

From: Sharon Machlis Gartenberg <slm@world.std.com>
To: B7.B7(mdepont)
Date: 11/30/96 1:45pm
Subject: Comment on WT Docket No. 96-188

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

To: Office of the Secretary,
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, DC 20554

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Date: November 30, 1996

Subject: WT Docket No. 96-188

I wish to comment on the new proposed Part 97 Regulations regarding reciprocal operating privileges for U.S. licensed amateur radio operators in participating CEPT countries. My comment refers to the proposed 97.301 Authorized frequency bands section, in which Amateur Extra Class operators are listed as equivalent to CEPT Class 1 licenses (all amateur frequencies); while Technician, Tech Plus, General, Advanced, and Extra are equivalent to a CEPT license of any class (all amateur frequencies above 30 MHz).

I am quite concerned by this wording splitting up our licensees into two categories -- all frequencies (Extra) and VHF only (everyone else). I fear that after they see this, CEPT countries who are granting reciprocal privileges to U.S. amateurs will grant HF privileges ONLY to U.S. Amateur Extra license holders; and put General and Advanced licensees into the VHF/UHF only category. As you know, General and Advanced license holders have already passed a Morse code proficiency exam at 13 words per minute. Few countries in the world require 20 words per minute to show Morse proficiency; I believe 13 to 15 words per minute is pretty common as an exam rate. (In applying for reciprocal operating privileges in Belarus, Slovenia, and Bosnia-Herzegovina, my Advanced class license was adequate for receiving HF privileges in those countries).

I think it would be extremely unfair to withdraw HF privileges for U.S. hams abroad under this agreement -- hams who have already demonstrated adequate proficiency at home. I hope there will be proper wording in the reciprocal operating agreements and treaties to note that U.S. General, Advanced, and Extra licenses have been shown to demonstrate the needed Morse code proficiency to operate on portions of ALL amateur radio bands.

Thank you.

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*Comment on
N.T. ~~sent~~
96-188*

From: Al C Rousseau <w1fj@juno.com>
To: B7.B7(MDEPONT)
Date: 12/1/96 10:16am
Subject: CEPT LICENSES

AS ONE WHO TRAVEL OUTSIDE THE US OFTEN, IT CERTAINLY WOULD BE NICE TO HAVE A CEPT LICENSE..MANY TRIPS ARE SHORT BUT I HAVE THE CHANCE TO VISIT OTHER HAM FRIENDS AND GET THE OFFER TO GET ON THE AIR, WHICH I CANNOT ACCEPT.

PLEASE DO ALL YOU CAN TO HELP THIS ISSUE ALONG

SINCERELY,

A. C. ROUSSEAU, W1FJ

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