

dale, Fla. **Buyer** is New York-based group of three TV's principally owned by Phillip J. Lombardo. KBGT-TV is independent on channel 8 with 316 kw visual, 31.6 kw aural and antenna 2,000 feet above average terrain.

WGTO(AM) Cypress Gardens, Fla. □ Sold by Hubbard Broadcasting Inc. to Cypress Broadcasting Ltd. for \$1,535,000. **Seller** is Minneapolis-St. Paul-based group of two AM's, one FM and six TV's, principally owned by Stanley Hubbard and family. **Buyer** is owned by Chicago attorney, Cordell J. Overgaard, and Michael Bader, Washington communications attorney with firm of Haley Bader & Potts. WGTO is on 540 khz with 50 kw day and 1 kw night. **Broker: R.C. Crisler & Co.**

WLL(AM)-WGOL(FM) Lynchburg, Va. □ Sold by Jamarbo Corp. to CGS Communications of Lynchburg Inc. for \$1,350,000. **Seller** is owned by James V. Shircliff, who has no other broadcast interests. **Buyer** is owned by Michael P. Cefaratti, Richard D. Singer and M. James Galvin. Cefaratti is general sales

manager and Galvin is local sales manager at KTVK(TV) Phoenix. Singer is former vice president and general manager of TeleRep, New York-based station representation firm. WLL is daytimer on 930 khz with 5 kw. WGOL is on 98.3 mhz with 3 kw and antenna 240 feet above average terrain. **Broker: Blackburn & Co.**

WAPF(AM)-WWCA(FM) McComb, Miss. □ Sold by Southwestern Broadcasting Co. of Mississippi to Dowdy Broadcasting Co. for \$600,000, comprising \$300,000 cash and remainder note. **Seller** is owned by Louis Alford, Phillip D. Brady and Albert Mack Smith, who also own WMDC-AM-FM Hazelhurst, Miss. **Buyer** is owned by Congressman C. Wayne Dowdy (D-Miss.), his brother, J. Morgan Dowdy, and their father, Charles W. Dowdy. It has interest in three AM's and six FM's. J. Morgan Dowdy also has interest in WROA(AM)-WKXX(FM) Gulfport, Miss., and WMCG(AM) Milan, Ga. WAPF is daytimer on 980 khz with 5 kw. WWCA is on 94.1 mhz with 100 kw and

antenna 501 feet above average terrain.

KXOQ-FM Poplar Bluff, Mo. □ Sold by KXOQ Inc. to Bruce Schneider & Associates Inc. for \$525,000. **Seller** is owned by James T. Lambert, J. Randall Page and Jack Holmes. It also has interest in WKFX(FM) Henderson, Tenn. **Buyer** is owned by Bruce Schneider, who also owns co-located KLID(AM). KXOQ is on 96.7 mhz with 3 kw and antenna 328 feet above average terrain. **Broker: George Moore & Associates.**

KXCC-FM Lompoc, Calif. □ Sold by Golden Coast Broadcasting Inc. to Broadcast Management Consultants Inc. for \$750,000, comprising \$250,000 cash and remainder note. **Seller** is owned by Dennis Mandel. It has no other broadcast interests. **Buyer** is owned by Clifford Hunter, former director of broadcasting of Sterling Recreation Association, Bellevue, Wash.-based station group. KXCC is on 92.7 mhz with 3 kw and antenna 710 feet above average terrain. **Broker: William A. Exline Inc.**

The Media

'Captain Midnight' unmasked

FCC tracks down man who preempted HBO satellite feed with message protesting scrambling of cable programs

One of the principal responsibilities of the FCC is to insure that no one interferes with the licensed users of the nation's airwaves. It proved itself worthy of that trust last week by nabbing the most notorious pirate of the airwaves in recent FCC history—Captain Midnight.

Using electronic clues, a tip about an overheard telephone conversation and old-fashioned leg work, FCC investigators were able to finger John R. MacDougall of Ocala, Fla., as the man who, indentifying himself as Captain Midnight, preempted Home Box Office's satellite feed twice last April in an apparent protest of HBO's scrambling of its

feeds to prevent free reception by home dish owners.

MacDougall pleaded guilty to the charge of transmitting an interfering signal without a license (a violation of Section 301 of the U.S. criminal code) before U.S. District Magistrate Howard T. Snyder in Jacksonville, Fla., last Tuesday afternoon (July 22). Snyder released MacDougall on a \$5,000 unsecured bond. Neither MacDougall nor his attorney, John M. Green Jr. of Ocala, could be reached for comment last week.

Under a plea agreement, MacDougall will be fined \$5,000, and placed under unsupervised probation for one year. The maximum possible fine: \$100,000 and a one-year jail sentence.

At about the time that MacDougall was being arraigned in Jacksonville, the FCC was holding a press conference at its Wash-



Midnight/MacDougall

ington headquarters to announce that he had been charged that morning after turning himself in at the U.S. attorney's office in Jacksonville.

During the briefing, Richard Smith, chief of the FCC's Field Operations Bureau, which is being credited with the "collar," said the FCC has felt the Captain Midnight affair was a "very, very serious matter." The harm to satellite communications from intentional interference is something that cannot be tolerated.

The FCC identified MacDougall as the owner of MacDougall Electronics, home dish retailer in Ocala, and a part-time technician at the Central Florida Teleport in Ocala, one of whose uplinks MacDougall used to overpower the HBO signal and disrupt its programming. Smith said the teleport was in no way liable for the incident, adding that its management had cooperated fully in the investigation and that it had been "reasonably conscientious" in safeguarding against unauthorized use of its facilities.

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