



Journal Title: Telecommunication Journal

Journal Issue: vol. 30 (no. 11), 1963

Article Title: Opening of the Conference on Space Radiocommunications: 70 countries take part

Page number(s): pp. 334-336

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(ITU) للاتصالات الدولي الاتحاد في والمحفوظات المكتبة قسم أجراه الضوئي بالمسح تصوير نتاج (PDF) الإلكترونية النسخة هذه والمحفوظات المكتبة قسم في المتوفرة الوثائق ضمن أصلية ورقية وثيقة من نقلاً.

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headquarters

OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE ON SPACE RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS

70 COUNTRIES TAKE PART

The Extraordinary Administrative Radio Conference on Space Communications convened by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) to allocate frequency bands for space communication purposes began on Monday, October the 7th, 1963, in the Bâtiment électoral, Geneva, and will last five weeks. More than four hundred delegates from seventy countries are taking part.

The senior delegate present, Don José Garrido Moreno, acting Head of the Delegation of Spain, took the Chair, and announced the proposals made by the heads of delegations for the appointment of a Chairman and Vice-Chairmen.

The Conference thereupon elected Mr. Gunnar Pedersen, Director-General of the Danish PTT, as Chairman by acclamation. Mr. Pedersen is the son of Professor P. O. Pedersen, the celebrated Danish electrical engineer, and has been well known in the ITU for many years, having taken the Chair at numerous meetings.

Mr. Joseph McConnell, Head of the United States Delegation, and Mr. Ashot Badalov, Vice-Minister for Communica-

tions of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Head of the Soviet Delegation, were elected Vice-Chairmen.

The Committees

Committee 1—Steering

Chairman: Mr. Gunnar Pedersen (Denmark)

Vice-Chairmen:

Mr. Ashot Badalov (USSR)

Ambassador J. H. McConnel (United States of America)

Committee 2—Credentials

Chairman: Dr. F. Nicotera (Italy)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. L. M. Harris (Australia)



Mr. Gunnar Pedersen

Committee 3—Budget Supervision

Chairman: Mr. G. Marin (Roumanian People's Republic)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. S. H. Butler (Liberia)

Committee 4—Technical

Chairman: Mr. Erik Esping (Sweden)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. M. Zahradniček (Czechoslovak Socialist Republic)

Committee 5—Allocations

Chairman: Mr. W. Klein (Switzerland)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. S. Fujiki (Japan)

Committee 6—Regulations

Chairman: Mr. Juan A. Autelli (Argentine Republic)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. A. B. Eid (United Arab Republic)

Committee 7—Editorial

Chairman: Mr. Yves Place (France)

Vice-Chairmen: Capt. Charles Booth (United Kingdom)

Mr. J. Garrido Moreno (Spain).

An exchange of messages via "Telstar"

On the third day of the Conference (Wednesday, 9 October), between half-past three and a quarter to four p.m. (Geneva time), a direct exchange of televised messages took place via the United States satellite *Telstar*. U Thant, Secretary-General of the United Nations, spoke to the Conference from New York, and Mr. Gerald C. Gross, Secretary-General of the ITU, answered from the Conference Hall in the Bâtiment électoral.

U Thant spoke as follows:

"I am very happy indeed to be participating from across the Atlantic in the



The Bâtiment électoral, where the Space Radio Communication Conference is being held



U Thant addresses the Conference from New York via Telstar. The excellent quality of the picture is evident. (Photo : Photopress)

first Conference on Space Communication called by the International Telecommunication Union. I believe that the Conference is timely in view of the surprisingly rapid changes which science and technology are bringing about. I have no doubt that the action that you take at your Conference will have a decisive influence on the future development of space communication. I believe that the principles and regulations that you agree upon at the present time should be flexible enough to provide maximum scope for advanced scientific research and free cultural exchange. At the same time they should facilitate the solution of the complex problems of world-wide communication *via* satellites which are bound to arise as technology advances even further.

"Space communication seems to me to constitute an area of activity which concerns mankind as a whole. Space communication will, I hope, be used for the benefit of all people by providing opportunities for the widest possible participation in such communications and by adequate co-operation and co-ordination. In this way, the application of scientific and technological advance

exemplified and in turn accelerated by the international satellites will also contribute to the economic and social progress of the developing countries.

"It is of great significance for the work of the Conference that the two nations which have been the pioneers in the exploration of outer space have both singled out the field of space communication as one of the desirable areas for co-operative effort in the near future. This is clearly a field in which the interests of all nations can be served most efficiently and economically by the international co-operative action. I hope that your Conference will provide the medium by which such co-operative action could be agreed upon.

"We in the United Nations also have an interest in the development of global communication facilities as we will have at our disposal new and efficient means of communicating with our Member Governments all over the world. As we widen the possibility of girdling the globe through the use of satellites in conjunction with radio and television, we shall be able more fully to realize the objectives so frequently stated by the General Assembly in regard to the dissemination

of information about the United Nations in every corner of the globe.

"The development of space communication has proceeded side by side with man's exploration of outer space, far beyond the confines of his terrestrial environment. I have no doubt that we shall see in the near future more remarkable conquests of outer space. From these new scientific discoveries in space, I hope that man can acquire a global perspective and that this will help him not only in his struggle to achieve a better life on earth, but also in achieving a greater unity of purpose and direction for all mankind.

"I wish the Conference every success."

In his reply, Mr. Gross said:

"Mr. Secretary-General,

"The message which you have just delivered to this first Extraordinary Space Communication Conference is of the greatest significance and importance to the millions of human beings who have long hoped to have radio facilities available. In the name of the ITU, may I thank you most warmly.

"The great achievement of human

ingenuity which we call radio is the life-force of all space operations since without it space vehicles could not function in any useful or meaningful way.

"The conquest of outer space will bring unprecedented developments of benefit to telecommunications, as this exchange of messages demonstrates so convincingly. The world is on the threshold of a new age which all countries—and the governments and peoples which compose them—are determined to make as spiritually and materially enriching as they can for humanity. In order that space operations, whether they be for exploration and research, telecommuni-

cations, meteorology, radio navigation or radio astronomy, may develop harmoniously and to the full there must be international agreement on the assignment of frequencies for radiocommunication.

"The ITU is fully aware of its responsibilities in this respect and that is why this first Space Communication Conference, which we have been preparing for several years, has been convened.

"In the light of ITU's experience of nearly a century of uninterrupted international co-operation, the Conference will consider sympathetically the objectives set forth by the United Nations

General Assembly and the concrete and practical measures required for their implementation.

"Thus, the work on which the ITU is engaged promises to have vastly important consequences. We thank you most sincerely, Mr. Secretary-General, for your understanding and encouragement. I transmit these thanks to you in the name of the ITU and, in particular, on behalf of the telecommunication experts from every continent who are present with me here now."

Acknowledgements

Technically, the above transmissions were first-class. Afterwards, Mr. Gross thanked the United Nations (which had originally organized the programme) and Mr. d'Arcy, representing the Secretary-General of the United Nations at the Conference. Mr. Gross emphasized that the transmission had taken place thanks to the Administrations of Switzerland and France, the *Radio-télévision française*, the *Société suisse de radiodiffusion*, the American Telephone and Telegraph Company and the European Broadcasting Union (Brussels and Geneva). The British Broadcasting Corporation and the General Post Office (London) were also thanked for their assistance.

AFRICAN LF/MF BROADCASTING CONFERENCE

During its 18th Session, the ITU Administrative Council heard with pleasure an announcement by the representative of Spain, Mr. José Garrido Moreno, that Spain was prepared to act as Host Government to the African LF/MF Broadcasting Conference. The Council therefore proposed that the Conference should be convened in Madrid, in September 1964, with a duration of three weeks, and the following Agenda:

- 1.1 preparation of an up-to-date broadcasting plan for the band 525-1605 kc/s for the African countries outside the European Broadcasting Area, taking into account the entries already recorded in the Master International Frequency Register;
- 1.2 examination of the existing situation in the bands 150-285 and 525-1605 kc/s for the African countries which are included in the European Broadcasting Area;
- 1.3 determination of all measures, bearing in mind Article 9 of the Radio Regulations, which might prove essential in the light of this examination but which would not involve revision of the Copenhagen Plan, 1948.

These proposals having been approved by a majority of the Members of the Union in the African and European Broadcasting Conference (Geneva, April-May, 1963), the Spanish Administration fixed 7 September, 1964, as the opening date of the Conference.

On 17 September, an Agreement between the Spanish Administration and the General Secretariat of the ITU on the steps to be taken to organize the Conference, was signed in Madrid by Mr. Julio Nieves Herreros, Secretary-General of Posts and Telecommunications, on behalf of the Spanish Administration and by Mr. Clifford Stead on behalf of the General Secretariat. The signing cere-

mony was attended by representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Broadcasting and Television Administration.

We are assured that the Spanish Government will do everything possible to make the Conference a success, as was the case in 1932, the last occasion on which an ITU Conference was held in Madrid.

technical co-operation

Creation of a Telecommunication Institute in Iraq

Mr. J. S. MacGregor, Australian PTT engineer, left at the end of October for Iraq, where he will direct the United Nations Special Fund project to set up a Telecommunication Institute.

The Iraqi Government, with assistance from the ITU and financial support from the United Nations Special Fund, intends to establish a Telecommunication Institute where engineers, technicians and operational and administrative staff will be trained for the Iraqi Ministry of Communications.

One of Mr. MacGregor's first tasks will be to examine in co-operation with the Government, the plans for the new Institute—classrooms, laboratories and everything necessary for its operation. He will be the Director of the Institute and will also act as adviser-in-chief to the Government on questions relating to vocational training in the field of telecommunication.

An international staff of seven experts

will assist him during the five years for which the Special Fund will furnish aid.

Mr. MacGregor

