

FCC Orders Hearing on Bid to Take

Washington

The Federal Communications Commission yesterday ordered a hearing on a bid by Tropical Florida Broadcasting Co. to take over television Channel 10 in Miami from Post - Newsweek Stations of Florida Inc.

The FCC rejected a petition from Post - Newsweek that the challenge be dismissed.

Tropical has challenged Post - Newsweek's application for renewal of its li-

cense for station WPLG-TV and is seeking the channel on which it broadcasts.

This is one of two Post - Newsweek stations in Florida being challenged on their license renewals. Another group is trying to take over Channel 4 now held by WJXT-TV in Jacksonville.

There have been charges that the actions were prompted as part of a political vendetta against the Washington Post because it

is in disfavor with the Nixon administration. Post - Newsweek Stations, Inc., is a subsidiary of the Washington Post Co.

The FCC has not yet taken any action on the Jacksonville challenge. It recently approved purchase by Post - Newsweek of WTIC-TV in Hartford, Conn.

The FCC, in ordering the hearing on WPLG-TV, said the administrative law judge assigned to the case should also consider ascertainment,

misrepresentation and financial issues against Tropical Florida.

Over Miami TV Channel

Post - Newsweek charges that Tropical Florida has not interviewed many of the

community leaders it claimed to have consulted and had reported interviews

not conducted by its principals.

Associated Press