



## Do You Know?

15 Oct 2017

Do you know that Part 97 of the FCC's regulations was not always known as Part 97?

Pop Quiz! What was Part 97 originally called?

- a. Part 12 - Amateur Radio: Radio Stations and Operators
- b. Federal Radio Commission Rules - Part 34
- c. Part 47 - Amateur Radio Rules
- d. Federal Communications Rules - Part 73

On June 19, 1934 the Congress of the United States enacted Public Law No. 416. This law, also known as "The Communications Act of 1934" created the Federal Communications Commission.

The new Federal Communications Commission adopted in whole or in part various existing rules and regulations created by the Department of Commerce and Labor following the enactment of the Radio Act of 1912 and later from the Federal Radio Commission which was created when Congress passed the Radio Act of 1927 (signed into law February 23, 1927), which transferred most of the responsibility for radio to a newly created Federal Radio Commission.

The Radio Act of 1927 divided the country into five geographical zones. The Communications Act of 1934 also divided the country into five geographical zones:

- The first zone shall embrace the States of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, and the District of Columbia;
- The second zone shall embrace the States of Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, Ohio, Michigan, and Kentucky;
- The third zone shall embrace the States of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Tennessee, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas, and Oklahoma;
- The fourth zone shall embrace the States of Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, and Missouri; and
- The fifth zone shall embrace the States of Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Nevada, Washington, Oregon, and California.
- The Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, Alaska, Guam, American Samoa, and the Territory of Hawaii are expressly excluded from the zones established.

So, here's the answer to the question above:

Prior to 21 December 1963 the FCC regulations pertaining to the Amateur Radio Service were codified as **Part 12** in Title 47 in the Code of Federal Regulations going back as far as 1938.

On 13 December 1963 the FCC directed Part 12 to be replaced by Part 97 effective 21 December 1963. They also published the new Part 97 rules that same date.

**Now you know.**