Statement attached to three items - Liability of Universal Broadcasting Co., Niagara Frontier Broadcasting Corp., WJJL; and Welcome Radio, Inc., WSL. February 12, 1975

DISSENTING STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER QUELLO IN WHICH COMMISSIONERS REID AND WASHBURN JOIN

I believe the majority has acted with an excess of zeal in these instances by imposing greater sanctions than were justified. The purpose of sanctions is, after all, to correct deficiencies and to ensure that they do not recur. Letters of admonition would have been far more appropriate than substantial fines under the circumstances here.

I would like it to be clearly understood that I do not condone breaches of the Commission's rules and it appears that the rules were breached in these instances. My concern is merely with the harsh penalties assessed for offenses which were presumably inadvertent acts of omission. It is my belief that the Commission's response to such offenses should strive to make the punishment more nearly fit the crime.

Therefore, I dissent.