

September , 1982

Remarks for farewell party for Abbott Washburn

Abbott, I wish I could say something funny or witty to add a light touch to this occasion, but I can't.

All I can think of is the eight years we worked so closely together and what an extraordinary sense of loss I'm feeling at your leaving the FCC. I'm losing a close friend in my daily work and the FCC is losing a highly respected intelligent voice for reason and decency in its important deliberations. In my opinion, you more than anyone else, represented "the voice of conscience" on the Commission.

Your loss to the Commission is somewhat mitigated by your well deserved, prestigious appointment as Chairman of the U.S. Delegation to RARC -- so your communications expertise and dedication will continue to be well utilized in high level service to the Nation.

I admire your leadership, respect your opinions, and cherish your friendship.

In short, you are a hell of a guy.

Mary joins me in wishing you, Wanda and Julie health, happiness and continued achievement in the promising years ahead.

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