

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 5853, June 21, 1969]

**AN ACT GRANTING JOSE CONRADO BENITEZ A FRANCHISE TO
CONSTRUCT, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN PRIVATE FIXED POINT-
TO-POINT AND LAND-BASED AND LAND-MOBILE RADIO
STATIONS FOR THE RECEPTION AND TRANSMISSION OF RADIO
COMMUNICATIONS WITHIN THE PHILIPPINES.**

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

SECTION 1. There is hereby granted to Jose Conrado Benitez, hereinafter referred to as the "grantee", a franchise to construct, operate and maintain within the Philippines at such places as the grantee may select, subject to the approval of the Secretary of Public Works and Communications, private fixed point-to-point and land-based and land-mobile radio stations for the reception and transmission of wireless messages by radiotelegraph or radiotelephone, each station to be provided with radio transmitting apparatus and radio receiving apparatus.

SEC. 2. This franchise shall continue for a period of twenty-five years from the date the said stations shall be put in operation and is made upon the express condition that the same shall be void unless the construction or installation of said stations be begun within one year from the date of approval of this Act and be completed within two years from said date.

SEC. 3. The grantee, his successors or assigns, shall not engage in the domestic business of telecommunications in the Philippines without further special assent of the Congress of the Philippines, it being understood that the purpose of this franchise is to secure to the grantee the right to construct, install, maintain and operate private radio stations in such places in the Philippines as the interest of the grantee may justify.

SEC. 4. No fees shall be charged by the grantee as the radio stations that may be established by virtue of this Act shall engage in communications regarding the grantee's business only.

SEC. 5. The grantee, his successors or assigns, shall so construct and operate his radio stations as not to interfere with the operation of other radio stations maintained and operated in the Philippines.

SEC. 6. The grantee, his successors or assigns, shall hold the national, provincial, city and municipal governments of the Philippines harmless from all claims, accounts, demands or actions arising out of accidents or injuries whether to property or persons, caused by the construction or operation of his radio stations.

SEC. 7. The grantee, his successors or assigns, shall be subject to the corporation