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**From:** Sheldon L. Epstein <k9ape@eden.ece.nwu.edu>  
**To:** B7.B7(mdeport)  
**Date:** 9/26/96 7:29pm  
**Subject:** WT Docket No. 96-188

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
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To The FCC Commissioners:

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I strongly recommend changes in the Rules which would permit Amateur Radio Operators from other countries to operate radio transmitters in our country for limited periods of time when they are tourists without requiring that they obtain an FCC license.

When I went to Great Britian last year, I had to purchase a bank draft in British Pounds which cost \$45 and then hope that all of the paperwork would be returned to me before my coming departure date. I would not have objected to a requirement that I register by FAX or e-mail before departure; however, a country-specific requirement (such as local currency) is an onerous burden. Personally, I would prefer to expand the Rules that now apply only for Canada to any other country which is willing to extend reciprocity.

Accordingly, I strongly support the proposed change described in WT Docket No. 96-188 and petiton that it be adopted.

Sheldon L. Epstein, K9APE  
k9ape@ece.nwu.edu  
P.O.B. 400  
Wilmette, IL 60091-0400

P.S. Usual disclaimer re Northwestern University

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From: Phil Keys <philkeys@olympus.net>  
To: B7.B7(mdeport)  
Date: 9/27/96 10:44am  
Subject: WT Docket No 96-188

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Each winter I travel to Mexico and obtain a Mexican reciprocal license, not an easy undertaking. I would really appreciate an understanding with Mexico that would make getting a reciprocal license easier and less expensive (now about \$50-\$60 a year).

This would also reduce the number of US amateurs operating illegally in Mexico.

A reciprocal agreement like that with Canada would be ideal.

Thank you

Phil Keys, KJ7ET  
80 Laurel Street  
Port Hadlock, WA 98339  
(360) 379-8650

philkeys@pt.olympus.net (Phil

Keys) KJ7ET Jeff Co Search & Rescue  
Software Consultant - specializing in software safety & SQA  
Port Hadlock, WA 98339 (360) 379-8650 122 44.0W 48 02.0N

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From: <ab5tv@ix.netcom.com>  
To: B7.B7(mdeport)  
Date: 9/27/96 1:21pm  
Subject: WT Docket No. 96-188

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I think it is a fine idea to ease the restrictions on responsible foreign operators when in the USA. I think, however, that we should tie it in some way to reciprocal treatment by the applicable foreign countries. For example, our NAFTA neighbor, Mexico, may have some method to obtain portable calls, but no one I have talked to (including the American Radio Relay League) has been able to tell me how to do it. ARRL's information dates back to 1989 and applies only to going to Tijuana in person. I suspect that the procedure is no longer valid. Furthermore, although Tiajuana may be handy to Los Angeles and San Diego, it is not handy to Houston. I have gone to the Mexican Consulate here in Houston, and the folks there tell me I can go to Vera Cruz to the Telecommunications Office, they have heard, and apply there. One of the people I talked to at the local office told me in confidence that even though there is supposedly a procedure on the books, what one really has to do is go to Mexico City, and find a friend in government (translation=pay someone off). Granted, there are many DX countries which will provide you with a license by mail, but let's limit the reciprocal operations to those countries. Perhaps the operators in the countries like Mexico who do not provide a similar, easy access will inquire of their own telecom folks with enough vigor to get the job done.

Regards, and, as they say, good luck in the contest.

Madison Jones AB5TV

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From: Mike Branda <mbranda@cftnet.net>  
To: B7.B7(mdepoint)  
Date: 9/30/96 10:51pm  
Subject: WT Docket No 96-188

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I think this is a good plan. Having done some limited overseas travel and waiting months to see if I would receive the countries short time license before I left the US, I think this is a good problem solver

I am certainly in favor of this.

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PRIVATE

September 18, 1996

Ref. WT96-188, US Participation in CEPT.

I would like to comment that I strongly FAVOR US participation. I'm a US Foreign Service retiree and US participation would be extremely helpful for those in the Foreign Service (active or retired) who are US radio amateurs and who frequently travel in the CEPT countries. Obtaining a temporary operating license under the reciprocal licensing agreements the US has with most of the CEPT countries can be costly and burdensome both to the individual and the administration involved. In my own case, I obtain several temporary licenses each year for vacation travel at a cost of over \$100 since the licenses simply never arrive on time from some countries and the matter has to be pursued and concluded by telephone calls, etc. All that would be eliminated by US participation in CEPT. I urge your prompt implementation of US participation.

Sincerely,



John J. Schultz, W4FA  
302 Glasgow Lane  
Greenville NC 27858