

April 24, 1995

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of

Amendment of Part 97 of the Commission's)
Rules to Eliminate Certain One-way) RM-8626
Communications in the Amateur Radio)
Service Medium and High Frequency Bands)

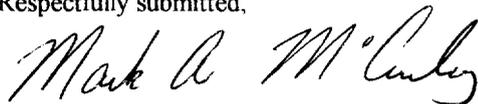
To: The Commission

In reference to the above cited petition recently filed by Frederick O. Maia, holding call letters W5YI, I respectfully request the Commission to deny Mr. Maia's request for a change in the rules, specifically Section 97.111(b), (5), (6) and Section 97.113 (d), for the following reasons:

- 1) The transmission of amateur radio related bulletins and information and the transmission of Morse code practice are essential to the future success and growth of the Amateur Radio Service in this country. Thousands of licensed amateurs have secured their original licensing or have upgraded their licenses by copying practice code either from W1AW or other stations providing such practice on frequencies below 30 Mhz. Despite Mr. Maia's claim that "other methods of communicating general information to Amateurs" are available, all of the listed methods he refers to would require greater expenditure of money by Amateurs versus the current method which is free for all to monitor and use.
- 2) Mr. Maia has a monetary interest in these proceedings. He is in the business of selling information through a newsletter published by him and through selling computer materials designed to increase one's proficiency in Morse code. The adoption of his requested rule changes would potentially increase his market and profitability should the Commission eliminate the free-of-charge services currently available.
- 3) As a holder of an Extra Class license for more than 2 years and as one who is active on all bands from 1.8 Mhz to 450 Mhz, I have not heard a single instance of the anger that is referred to by Mr. Maia. However, if such anger does exist to some small extent, the Commission's rules clearly prohibit malicious interference even if one is angry. Those of us who follow the rules should not suffer because of a few who will not follow the rules.
- 4) If Mr. Maia's petition is granted, there would be no medium for amateurs to obtain emergency or crisis information in a timely fashion. The frequencies below 30 Mhz allow for the dissemination of such information quickly and over great distances.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Commission to reject the petition RM-8626.

Respectfully submitted,



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