

SURVEY OF GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

PART 6—FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 1968

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES SUBCOMMITTEE
OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS,
*Washington, D.C.***

The subcommittee met at 10:00 a.m., in Room 2247, Rayburn House Office Building, the Honorable Jack Brooks, presiding.

Present: Representatives Jack Brooks, William S. Moorhead, and Margaret M. Heckler.

Also present: Ernest C. Baynard, staff administrator; William M. Jones, counsel; Irma Reel, clerk; and Lynne Higginbotham, clerk.

Mr. Brooks. The Government Activities Subcommittee, having been duly organized under the rules of the House of Representatives, is hereby called to order.

Today the subcommittee is reviewing the economy and efficiency of the Federal Communications Commission. The Commission was created by the Communications Act of 1934 and administers that act as amended. It also has additional regulatory jurisdiction under provisions of the Communications Satellite Act of 1962.

Under the Communications Act, the Commission has broad responsibilities and authorities. Fundamentally, however, the Commission is charged with regulating interstate and foreign commerce in communication by wire and radio so as to make available, so far as possible, to all the people of the United States, a rapid, efficient, nationwide, and worldwide wire and radio communications service.

The advent of television after World War II significantly increased the responsibilities of the Commission. At present, the Commission is evaluating the impact computers will have on the communications network of our Nation. As time passes, the responsibilities of this Commission to the average American citizen will continue to increase enormously as further progress is made in perfecting the technologies inherent in our Nation's communications.

At this hearing, we want to review the operations of the Commission on a program-by-program basis to determine the nature of each of the Commission's programs, the extent of tax funds applied to them, and what the taxpayer is receiving for his money.

The Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, the Honorable Rosel Hyde, is with us today. Before getting into the questions the subcommittee has, Mr. Chairman, would you please introduce the officials of the FCC accompanying you.