

COMMISSIONER JAMES H. QUELLO
STATEMENT ON SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT
OF RKO BROADCAST PROPERTIES

July 20, 1988

I believe the Commission has taken action in these matters which is very appropriate in advancing the public interest. While deciding these cases in favor of settlement required some difficult balancing of important issues, the result seems quite reasonable given the complexity and the longevity of the proceedings.

Administrative agencies, such as the Federal Communications Commission, play roles which are, in turn, administrative, legislative and judicial. In our judicial role, we are expected to exercise judgment which furthers the public interest. We have done that today.

I find great wisdom and guidance in the words of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt as he reflected on the role which administrative agencies should play.

That great president said:

A common sense resort to usual and practical sources of information takes the place of archaic and technical application of rules of evidence, and an informed and expert tribunal renders its decisions with an eye that looks forward to results rather than backward to precedent and to the leading case. Substantial justice remains a higher aim for our civilization than technical legalism.

Today's action provides substantial justice and best serves the public interest.

RKO STATEMENT SENT TO:

House Telecommunications Subcommittee

Senate Communications Subcommittee

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