

FCC/MELLON APR 29 1991

Cheryl L. Schneider
General AttorneyCOMSAT

STAMP AND RETURN

World
Systems DivisionCommunications
Satellite Corporation
950 L'Enfant Plaza, SW
Washington, DC 20024
Telephone 202-863-6773
Telex 197800
Fax 202-486-3814/3819

April 26, 1991

Ms. Donna R. Searcy, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 222
Washington, D. C. 20554

ATTN: International Facilities Division
Room 534

Re: Request for Special Temporary Authority
Aeronautical Ground Earth Station

Dear Ms. Searcy:

Communications Satellite Corporation (COMSAT) herein requests a grant of special temporary authority for the period May 7-June 7, 1991 to support an aeronautical test by the provision of INMARSAT communications between an aeronautical earth station located in Maryland and a ground earth station located at the U.S. coast earth station at Southbury, Connecticut. In support of this request, COMSAT submits as follows:

COMSAT has installed two ground earth stations (GES) used in aeronautical services at its Santa Paula, California and Southbury, Connecticut earth station facilities. In order to get access approval from INMARSAT to go into commercial service with the ground earth stations, it will be necessary to test them through an INMARSAT-commissioned aircraft earth station. Racal Avionics, Inc. has agreed to use its commissioned aircraft earth station (AES) for testing of the GES at Southbury. Therefore, COMSAT and Racal are participating in a test of COMSAT's aeronautical communications from its GES located on the ground in Southbury, Connecticut and Racal's AES located on the ground in Silver Spring, Maryland. The objectives of the test are to establish and receive telephone calls through the Southbury ground earth station and the Maryland aircraft earth station via the INMARSAT AOR-W satellite. The test is expected to be conducted over a period of time lasting about 1 month.

COMSAT has requested from INMARSAT the free, noncommercial use of the space segment and related facilities for purposes of these tests. INMARSAT has approved this request. Racal has filed an application for an experimental license for the aeronautical earth terminal with the FCC Office of Engineering and Technology.

COMSAT respectfully submits that the public interest will be served through the provision of this communications capacity and thus by a grant of temporary authority from May 7-June 7, 1991.

The requisite fee of \$610 is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE CORPORATION

By 

Cheryl L. Schneider
Its Attorney
(202) 863-6773

cc: Michael Pollak