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Funeral services were held for Station WXUR on the square behind Independence Hall to dramatize to all in the area that WXUR had been killed. Behind the casket are represented Betsy Ross, Thomas Jefferson, George Washington, and others responsible for the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.

WXUR—Death and Resurrection

The solemn strains of *Nearer My God to Thee* came over the air at midnight, July 5, 1973, and Radio Station WXUR, that good soldier for the defense of the Faith and freedom, was dead. It had been killed by the Federal Communications Commission. It was a true martyr, for it had kept the law even beyond its provisions by the testimony of the FCC's own examiner, Mr. H. Gifford Irion.

There were 19 groups in the Philadelphia area that had worked to get WXUR off the air, among them religious groups which should have been fighting for its freedom, not its repression. But now it has come to light in *The New York Times Magazine*, March 30, 1975, that the highest place in our government, the White House, had given direction that fundamentalist, anti-Communist, conservative opinion on the radio be curtailed. The starter funds for this project, \$25,000, according to the article by Fred W. Friendly, Edward R. Murrow Professor of Journalism at Columbia Graduate School of Journalism, came directly from the Democratic National Committee.

The *Times* article discusses the case against the Rev. John Norris's station, WGCN, Red Lion, Pa., which had been brought by Fred J. Cook because of an attack upon him by Billy James Hargis:

"Fred Cook, it turns out, did not bring his action against WGCN simply as an offended private citizen; instead his actions grew out of a politically motivated campaign to use the fairness doctrine to harass stations carrying right-wing commentary, an effort inspired and managed by the White House and the Democratic National Committee and financed in large measure with political contributions," says Friendly.

"Our massive strategy was to use the fairness doctrine to challenge and harass the right-wing broadcasters and hope that the challenges would be so costly to them that they would be inhibited, and decide it was too expensive to continue," said Bill Ruder, Assistant Secretary of Commerce under Kennedy. "If we did in 1974 what we did in 1964, we'd be answering questions before some Congressional Committee."

WXUR lost its license as a result of the "fallout" from the WGCN case, says Mr. Friendly. He has written a book, to be published by Random House, about the Fairness Doctrine, from which this article is taken. Here is one more piece that fits into the puzzle, the completion of which should put the station back on the air. The Lord is working on our behalf.