

Alaska State Library
Historical Collections

Guide to Collection

McClea, Susan

Sitka-Kodiak radio, 1941-1942
Transcripts of 18 Interviews Relating To Early Radio Stations in Alaska.

MS 4-27

1 box: typescript
0.2 linear ft.

INTRODUCTION

In 1941 or early 1942 three "pirate" radio stations were formed by American servicemen in Alaska. Out of these stations grew the Armed Forces Radio and Television Service. The first, KRB, and the third, GAB, became KRAY in Sitka. Eventually licensed as WVCX, this may well be the first "community supported" radio service. The second was KODK in Kodiak, a station which was licensed before the Sitka station as WVCQ.

Susan Mc Clear of Sitka received a grant from the Alaska Historical Commission to research the history of these early radio stations. Charles Gilliam, one of the originators of the GAB station at Sitka helped locate and interview participants in the early stations. The final report to the Alaska Historical Commission and transcripts of interviews comprise this collection presented to the Alaska, Historical Library in 1984.

Summaries of the interviews are included here. The collection includes the full transcription for the following interviews:

SITKA:

Murland Brightman
James Brighman
Theron Cole
Jack Easterly
Charles Gilliam
Charles Green
Ervin Green
Earle Greer
Robert Horslev
Al Mc Manus
Lois Peterson Pittinger
Vince Temefonte
Fred !4iethuchter
Boyd Wood
Lester Yaw

KODIAK:

Bill Adams
Roy Craft