Arlington Police to File Complaint In Radio Station's Radar Tip-Off

ARLINGTON—A complaint will be filed with the Federal Communication Commission (FCC) against a Maryland radio station which broadcasts the location of police traffic radar units in Arlington County and other D. C. Metropolitan areas, according to County Police Chief William Fawver.

Fawver, who said he was against the pinpointing of the radar units by the radio station, said he would have one of his staff members complain to the FCC, and said that such broadcasting might be against commission regulations.

FAWVER ALSO said that the practice by the station could impede law enforcement efforts.

A spokesman for the FCC said the commission did not have the power of censorship, but expected broadcasters to be law abiding. Any decision on whether publicizing radar locations is law abiding would have to be made by the commission, the spokesman said.

According to a spokesman for the station, listeners who see radar units on the street, or those who are stopped by police using radar, are asked to telephone the information to the station. The information is then broadcast. THE STATION has been broadcasting the radar locations for about two weeks, and according to the spokesman, will continue the broadcasts.

The station is located in Prince Georges County, and police there have also voiced opposition to the broadcasts.

Arlington's Commonwealth's Attorney William Hassan said he had no objection. He added "that the prime function of law enforcement is prevention." Also, he said radar units are used as a deterrent anyway.

MAJ. RUSSELL Hawes, chief of the Alexandria Police, is opposed to the broadcasts. "I don't think it's a very good activity for a radio station," he said.

Hawes said the broadcasting radar locations would make it harder to curb speeding and reckless driving.

Fairfax County's Commonwealth's Attorney, Ralph G. Louk, said he hoped the broadcasting would help prevent accidents.

He said that as far as he knew, radar locations were never intended as a secret.