

EXCERPTS FROM FCC REPORT ON MONITORING AND BUST OF WFAT-AM

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

FIELD OPERATIONS BUREAU

ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

ENFORCEMENT CASE REPORT

March 23, 1979

February 9, 1979: Watch officer reports that SUBJECT Identifying as "WFAT Fat City Radio", has been active for the last three nights. The SUBJECT used a telephone company open loop located in mid-Manhattan.

March 29, 1979: A conference was held at the New York office in order to consolidate a joint effort. The following were present:

WASHINGTON: Jeffrey Young, Chief, Investigations Branch

NORFOLK: EIC, J. Jerry Freeman, Coordinator, and AEIC Jim Hawkins

PHILADELPHIA: EIC, Ennis Coleman, SE, John Rhates

REGION #1: Gerard Sarno, Regional Director

NEW YORK: EIC, Henry Paulisen, AEIC, Alexander Zimny, Investigative Specialist, Judah Mansbach, and Electronics Engineer, Daniel Noel.

Mr. Sarno assured Engineer Freeman that he would have the complete and dedicated cooperation of the New York office. A plan was put into effect which included the following:

- 1) A two man New York team will station themselves on top of the World Trade Center each night for the purpose of taking a bearing when the signal comes on.
- 2) This RDP data will be relayed to the teams in the field.
- 3) Cars will be manned by two men.
- 4) The personnel from out of the district will be on ready alert as long as the New York team is up at the WTC. The other New York team will be on standby if the signal comes on.
- 5) The Watch Officer will alert the teams that SUBJECT is active.
- 6) The Watch Officer will also alert EIC Boston, Vincent Kajunski, who will attempt to monitor the station and report the results thru the Watch Officer.
- 7) The Bernardsville, N.J. area will be thoroughly checked since the maximum signal level was reported in that area by the Philadelphia team.
- 8) Monitoring observations on the WTC will be discontinued after the morning of April 4, 1979. This will coincide with all out of district teams returning to their home offices.

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9) Radio silence will be maintained until SUBJECT becomes active.

10) The Philadelphia team will stay in the New Jersey area where the signal was observed until April 4, 1979.

March 30, 1979: Engineers Paulisen and Mansbach assume monitoring post on top of the South tower of the World Trade Center. Monitoring is discontinued at approximately 2 A.M. when SUBJECT fails to come on.

March 31, 1979: Engineers Paulisen and Binny assume positions on top of WTC.

April 1, 1979: Engineers Paulisen and Mansbach assume positions on WTC. The Norfolk team leaves, and a Baltimore team consisting of EIC Robert Mroz and SE Donald Bogert take their place.

April 2, 1979: Engineers Paulisen and Noel assume positions on top of WTC.

April 3, 1979: Engineers Paulisen and Mansbach assume positions on WTC.

The SUBJECT has not been active since he announced that he was going to be off for three weeks. This may coincide with the Easter or Spring vacation at many colleges.

April 4, 1979

April 4, 1979: Engineers Henry Paulisen and Judah Mansbach continued the radio watch on top of the World Trade Center. No unauthorized transmissions were heard. The watch was discontinued at 2 A.M.

This office has just been advised that the Allegan Monitoring Station had gotten a cross bearing on SUBJECT in the vicinity of Morristown, New Jersey; Standard Broadcast Station W M T R will be checked the next time SUBJECT is active. In addition watches will be continued on top of WTC as requested by Coordinator Freeman.

April 16, 1979

April 4 thru 7 1979: This office continued an active monitoring watch from approximately 11:45 P.M. to 2:00 A.M. on the south tower of the World Trade Center. One two man team was available at the police desk at WTC, awaiting a call from the Watch Officer, while a second team was on an "on call" basis should the signal come on.

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April 8, 1979: At 12:25 A.M. a call was received by the undersigned at the Police desk advising that the signal is on. Engineers Paulisen and Mansbach attempted to take radio direction bearings of the signal from the top of WTC, but without success. The signal could not be heard at all. Engineers Zimny and Noel, who had previously been alerted, proceeded to the area reported "hot" by EIC Ennis Coleman. RDF "bearings" taken in the vicinity of Mr. Zimny's home in the Bronx was consistent with previous Northeast/Southeast bearings. The engineers continued to travel the same route as the Philadelphia Engineers

April 15, 1979: DETAILS OF UNAUTHORIZED ACTIVITY: At 3:00 A.M., the Watch Officer contacted Engineers Henry Paulisen and Alexander Zimny at their homes to advise that the Belfast, Maryland Monitoring Station had observed an unauthorized signal on 1628 kHz identifying itself with a call sign of W F A T with an average bearing of 229 degrees.

Engineer Paulisen while teamed with Judah Mansbach and Engineer Zimny while teamed with Noel proceeded to take bearings at various points throughout New York City using a broadcast field intensity meter, Bendix RDF and vehicle MDC.

Observations made indicated the signal source to be in a southwest area of Brooklyn, N.Y. Close-in bearings using an Aperiodic receiver with loop antenna indicated that the transmissions were coming from SUBJECT'S residence. The transmission observed throughout the morning consisted of music and telephone call-in format with a telephone number of 212-283-9979.

At approximately 4:30 A.M., just as Engineers Paulisen and Mansbach were knocking at SUBJECT'S door, the signal abruptly went off the air. The SUBJECT stalled the Engineers at the door, and after promising him "not to hurt him" he permitted a friendly entry into his apartment.

SUBJECT'S bedroom was arranged to look like a radio studio. Audio was being fed to a Collins, Type 32RA, Model 8, Serno 42205 transmitter. The transmitter fed a long horizontal wire which ran from SUBJECT'S apartment to a building across the street. Unfortunately, SUBJECT had torn the antenna down as the Engineers were attempting an entry into the apartment, and a "close down" statement could not be made. SUBJECT admitted to the illegal operation. In addition, the tubes (three 807's in the final) were still very hot to the touch.

The frequency had previously been observed on a PIM and Drake SPR-4 as 1628 kHz, and Field Intensity measurements taken at various locations indicated that SUBJECT exceeded the limits provided for in Part 15 of the Commission's Regulations.

TOTAL PERSONNEL TIME
OF NEW YORK CITY
FCC IN "WFAT" CASE
REPORTS #1-8

ENGINEERING HOURS 320
CLERICAL 11