AN ACT GRANTING MR. FRANCISCO ARCILLA A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, MAINTAIN AND OPERATE A RADIO BROADCASTING STATION IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF VIRAC, PROVINCE OF CATANDUANES, PHILIPPI...

REPUBLIC ACT NO. 2964, June 19, 1960

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Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. Subject to the provisions of the Constitution, as well as of Act Numbered Three thousand eight hundred forty-six, entitled "An Act providing for the regulation of radio stations and radio communications in the Philippine Islands, and for other purposes;" Act Numbered Three thousand nine hundred ninety-seven, known as the Radio Broadcasting Law; Commonwealth Act Numbered One hundred forty-six, known as the Public Service Act, and their amendments, and other applicable laws, not inconsistent with this Act, Mr. Francisco Arcilla is hereby granted a franchise to construct, maintain and operate a radio broadcasting station in the Municipality of Virac, Province of Catanduanes, Philippines.

SEC. 2. This franchise shall continue for a period of twenty-five years from the date the said station shall be Put in operation, and is granted upon the express condition that the same shall be void unless the construction of said station be begun within six months from the date of approval of this Act and be completed within two years from said date.

SEC. 3. This franchise is likewise made upon the express Condition that the grantee shall contribute to the public welfare; shall assist in the function of public information and education; shall conform to the ethics of honest enterprise; and shall not use his station for the dissemination of deliberately false information or willful misrepresentation, or to the detriment of the public health, or to incite encourage or assist in subversive or treasonable acts.

SEC. 4. The grantee's radio broadcasting station shall not be put in actual operation until the Secretary of Public Works and Communications shall have allotted to the grantee the frequency and wave length to be used under this franchise and issued to the grantee a license for such use.

SEC. 5. A special right is hereby reserved to the President of the Philippines in time of war, insurrection, public peril or other national emergency and when public safety requires, to cause the closing of the grantee's radio station or to authorize the use or possession thereof by any department of the Government without compensation to the grantee for the use of said station during the continuance of the national emergency.

SEC. 6. The grantee shall be liable to pay the same taxes, unless exempted therefrom, on his real estate, buildings, and personal property, exclusive of the franchise, as other persons or corporations are now or hereafter may be required by law to pay.

The grantee shall further be liable to pay all other taxes under the National Internal Revenue Code by reason of this franchise.

SEC. 7. The grantee shall hold the national, provincial and municipal governments of the Philippines harmless from all claims, accounts, demands or actions arising out of accidents or injuries, whether to property or to persons, caused by the construction or operation of the station of the grantee.

SEC. 8. The franchise hereby granted shall be subject to amendment, alteration or repeal by the Congress of t Philippines when the public interest so requires.

SEC. 9. As a condition to the granting of this franchise: the grantee shall execute a bond in favor of the Government of the Philippines, in the sum of fifty thousand pesos, in form and with sureties satisfactory to the Secretary of Public Works and Communications, conditioned upon the faithful performance of the grantee's obligations hereunder during the first three years of the life of this franchise. If after three years from the date of acceptance of this franchise, the grantee shall have fulfilled said obligations, or as soon thereafter as the grantee shall have fulfilled the same, the bond aforesaid shall be cancelled by the Secretary of Public Works and Communications.

SEC. 10. Acceptance of this franchise shall be given in writing within six months after approval of this Act. When so accepted by the grantee and upon the approval of the bond aforesaid by the Secretary of Public Works and Communications the grantee shall be empowered to exercise the privileges granted thereby.

SEC. 11. The grantee shall not lease, transfer, grant the usufruct of, sell or assign this franchise nor the rights and privileges acquired thereunder to any person, firm, company, corporation or other commercial or legal entity, nor merge with any other person, company or corporation organized for the same purpose, without the approval of the Congress of the Philippines first had. Any corporation to which this franchise may be sold, transferred or assigned shall be subject to the corporation laws of the Philippines now existing or hereafter enacted, and any person, firm, company, corporation or other commercial or legal entity to which this franchise is sold, transferred or assigned shall be subject to all conditions, terms, restrictions and limitations of this franchise as fully and completely and to the same extent as if the franchise had been originally granted to the said person, firm, company, corporation or other commercial or legal entity.

SEC. 12. The grantee shall not require any previous censorship of any speech, play or other matter to be broadcast from his station; but if any such speech, play or other matter shall constitute a violation of the law or infringement of a private right, the grantee shall be free from any liability, civil or criminal, for such speech, play or other matter: Provided, That the grantee, during any broadcast, shall cut off from the air the speech, play or other matter being broadcast if the tendency thereof is to propose and/or incite treason, rebellion or sedition, or the language used therein or the theme thereof is indecent or immoral, and willful failure to do so shall constitute a valid cause for the cancellation of this franchise.

SEC. 13. This franchise shall not be interpreted as an exclusive grant of the privileges herein provided for.

SEC. 14. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Enacted without Executive approval, June 19, 1960.

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