

## **Swearing In Statement**

**November 28, 1993**

**Reed, I'm delighted to welcome you aboard and look forward to working with you to implement the telecommunications policies of the Clinton-Gore Administration and of Congress. After my 10 months as interim Chairman, I have special understanding of trials, tribulation and gratifications that I'll share with you.**

**The FCC is fortunate to have a seasoned distinguished lawyer at the helm. The FCC is really a legal ballgame with 292 lawyers at last count.**

**Reed, your appointment is particularly timely. Your anti-trust legal expertise will be an immense asset in the FCC evaluation of the public interest benefits of the many current and upcoming mega-merger and joint ventures. Some of the mega-mergers possess the positive potential of expediting the initiation of competitive super electronic highways envisioned by the Clinton-Gore Administration with multi-channel, multi-faceted**



**telecommunication service to the public. Your legal expertise and leadership will be invaluable to assure competitive super highway services and in developing safeguards against possible cross subsidies.**

**At the recent Broadcasting-Cable Interface Conference where you were billed as "invited keynote speaker," I said "You expected maybe Reed Hundt?" Tough! -- You got me again! I want you to know that both you and I are disappointed. Reed has been held on the sidelines long enough." In an ironic tone I said, "It is time for him to enter the so-called FCC "peaceful valley" on M St., the full service rest haven for beleaguered appointees and commissioners."**

**As you can appreciate the past ten months have been the most hectic in my 19-1/2 years experience at the FCC with for openers: cable implementation, finsyn, PCS allocations, auctions, LEO proposals, auctions, telco-cable acquisitions, cable and program production mergers, the proposed 5th and 6th networks, public outcry against brutal violence and objectionable explicit sex on TV and radio, and over 350 items on circulation, some**

**contentious.**

**We are indebted to the dedicated FCC Bureau Chiefs and staff that racked up hours of overtime at army rates (0) to meet almost impossible deadlines.**

**One of the fringe benefits of being interim Chairman in a hectic period is that I haven't had time to grow old. You know everyone wants to live a long time but no one wants to grow old, so I'm grateful to the Clinton-Gore Administration for giving me such a time consuming opportunity. In fact, time has passed so fast that I plan to deduct one year at my next birthday. In this regard, I'm grateful that my physiology has not yet caught up with my chronology. My body has not yet rejected me -- I play tennis twice a week and as I have repeated many times, I still claim to retain 75% of my marbles (a good local norm in Washington). I now use psychology in tennis -- "Hell, when I was only 78 I would have killed that shot." I promise never never to tell you when I was only 45 (your age) I would have come up promptly with some practical solutions. But, I'm in the final of the 3 stages of life -- youth, age**

**and you look great! I feel reasonably great but with most of my life span behind me, I don't buy too many green bananas. Anyway, I am passing the gavel (and I hope not too many of the headaches) to you as the new FCC Chairman and resuming my role as Commissioner -- God and my wife willing.**

**I'm presenting you the official FCC gavel to be used in promulgating the public interest. You have my full support and best wishes for your continued career achievement in the exciting period ahead -- of revolutionary growth and technological advancements in all fields of communications.**

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