

SFChronicle SEP 4 1973

Minister's Pledge on Radio Ship

Cape May, N.J.

Declaring a First Amendment rights on the high seas, Dr. Carl McIntire, the fundamentalist minister, said yesterday he is prepared to give his life for an offshore radio ship he will use to broadcast his controversial programs.

McIntire, a conservative radio commentator, said the ship would fly the American flag and would broadcast on virtually the same wavelength as the station the Federal Communications Commission ordered closed last month, The Media, Pa., radio station was ordered closed for allegedly refusing to give equal time to opposing views.

"I am prepared to go to jail," McIntire said. "I am prepared to give my life for this cause. We've got First Amendment rights on the seas. We thank God for the freedom we have on the Atlantic."

The radio ship, rechristened Radio Free America, is a 140-foot converted minesweeper with a 10,000-watt transmitter on board.

McIntire said the ship would broadcast a wide range of programs and would seek "all the confrontations we possibly can." He said Dean Burch, chairman of the FCC, and Senator George S. McGovern, (Dem.-SD); would be invited to be guests on the station.

He said the station would be used as a test case concerning FCC licensing practices.

United Press