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Report No. 907

SAFETY AND SPECIAL ACTION

April 19, 1974 - S

RADIO AMATEUR SATELLITE CORPORATION REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF AMATEUR-SATELLITE SERVICE FREQUENCY ALLOCATIONS GRANTED BY COMMISSION. In response to a request by Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation for authority to operate space station W30HI in the Amateur-satellite Service using the frequencies 432.125-432.175 MHz and 2304.1 MHz, the Commission has waived the provisions of Section 2.106 of the rules regarding frequency allocations to the Amateur-satellite Service to the extent that the station may use 432.125-432.175 MHz as uplink frequencies. The waiver was granted on the condition that the earth telecommand stations used in the OSCAR 7 project have the absolute capability to disable the space station from receiving 432.125-432.175 MHz uplink frequencies should disablement be necessary for any reason. The Commission, noting that frequencies used in an amateur space station uplink would have to be in the Amateursatellite Service, said that since neither the requested 2304.1 MHz down-link or the 432.125-432.175 MHz uplink frequencies are allocated to this service, space station W3OHI could not utilize these frequencies without a waiver of the rules. Finding that it would not be in the best interests to grant a waiver for space station W3OHI to conduct operations in the 2300-2450 MHz amateur frequency band because of international implications, the Commission said, therefore, that if the station is placed into orbit with this capability there must be adequate means to prevent it from transmitting in this frequency band. (Action by the Commission April 16, 1974, by letter. Commissioners Wiley (Chairman), Lee, Reid and Hooks.)