

See attached file.
Thanks,
Henry & Lenaya Deitchman
KB2SRU / AAR4SU

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Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554
In the Matter of WT Docket No. 98-143

1998 Biennial Regulatory Review RM-9148
Amendment of Part 97 of the Commission's RM-9150
Amateur Service Rules. RM-9196

COMMENTS OF Henry S. Deitchman, KB2SRU, Tec+, AAR4SU(MARS)

NPRM, WT Docket No. 98-143, Section E, Telegraphy Examination
Requirements, paragraphs 19 to 25.

1. I agree with the FCC's assessment (NPRM 98-143 Para. 19-21) as to the decreasing role of Morse code in contemporary communications.
2. I believe the use of Morse code by amateurs is now totally within the confines of recreational purposes only.
3. I believe that there is no longer any public/governmental interest served by requiring code testing.
4. I believe, therefore, that ALL testing of Morse code should be ended.
5. I also recognize the existence of the international Radio Regulations, Article S25.5, (NPRM Para. 22) and suggest an interim requirement of ONLY a single code test with only the minimum speed necessary to meet international treaty requirements, but in no case, more than five (5) WPM for all HF license classes until such time as Article S25.5 is deleted.
6. A single minimum code speed examination would also eliminate the need to grant medical waivers to disabled amateurs for the higher speed telegraphy requirements. (NPRM Para. 25 and RM-9196)
7. I suggest that any interim code requirement used to fulfill the international Radio Regulations, Article S25.5, be written to include language that would automatically end the interim code

requirement within three (3) months or less of the ending/elimination of Article S25.5.

8. As a result of all Morse code testing being 5 WPM and considering the small difference in privileges between the Advanced and Amateur Extra Class, I believe only three license classes are needed. These classes would correspond to the current Technician, General and Amateur Extra Class.

9. In the brief time that I have been a HAM it has been my displeasure to observe the bickering and fighting going on within the Amateur community over the use of an out-dated mode of communications that every other service has discontinued use of. Even in MARS it is now forbidden. This should be something about its continued use in HAM radio! Please understand that it is not my desire to see its use eliminated. But its use no longer serves the aims of Amateur Radio in promoting International Good Will.

10. I would propose to the commission to consider the limiting of "contesting" to small segments of each band so that those who are trying to use our radios to further the aims of Amateur radio may do so without impediment. How a 15 second QSO falls within the rules of HAM radio is confusing to me. As it neither promotes International Good Will nor allows one to get to know the other operator.

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