

OFFICE OF CIVILIAN DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

CIVIL AIR PATROL

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
WASHINGTON, JULY 8, 1942

Subject: Restricted Use of Long Distance Telephone Service.

To: Commanders of All Units, Including Task Forces.

Section V, War Department Circular No. 207, June 26, 1942 is reproduced below for the information and guidance of all Civil Air Patrol personnel. Careful compliance with the provisions of this publication will do much to eliminate needless clogging of telephone lines:

"1. As a result of rapidly increasing demand for long distance telephone service, the facilities of telephone companies throughout the country are becoming seriously overloaded and the congestion of circuits causes considerable delay in the completion of long distance calls. The telephone companies have placed in effect practices for giving priority to certain urgent Government calls but the volume of such priority traffic has increased to the point where this classification also encounters serious delay.

"2. Due to the lack of critical materials which go into the manufacture of telephone plants, additions to existing facilities are not readily obtainable. It is obvious that the serious congestion of nation-wide telephone facilities will impede the war effort and it is imperative that the use of existing commercial facilities be conducted with the utmost efficiency.

"3. The telephone companies are organized to do their utmost in providing for efficient handling of long distance calls and it is necessary that users of the service cooperate in the effort to prevent ineffective circuit usage. To this end the following steps will be taken by all military personnel using telephone toll facilities:

a. Before making long distance telephone calls, determine whether the use of the telephone is absolutely essential. In many cases it is probable that the communication may be handled by mail, or by wire or radio services.

b. In the event that a telephone call is essential, do not demand urgent handling unless the call is actually of the highest priority. The habitual use of the words 'urgent' or 'priority' in placing telephone calls defeats the purpose of this classification.

c. Having placed a long distance call, remain near the telephone in order that completion may be secured readily. Much circuit time is wasted in trying to locate calling parties who have left their telephones after placing long distance calls.

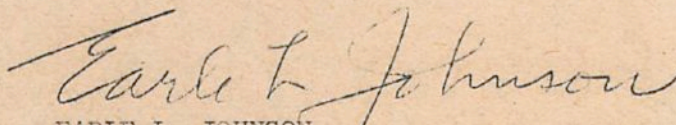
d. Make certain that the subject to be discussed is well in mind, and confine the conversation to the conduct of business."

"By order of the Secretary of War:

G. C. MARSHALL,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

J. A. ULIO,
Major General,
The Adjutant General."


EARLE L. JOHNSON
National Commander