-23-62	Voluntary transfer of control of licensee corporation from David E. Bright, Ernest L. Scanlon and Daniel T. O'Shea to Harriscop Broadcasting Corporation. EFF: 6-11-62			
BALCT-192	7-2-62	Voluntary assignment of license to Harriscop Broadcasting Corporation. EFF: 7-15-62			
BPCT-3075	9-5-62	Ch. #5	V-100 kw	U	11-5-62
AH: 237'	MSL:3770'	76-82	A-50 kw		5-5-63
CP to chg ERP, type of transmitter, make chgs in equip.;					
AH					
WIRE	3-15-63	RE TENDERED LIC. APPL. AUTH. GR. OPERATE KFBB-TV ON PROGRAM TEST ACCORD. SECTION 3.629 RULES & CP BPCT-3075. ADVISE Began 3-16-63			
BLCT-1275	12-23-63	Ch. 5	V-100 kw	U	12-23-63
AH: 237'		76-82	A- 50 kw		4-1-65
LICENSE to cover CP (BPCT-3075)which auth.chgs.					
BPCT-3334	5-22-64	CH.5	V-100 kw	U	7-22-64
AH: 240'		76-82	A-13.5 kw		1-22-65
CP to reduce Aural ERP.					
BPCT-3509	2-11-65	CH.5	V.100 kw	U	4-11-65
AH:240'	MSL:3770'	76-82	A. 13.5 kw		10-11-65
CP to replace expired CP (BPCT-3334)which auth.reduc.Aur.ER					

Form BG 126

#3

COMM. TV. B/C

June 1954

BROADCASTING STATION LICENSE RECORD

CARD #3

Date first licensed

Call letters **KFBB-TV**

Station location

Name of licensee **HARRISCOPE BROADCASTING CORPORATION**

Transmitter location **SEE CARD #1**

Main studio location **SEE CARD #1**

CONSTRUCTION PERMIT AND LICENSE RECORD

Appl. No.	Date Issued	Freq.	Power	Time Div.	Period From To
WIRE	2-18-65	RE TENDERED LIC. APPL., AUTH. GR.			
OPER. KFBB-TV ON FRG. TEST ACCORD. SECTION 73.629 RULES					
AND CP BPCT-3509.					
BLCT-1459	3-23-65	CH. 5	V. 100 kw	U	3-23-65
AH: 240'	MSL: 3770'	76-82	A. 13.5 kw		4-1-65
LICENSE to cover CP (BPCT-3509, repl. for BPCT-3334) chg.					
BRCT-223	3-31-65	same	same	same	4-1-65
RENEWAL OF LICENSE					4-1-68
BRCT-223	3-29-68	(S) RENEWAL OF LICENSE			4-1-71
WIRE	11-3-69	PENDING COMPLETION STATION RECON			
STRUCTION AUTH. GR. REMAIN SILENT TEMP. PER. END.					
12-3-69, ADVISE WHEN OPERATION RESUMED.					
WIRE	11-10-69	PENDING FILING AND ACTION ON APPLI.			
FOR CP TO REPLACE TRANSMITTERS DESTROYED BY FIRE. AUTH.					
GR. INSTALL RCA TT-6EL TRANS. AND OPER. AT REDUCED POWER					
TEMP. PER. END. 2-10-70, OPERATION WITHOUT VESTIGIAL SIDE					
BAND SUBJECT TO CAUSING NO INTERFERENCE ANY OTHER AUTH.					
SERVICE.					
WIRE	1-28--70	ABOVE AUTH. EXT. TO 5-11-70			
WIRE	5-11-70	ABOVE AUTH. EXT. TO 8-11-70			
BPCT-4340	5-7-70	Ch. 5	V. 100kw	U	7-7-70
AH: 590'	MSL: 4100'	76-82 mcA.	20 kw		1-7-71
CP chg. ERP, TL & SL, trans. & ant.					
WIRE	7-15-70	PENDING COMPLETION CONSTRUCTION ACCORD			
BPCT-4340 AND FILING LIC. APPLI. AUTH. GR. REMOVE RCA					
TF--6BM SIX BAY ANT. AND INSTALL AND OPERATE WITH SINGLE					
BAY SUPERTURNSTILE ANT. TEMP. PER. END. 9-14-70					
WIRE	8-11-70	PENDING COMPLETION CONSTRUCTION ACCORD			
BPCT-4340 AND FIL. LIC. APPLI. EXT. AUTH. GR. INSTALL					
RCA TT-6EL TRANSMITTERS AND OPER. AT REDUCED POWER TEMP.					
PER. END. 11-11-70, OPERATION WITHOUT VESTIGIAL SIDEBAND					
FILTER SUBJECT TO CAUSING NO INTERFERENCE ANY OTHER AUTH.					
SERVICE.					

Form BC 126

June 1954

COMM. TV

BROADCASTING STATION LICENSE RECORD

Date first licensed

Call letters KFBB-TV

Station location

Name of licensee

Transmitter location

Main studio location

CONSTRUCTION PERMIT AND LICENSE RECORD

Appl. No.	Date Issued	Freq.	Power	Time Div.	Period From- To
WIRE BPCT-4340	8-17-70	PENDING COMPLETION CONSTRUCTION ACCORD			
END. 11-17-70		AND FIL. LIC. APPLI. AUTH. GR. OPER. TEMP. PER.			
CHANGEOVER SCHEDULE		DATED 8-12-70. ADVISE WHEN OPERATION			
COMMENCES UNDER EACH STEP OF THIS AUTHORITY.					
wire	9-14-70	ABOVE AUTH. EXT. TO			12-14-70
WIRE	11-16-70	ABOVE AUTH. EXT. TO			11-27-70
WIRE	12-10-70	PENDING FIL. LIC. APPLI. AUTH. GR.			
OPER. TEMP. PER. END.	1-7-71	ACCORD BPCT-4340.			
WIRE	1-6-71	RE TENDERED LIC. APPLI. AUTH. GR.			
OPER. ON PTA ACCORD CP BPCT-4340 EXCEPT UTILIZING RCA					
TT-25EL VISUAL AND AURAL TRANSMITTERS.					
BLCT-2052	1-27-71	(BPCT-4340) for chgs.			4-1-71
BRCT-223	3-25-71	RENEWAL OF LIC (L)			4-1-74
EBSA	5-15-72				
BRCT-223	4-9-74	RENEWAL OF LICENSE (S)			4-1-77
BRCT-223	3-15-77	Renewal of License (S)			4-1-80
BAICT-628	4-11-77	Voluntary assignment of license.			
BTC-8277	4-21-77	Voluntary transfer of control.			
BRCT-79120KW	3-25-80	Renewal of license(S)			4-1-83

FORM A-170

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

FORMERLY FCC FORM 94

Call Letters

KFBB-TV

— 177 —

Name BUTTREY BROADCAST, INCORPORATED
(P. O. First National Bank, Great Falls, Montana)

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BPCT-1195 Rec'd. Filed	6-20-52 7-10-52 7-10-52	Construction permit for a new Comm. TV B/C station FREQ: Ch. #5, 76-82 Mcs. ERP: Vis. 9.44 kw., Aur. 4.72 kw. Hours of operation: Unlimited S-L: 300 Central Ave., Great Falls, Montana T-L: 300 Central Ave., Great Falls, Montana (Vis. & Aur. RCA TT-2AL) (105') Wheeler & Wheeler, Attys.	GRANTED	1-14-53
AMENDED Rec'd & Filed	11-25-52 12-3-52	Amended to correct geographical coordinates		

F.C.C. - WASHINGTON, D. C.

Engineer: Archer S. Taylor
P. O. Box 1479
Missoula, Montana

Card # 2

FORM A-170

FORMERLY FCC FORM 94

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Comm TV B/C

Call

Letters KFHB-TV

Name BUTTNEY BROADCAST, INCORPORATED
Great Falls, Montana

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BNPCT-1196 Recd & Filed	6-19-53 6-19-53	Modification of CP (BPCT-1195 which auth. a new commercial TV b/c station) to change ERP from Vis. 8.9 kw, Aur. 4.5 kw to Vis. 25.4 kw, Aur. 12.7 kw, change transmitter and studio location from 300 Central Avenue, Great Falls, Montana to 2 miles West of City Limits on U.S. Highway 89-91, Great Falls, Montana, install new transmitters, change type of antenna and make other equipment changes. (237') (Vis. & Aur. DuMont 7000) Wheeler & Wheeler, Attys.	GRANTED	7-21-53
BNPCT-1907 Recd. Filed	2-17-54 2-26-54 2-26-54	Mod. of CP(BPCT-1195, as mod., which authorized a new Comm. TV B/C Station) to extend completion date from 3-21-54 to 5-21-54. Filed by Robert G. Seaks, Atty.	GRANTED	3-4-54

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

COMM. TV B/C

FORMERLY FCC FORM 94.

WILINS BROADCAST, INC.

Call

Letters **KFBB-TV**

Name **BUTTREY BROADCAST, INCORPORATED**
Great Falls, Montana

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BMPCT-2284 Recd.&Filed	6-30-54 7-13-54	Mod. of CP(BPCT-1195, as mod., which authorized a new Comm. TV B/C Sta.) to change corporate name from Buttrey Broadcast, Incorporated to Wilkins Broadcast, Inc. Filed direct.	GRANTED	7-16-54
BMPCT-2717 Recd&filed	12-21-54 12-28-54	Mod. of CP (BPCT-1195, as mod., which authorized a new Comm. B/C TV Station) to extend completion date from 1-16-55 to 3-16-55. Filed by Robert G. Seaks, Atty.	GRANTED	7-11-55
BMPCT-3199 Recd&filed (Ext.#5)	6-16-55 6-23-55	Mod. of CP(BPCT-1195,as mod., which authorized a new Comm. TV B/C Station)to extend completion date from 7-16-55 to 1-16-56. Filed by Robert G. Seaks, Atty.	GRANTED	1-16-56
BLCT-429 Recd & filed	1-12-56 1-16-56	License to cover construction permit (BPCT-1195 as modified)which authorized a new Comm TV b/c station Filed by Robert G. Seaks, Atty.	GRANTED	10-23-56

Card # 4
FORM BC-121
AUG. 1955

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Comm TV B/C

Call
Letters **KFBB-TV**

Name **WILKINS BROADCAST, INC.**
Great Falls, Montana

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BTC-2737 Rec'd & filed	2-26-58	Voluntary transfer of control of licensee corporation from J. P. Wilkins, et al, (all stockholders) to Cascade Service, Inc. Fannie N. Litvin Atty for Transferee Wheeler and Wheeler Attys for Transferor	GRANTED	4-2-58
	3-3-58		EFF: CONDITIONS 1 & 2 NOT COMSUMED, RETIRED, TO CLOSED FILED, LTR. 6-11-58	
BRCT-223 Rec'd & filed	1-31-58	Renewal of license Filed by Robert G. Seaks, Atty.	GRANTED	3-25-59
	1-19-59			
BTC-3342 Rec'd Filed	12-28-59	Voluntary transfer of control of licensee corporation from Joseph P. Wilkins, et al, All Stockholders to KFBB Broadcasting Corporation. Robert G. Seaks, Atty. for Transferor Francis X. McDonough, Atty. for Transferee	GRANTED	1-27-60 EFF: 3-7-60
	12-31-59			
	12-31-59			

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

AUG 1955

KFBB BROADCASTING CORPORATION

Call

Letters

KFBB-TV

Name ~~X~~ WILKINS BROADCAST, INC.

Great Falls, Montana

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BALCT-112	3-17-60	Voluntary assignment of license to KFBB		
Rec'd	3-25-60	Broadcasting Corporation.	GRANTED	4-7-60
Filed	3-25-60	Francis X. McDonough, Atty.	EFF: 4-30-60	
BRCT-223	12-22-61	Renewal of license	GRANTED	5-11-62
R & F	1-3-62	Filed by Francis F. McDonough, Atty.		
BTC-4016	3-21-62	Voluntary transfer of control of licensee	GRANTED	5-23-62
Recd.&Filed	3-22-62	corporation from David E. Bright, Ernest L. Scanlon and Daniel T.O'Shea to Harriscop Broadcasting Corporation. Monroe Oppenheimer-atty	EFF: 6-11-62	

FORM BC-121
AUG. 1955

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

COMM. TV

Call
Letters KFBB-TV

HARRISCOPE BROADCASTING CORPORATION

Name KFBB BROADCASTING CORPORATION

Great Falls, Montana

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BALCT-192 Recd. & filed	6-15-62 6-21-62	Voluntary assignment of license to Harriscopes Broadcasting Corporation. Monroe Oppenheimer, Atty.	GRANTED EFF: 7-15-62	7-2-62
BPCT-3075 R & F	7-17-62 7-25-62	Construction permit to change ERP from Vis. 25.1 kw, Aur. 12.6 kw to Vis. 100 kw, Aur. 50 kw; change type of transmitters to DuMont 7000 with Standard Electronics AL-634 amplifier; and make changes in equipment and antenna height above average terrain to 237 feet. Monroe Oppenheimer-atty	GRANTED	9-5-62
BLCT-1275 Recd. & Filed	3-13-63 3-14-63	License to cover CP (BPCT-3075) which authorized changes in existing station Monroe Oppenheimer, Atty.	GRANTED	12-23-63
BPCT-3334 Recd. FILED	5-8-64 5-12-64 5-15-64	Construction Permit to reduce Aural ERP from 50 kw to 13.37 kw. Monroe Oppenheimer, Atty.	GRANTED	5-22-64

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

COMM. TV

Call
Letters **KFBS-TV**Name **HARRISCOPE BROADCASTING CORPORATION**CH. 5 **GREAT FALLS, MONTANA**

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BRCT-223 R & F	12-19-64 1-10-65	RENEWAL OF LICENSE	GRANTED	3-23-65
BPCT-3509 Recd. & Filed	1-28-65 2-4-65	Construction Permit to replace expired CP (BPCT-3334) which authorized reduction in Aural ERP. Monroe Oppenheimer, Atty.	GRANTED	2-11-65
BLCT-1459 Recd. & Filed	2-12-65 2-15-65	License to cover CP (BPCT-3509, replacement for BPCT-3334) which authorized change in existing station. Monroe Oppenheimer, Atty. (SHER, & HARRIS)	GRANTED	3-31-65
BRCT-223 R & F JAN 10 1968	12-26-67 12-29-67	RENEWAL OF LICENSE Marcus Cohn, Atty.	GRANTED	3-29-68

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

COMMERCIAL TELEVISION

Call
Letters KFBB-TV

Name **HARRISCOPE BROADCASTING CORPORATION**
CH-5 **GREAT FALLS, MONTANA**

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BPCT-4340 R & F #584893 \$150 PRESS: PN REC'D:	3-9-70 3-13-70 3-13-70 MAR 19 1970 4-17--70	CP, chg. Aur. ERP to 20kw; TL and SL to US Hwy. #87, 1 mi. N. of Missouri River, Great Falls, Mont. (47-32-08 111-17-02); type trans. to Vis. RCA TT-6EL Driver and TT-25AL Amplifier, Aur. RCA TT-6EL; and HAAT to 548 ft. Atty.: Stanley B. Cohen (Cohn and Marks) Engr.: Robert P. Smith (Hammett & Edison) (San Francisco)	GRANTED	5-7-70
AMENDED Rec. & filed ENGR. DATA FILED	4-28--70 4-30-70 MAY 7 1970 7-6-70	AMENDED to change antenna structure & HAAT to 588 ft.		
BLCT-2052 R & F #653605 \$50 AC: 069 PRESS:	12-28-70 1-4-71 1-4-71 JAN 13 1971	Lic. to cover (BPCT-4340) for chgs. Atty.: A. J. Arlow (Cohn and Marks)	GRANTED	1-27-71

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

COMMERCIAL TV

Call
Letters KFBB-TV

Name HARRISCOPE BROADCASTING CORPORATION
CH-5 GREAT FALLS, MONTANA

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BRCT-223 R & F PRESS: PN REC'D:	12-29-70 1-4-71 FEB 2 1971 1-4-71	Renewal of License. Atty.: IDVoler (Cohn and Marks)	GRANTED	3-25-71
BRCT-223 R & F PN Rec'd: PRESS:	12-18-73 12-26-73 12-26-73	Renewal of License Atty: Roy R. Russo (Cohn & Marks) Amended 3-21-74 re community interest, equal employment.	GRANTED	4-9-74
BRCT-223 R&F PN RECD PRESS	11-29-76 12-1-76 12-1-76 2 DEC 1976	RENEWAL OF LICENSE Atty.: Roy Russo (Cohn & Marks) Contours filed 1-20-76 per cover letter.	GRANTED	3-15-77

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

COMMERCIAL TV

Call
Letters KFBB-TV

ADVANCE CORPORATION

Name XHARRISCOPE BROADCASTING CORPORATION
CH-5 GREAT FALLS, MONTANA

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BALCT-628 R&F PRESS (Form 316)	2-24-77 3-4-77	Voluntary assignment of license to Advance Corporation. Atty.: Richard A. Helmick (Cohn and Marks)	GRANTED EFF:	4-11-77 5-31-77
BTC-8277 R&F PN RECD PRESS (FORM 315)	2-24-77 3-4-77 4-1-77 MAR 14 1977	Voluntary transfer of control of licensee corporation from Harriscope Broadcasting Corporation to Donald P. Nathanson, Advance Brands, Inc., Marc B. Nathanson, Greg Nathanson, Jill Rohde, William G. Salatich, Richard Fechheimer and Robert N. Harris. CONTINGENT ON GRANT OF ASSIGNMENT OF LICENSE TO ADVANCE CORPORATION. Atty.: Richard A. Helmick (Cohn and Marks) Amended 3-14-77 re general public survey	GRANTED EFF:	4-21-77 5-31-77

CARD NO. 11

Form BC-121
May 1976

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

COMMERCIAL TV

Call
Letters KFBB-TVName ADVANCE CORPORATION
CH-5 GREAT FALLS MONTANA

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BRCT- 791203KW R & F PN REC'd PRESS	11-30-79 12-03-79 12-03-79 DEC 31 1979	RENEWAL OF LICENSE ATTY: BRIAN M. MADDEN (COHN & MARKS)	GRANTED	3-25-80
BTCCT-810408KE (Form 316)		Vol. TC of licensee corp. from Donald P. Nathanson, deceased to Evelyn Nathanson, Executor of the Estate of Donald P. Nathanson. Atty.: Richard A. Helmick		

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.

