

Not released

COMMENTS BY FCC COMMISSIONER JAMES H. QUELLO
AT THE BROADCAST PIONEER ANNUAL BANQUET

HOTEL PIERRE, NEW YORK, NEW YORK
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1981

I WANT THE COMMITTEE TO KNOW THAT I'M
GRATEFUL FOR THE OPPORTUNITY OF PARTICIPATING
IN THE COVETED GOLDEN MIKE AWARD TO FETZER
BROADCASTING.... IT IS A PARTICULAR PLEASURE
TO ME BECAUSE, NOT ONLY AM I FROM THEIR HOME
STATE OF MICHIGAN, BUT I HAVE KNOWN BIG DADDY
JOHN, PRESIDENT CARL LEE AND KEY MEMBERS OF THE
FETZER BROADCAST TEAM FOR OVER 30 OF THEIR 50
YEARS.

I CAN VOUCH FROM A CLOSE, LONGTIME PERSONAL
AND INDUSTRY RELATIONSHIP THAT THIS IS A MOST
DESERVED TRIBUTE TO OVER 50 YEARS OF INDUSTRY
LEADERSHIP AND DISTINGUISHED SERVICE. JOHN AND
CARL --- IT WOULD HAVE DONE YOUR HEART GOOD

243

TO HEAR ALL THE LAUDATORY COMMENTS ENDORSING
YOUR AWARD.

ANYWAY, I HAVE THE PLEASANT ASSIGNMENT OF
MAKING AN APPROPRIATE PRESENTATION. CARL,
IT IS WITH PRIDE AND PLEASURE THAT I PRESENT
TO YOU AS PRESIDENT OF FETZER BROADCASTING THIS
BOOK CLEANED FROM THE RECORDS AT THE FCC,
"THE HISTORY OF STATION WKZO, KALAMAZOO,
MICHIGAN" AND ALSO THIS TRUE COPY OF THE
FEDERAL RADIO COMMISSION'S 1930 CONSENT TO THE
VOLUNTARY ASSIGNMENT OF A RADIO STATION LICENSE
TO WKZO INCORPORATED.

THIS COPY IS PRESENTED TO FETZER BROADCASTING
IN RECOGNITION OF 50 YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED
CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ART OF BROADCASTING AND
OF DEDICATED ADHERENCE TO QUALITY, INTEGRITY
AND RESPONSIBILITY IN PROGRAMMING AND MANAGEMENT.

NOW MY OFFICIAL PRESENTATION IS OVER, BUT
PLEASE INDULGE ME A FEW BRIEF PERSONAL REMARKS
ABOUT JOHN AND CARL.

I KNOW JOHN AS A BRILLIANT ENGINEER AND
BROADCAST OWNER, A WINNER OF THE NAB
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD CONSIDERED BY
MANY AS THE INDUSTRY'S HIGHEST HONOR, AS A
HUMANITARIAN AND AS A NATIONAL SPORTS LEADER
IN BASEBALL.

BACK IN 1967 DETROIT SUFFERED THE WORST
RACE RIOT IN NATIONAL HISTORY ONE YEAR
LATER, JOHN FETZER'S DETROIT TIGERS ALMOST
SINGLE-HANDEDLY PROVIDED THE UNIFYING,
STABILIZING FORCE IN DETROIT'S HUMAN RELATIONS.
OVER 200,000 WHITES AND BLACKS CHEERED IN
WILD ENTHUSIASM IN DOWNTOWN DETROIT WHEN THE

TIGERS WON THE WORLD SERIES IN 1968. MR. FETZER, ESPECIALLY SENSITIVE TO THEIR MUCH-NEEDED NEW FOUND SPIRIT OF UNITY, DID EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO BE AVAILABLE AND HAVE THE TEAM AVAILABLE FOR ALL TYPES OF CIVIC CEREMONIES. MR. FETZER AND HIS TEAM INAUGURATED A NEW ERA OF POSITIVE HUMAN RELATIONS FOR DETROIT AND THE NATION. ALSO, IT IS NOT EXACTLY A TRADE SECRET THAT JOHN IS THE BROADCAST EXPERT (IF NOT THE GUIDING GENIUS) BEHIND THE PACKAGING OF EFFECTIVE TV BROADCASTS FOR THE MAJOR LEAGUES.

AS FOR CARL --- HE IS NOW IN HIS 42ND YEAR WITH MR. FETZER. HE IS A FORMER PRESIDENT OR BOARD MEMBER OF EVERYTHING IN BROADCASTING --- MAB, BROADCAST PIONEERS, NAB, ETC.

ONE OF THE MORE MEMORABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS
IN MY MIND IS THAT CARL WAS ONE OF THE FOUNDERS
OF THE MAB PP CLUB (PAST PRESIDENTS). AT THE
END OF YOUR TERM YOU WERE MADE A CUSTODIAN FOR
ONE YEAR OF THE TIME-HONORED PP POT. AT A
RECENT MAB MEETING EXTOLLING THE PAST AND PRESENT
ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE GREATS IN MICHIGAN BROAD-
CASTING, CARL ACHIEVED THE ULTIMATE HE WAS
UNANIMOUSLY ACCLAIMED THE BIGGEST PP OF THEM
ALL!

ANYWAY, JOHN, AS A BROADCASTER OWNER FOR
OVER 50 YEARS, AND CARL AS A WORKING STIFF
ENGINEER AND EXECUTIVE FOR OVER 40 YEARS, YOU
HAVE BUILT A LONG ENVIABLE RECORD OF
ACCOMPLISHMENT.

THE OFFICIAL FCC HISTORY SHOWS 80 MAJOR APPLICATIONS FOR CONSTRUCTION PERMITS, TRANSFERS, ASSIGNMENTS, LICENSES, SPECIAL OPERATING AUTHORIZATIONS, AND LICENSE RENEWALS ALL GRANTED FOR WKZO AND YOUR OTHER TV AND RADIO PROPERTIES.

YOU EXEMPLIFY THE DISTINGUISHED BROADCASTERS WHO PROVIDE THE MOST CONVINCING ARGUMENTS FOR TOTAL DEREGULATION AND FULL CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS FOR BROADCASTERS.

VERY BEST WISHES FOR HEALTH, HAPPINESS AND CONTINUED ACHIEVEMENT, (WITH LESS GOVERNMENT INTRUSION) IN THE PROMISING YEARS AHEAD.