The FCC proposals, he said, would make broadcasters "the lords and masters" to determine what programs people should see.

He derided the notion that CATV puts stations off the air. This has never happened, he said. Then he added: "In the next 10 years perhaps 100 million new TV sets will come into operation. A large percentage will be portable . . . it is entirely likely that even if all the homes in American cities were to be wired by CATV, there would still be more TV sets receiving off-the-air pickup in 1975 than there are today."

KWTX-TV wants CATV applications dismissed

KWTX-TV Waco, Tex., which is partially owned by President Johnson's wife and two daughters, urged the FCC last week to dismiss, or at least designate for hearing, four microwave applications that propose to serve as many community antenna TV systems within the station's city-grade contour.

The KWTX-TV protest involves Telephone Utilities Service Corp. of Killeen, Tex., which has applications pending for microwave facilities to serve CATV systems in McGregor, Temple, Waco and Belton, all Texas (Broadcasting, May 31).

A 29% interest in KWTX-TV is held by Texas Broadcasting Corp., of which the Johnson family is majority owner.

In a petition filed two months ago, prior to the FCC's adoption of its new rules protecting local TV stations from microwave-fed CATV's, KWTX-TV had asked the commission to defer action on TUSCO's applications pending the outcome of the rulemaking.

However, with the protection now assured local TV stations by the newly adopted rules, it was felt that the conflict between KWTX-TV and TUSCO might be resolved without the FCC having to intervene.

In its latest petition filed last week, however, KWTX-TV said that despite the protection now afforded the station by the rule, TUSCO's application must be either dismissed or set for hearing since the company has failed to show a need for the service.

KWTX-TV pointed out that TUSCO, in its applications, failed to show that the company has any commitments for the proposed service with any of the CATV's and therefore the commission cannot find that a grant would serve the public interest.