# The original documents are located in Box 62, folder "Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, 1976 WH" of the NSC. Europe, Canada, and Ocean Affairs Staff Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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# OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

2500

April 27, 1976

REPERL

MEMORANDUM FOR:

GENERAL BRENT SCOWCROFT

FROM:

Donald G. Ogilvie

SUBJECT:

Analytical framework for President's report to Congress on efficient use of broadcast facilities

The Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 1977, will require the President to report to the Congress either by December 31 or January 31 on --

- steps to utilize more effectively current and planned international broadcasting transmission facilities,
- the feasibility of negotiating with other nations the mutual use of their and U.S. facilities, and
- · a comprehensive outline of projected U.S. broadcasting facilities needs based on anticipated language broadcast requirements.

The Senate Foreign Relations and House International Relations Committees clearly have in mind better utilization of Voice of America (VOA) and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL) facilities. The House committee also mentioned the Armed Forces Radio Service and Radio in the American Section of Berlin, although the former only utilizes transmitters for localized American military audiences at several points around the world and the latter is largely supported and operated by the German government with only a small American subsidy.

The required Presidential report will necessitate consideration of two very difficult matters before conclusions can be made about efficient utilization of facilities and projected facilities needs:

- The international political advisability of VOA and RFE/RL sharing each others facilities, including the possible impact on other U.S. international information and exchange activities.
- Current and foreseeable priorities in language broadcasting for both VOA and RFE/RL.

Political impact of sharing. As you know, the U.S. Information Agency strongly opposes RFE/RL utilization of VOA facilities in the belief that it would risk Soviet Bloc counter-measures against USIA information and exchange activities not only in Bloc countries but in other countries where Bloc pressures can be brought to bear. The agency foresees the closing of some information centers, restrictions on periodical and book distribution, if not a return to jamming of VOA broadcasts, and closing of some VOA facilities abroad as possible consequences. At a minimum the agency believes sharing would result in some unnecessary confrontations with certain foreign governments. It was with great reluctance that USIA has agreed to share some unutilized VOA facilities if the RFE facility in Portugal were closed.

The Eisenhower Commission, which in 1973 recommended the creation of the Board for International Broadcasting to oversee and finance RFE/RL, strongly urged that the radios maintain their independence from USIA and the State Department. The Commission rejected merging the radios with VOA or its parent agency, USIA. The issue of sharing of facilities must be decided one way or the other early to provide a basic benchmark for the President's report to the Congress. It is probably important enough to take to the President for resolution.

Language priorities. In the face of the current limitations of VOA and RFE/RL transmission facilities, which cannot be expanded quickly because of budgetary, international political constraints and construction lags, a thorough analysis of current broadcasting schedules and language priorities must be completed before a scheme of efficient utilization of transmitters can be developed. In 1972 USIA undertook a thorough analysis of VOA language priorities and transmission needs. The current validity of that analysis should be tested. RFE/RL are now completing a language priority study. It too must be assessed. And if VOA and RFE/RL are to share facilities, some cross referencing and evaluation of each other's language priorities must be undertaken early this summer.

Once these two basic matters are addressed and policies are established, the utilization of current facilities can be evaluated in terms of the needs for expansion and re-structuring over time.

Recommendation. Although the 1972 USIA language priority report was methodologically impressive, and that agency is probably most competent to undertake the needed new analyses, USIA can not be expected to be disinterested enough to head the interagency effort needed to prepare the President's report. Neither can the very small Board of International Broadcasting.

I suggest that the President assign the task to the Under-Secretaries Committee with representation from State, Defense, USIA, BIB, NSC, and OMB. The assignment -- in the form of a NSSM -- should be made as soon as the law is enacted, since time is short for an adequate report to be prepared by the end of the year.

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#### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

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May 28, 1976

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MEMORANDUM FOR MR. BRENT SCOWCROFT THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty

Contingency Planning

The Board for International Broadcasting and the United States Information Agency have agreed upon a detailed technical and programming contingency plan for the sharing of broadcasting facilities in the event that Radio Free Europe or Radio Liberty transmitting facilities in Portugal or Spain are not permitted to continue functioning by the host government. The attached contingency plan was prepared in response to the National Security Memorandum on the subject of February 7, 1976.

The plan contains two separate schedules:
Schedule "A" is a contingency for the loss of the
Pals transmitter in Spain and shows the planned
utilization of transmitter time at Munich and Woofferton
for programs directed at the Soviet Union. Schedule
"B" is a contingency for the loss of the Gloria
transmitters in Munich, Woofferton and Monrovia
targetted at Eastern Europe.

The specific times and programs in these contingency plans are based on the Spring VOA transmission schedule. Since the VOA schedule changes frequently during the course of the year, minor modifications in the contingency schedules would have to be made, in accordance with the prevailing VOA schedule at the moment of implementation.

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By NARA Date 3/12/12

-SECRET GDS It is important to note that in our several exchanges with the Government of the UK, the British have shown a reluctance to be forthcoming on the question of allowing RFE/RL transmissions from the UK. Our ability to obtain HMG's cooperation will depend on the circumstances and timing of any request.

BIB officials David Abshire and Walter Roberts are currently discussing with officials in Bonn the FRG's position on the use of Munich transmitters. We have not approached the Government of Liberia on the use of the Monrovia transmitter in accordance with the instruction in the February 7 NSC Memorandum.

We are mildly optimistic that our ongoing negotiations with the Portuguese Government will have positive results, and that we will be able to conclude a contract with the Portuguese which will insure the continued use, and possibly expansion of, transmitter facilities in Gloria. With regard to Spain, our current agreement with the Spanish on the transmitters The Spanish have taken no action to close has lapsed. them down. Our negotiations with Madrid are temporarily in abeyance until after the visit to the U.S. June 2 and 3 by the King and Foreign Minister. The Spanish have proposed that another session be held at a date to be determined in June. We hope at that time to convince the Spanish that the existing lease should be extended for a reasonable period of time. We will keep you informed of developments in both the Portuguese and Spanish negotiations.

George S. Springsteen
Executive Secretary

Attachment:

VOA-BIB Contingency Plan

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# 2

### VOA-BIB CONTINGENCY PLAN

(In the event of the denial of use of BIB relay facilities in either Gloria, Portugal (RFE) or Pals, Spain (Radio Liberty).

# Implementation:

This contingency plan will be implemented solely on the order of the President.

USIA Operations Center (632-4976 or 5147) is designated the key element to be notified when the plan is to be implemented.

Implementation is also contingent on prior approval by the British government for the leasing of time on the BBC Woofferton, England transmitters for the relaying of BIB broadcasts, and on the German government's consent to the use of the VOA relay station in Munich, Germany for that purpose.

The required approval of the Liberian government for the relay of BIB broadcasts over the VOA relay station in Monrovia has not been sought in advance, in keeping with the instructions in the February 7, 1976 White House memorandum, and will be sought only when further instructions are received.

# Coordination:

In the event of implementation, BIB or RFE/RL engineering staff will coordinate all facility usage through IBS/E, Washington. Stations will receive all instructions through appropriate elements of IBS/E.

#### Separation:

To insure and maintain distinction between VOA and BIB programs, the additional program transmissions resulting from shared VOA-BIB usage of VOA facilities will be treated as "special programs". Therefore, relay stations will receive operating instructions through appropriate

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elements of IBS/E as normally done for VOA transmissions. No VOA station identification or other VOA identifying announcements will either precede or follow RFE or RL transmissions. BIB will not announce the use of VOA facilities in its programs. BIB will provide, coordinate and clear all frequencies for RFE/RL transmissions. VOA frequencies will not be used.

# Funding:

- 1. BIB will fully reimburse VOA if additional personnel shall be needed at Monrovia and Munich to provide coverage for the increase in operational activity, and to insure that all maintenance is completed according to schedule.
- 2. BIB will also reimburse VOA for additional fuel, tubes, repair parts, and other expenses incidental to increased operations at these two relay stations.
- 3. BIB will pay for the time it will lease on the BBC Woofferton, England transmitters and will separately contract with the BBC for all related services.

#### Required Program Lines and SSB:

BIB will arrange for the leasing of the needed program lines from RFE or RL to the VOA receiving plant in Munich and to BBCs Bush House in London. BIB will also provide Single Side Band feeds from RFE or RL in Munich to the VOA receiving plant in Monrovia.

#### Broadcast Schedules:

The attached Schedule "A" shows the transmitters and times to be used, in Munich and Woofferton, to carry RL programming, in the event of the loss of the Pals, Spain relay facility.

Schedule "B" shows the transmitters and times to be used in Munich, Woofferton and Monrovia, to carry RFE programming, in the event of the loss of the Gloria, Portugal relay facility.

Attachments: Schedules "A" and "B"

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### NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

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June 10, 1976

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MEMORANDUM FOR:

BRENT SCOWCROFT

FROM:

CLINTON E. GRANGER

SUBJECT:

Radio Free Europe Contingency Plan

In response to your memorandum of February 7, 1976, (Tab B) the Board for International Broadcasting (BIB) and the United States Information Agency have developed a joint technical and programming contingency plan for the sharing of broadcasting facilities in the event that Radio Free Europe (RFE) or Radio Liberty (RL) transmitting operations in Portugal or Spain are curtailed by the host government (Tab A).

The plan contains two separate schedules: Schedule "A" is a contingency for the loss of the Pals transmitter in Spain and shows the planned utilization of transmitter time at Munich and Woofferton for programs directed at the Soviet Union. Schedule "B" is a contingency for the loss of the Gloria transmitters in Munich, Woofferton and Monrovia targetted at Eastern Europe.

The covering memorandum from State points out that the British are less than enthusiastic about the possibility of RFE/RL transmissions from the UK. If the British do agree, it will largely depend on the circumstances and timing of the request. The FRG reaction to the proposal was mixed but BIB is confident that approval can be obtained. In accordance with your guidance, no discussions have been held with the Government of Liberia.

#### RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the memorandum at Tab I.

Denis Clift concurs.

Subject to GDS of E.O. 11652. Automatically Downgraded at Two Year Intervals and Declassified on December 31, 1984.

- GDS

**DECLASSIFIED** 

E.O. 1355

(1980) SEC 3.3

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#### THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE SECRETARY OF STATE
THE DIRECTOR, UNITED STATES
INFORMATION AGENCY
THE DIRECTOR, BOARD FOR
INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING

SUBJECT:

Radio Free Europe Contingency Plan

The facility sharing contingency plan developed by the Board for International Broadcasting and the United States Information Agency for use in the event Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty broadcasting operations are curtailed in Portugal or Spain is hereby approved. Implementation of this plan will be solely on the order of the President.

Brent Scowcroft

Subject to GDS of E.O. 11652. Automatically Downgraded at Two Year Intervals and Declassified on December 31, 1984.

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By NARA, Data 3/12/12





# DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

7611046

May 28, 1976

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Subject: Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty

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State Dept Guidelines

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# THE WHITE HOUSE

SECRET

February 7, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE SECRETARY OF STATE
THE DIRECTOR, UNITED STATES
INFORMATION AGENCY
THE DIRECTOR, BOARD FOR
INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING

SUBJECT:

Radio Free Europe Contingency Planning

The Department of State memorandum of November 5, 1975 and the United States Information Agency (USIA) memorandum of November 6, 1975, both titled "Radio Free Europe Contingency Planning," have been reviewed in detail. Both reflect the difficulties inherent in contingency planning, and the divergent views on the protection of United States interest in the field of broadcasting to foreign audiences. However, both also reflect sufficient common interests and compatible technical capability to permit planning for a contingency where, for any reason, use of the Radio Free Europe transmitter at Gloria, Portugal may be denied to the United States for a period in excess of ten days.

To provide for this possibility, the United States Information Service and the Board for International Broadcasting should jointly develop a detailed technical and programming contingency plan which could be put into effect on short notice, and which would provide for continuity of the Radio Free Europe broadcast capability in the event of loss of the transmitters in Portugal. This plan should be forwarded to the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs by April 1, 1976. The fact that such a plan is being developed and the actual plan itself should be closely held.

SECRET (GDS)

Subject to GDS of E.O. 11652 Automatically Downgraded at Two Year Intervals and Declassified on December 31, 1984. E.O. 136293 (15 STATIST)
NSC MARNO, 37287291, State 3/2/12

By Mr. NARA, Date 3/2/12

The planning parameters should include the following:

- -- Implementation of this contingency plan will be solely on the order of the President.
- -- The contingency transmitter sharing arrangement will consider only the use of available unused transmission time of the Voice of America transmitters in Munich, Germany; Woofferton, England; and Monrovia, Liberia.
- -- The facilities sharing plan should, in both planning and implementation, carefully maintain the separate and distinct identities of the Voice of America and Radio Free Europe.
- -- Informal discussion with the United Kingdom and the Federal Republic of Germany may be initiated to assist in those portions of the plan which require the knowledge of those governments. Planning with each government should reflect the sensitivity of the subject, and the need to protect all United States interests that could become involved in either planning or implementation.
- -- Discussions with the Government of Liberia should not be conducted at this time.

Brent Scowcroft

**MEMORANDUM** 

# NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

SECRET GDS

ACTION

June 11, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

BRENT SCOWCROFT

FROM:

CLINTON E. GRANGER

SUBJECT:

Radio Free Europe Contingency Plan

In response to your memorandum of February 7, 1976, (Tab B) the Board for International Broadcasting (BIB) and the United States Information Agency have developed a joint technical and programming contingency plan for the sharing of broadcasting facilities in the event that Radio Free Europe (RFE) or Radio Liberty (RL) transmitting operations in Portugal or Spain are curtailed by the host government (Tab A).

The plan contains two separate schedules: Schedule "A" is a contingency for the loss of the Pals transmitter in Spain and shows the planned utilization of transmitter time at Munich and Woofferton for programs directed at the Soviet Union. Schedule "B" is a contingency for the loss of the Gloria transmitters in Munich, Woofferton and Monrovia targetted at Eastern Europe.

The covering memorandum from State points out that the British are less than enthusiastic about the possibility of RFE/RL transmissions from the UK. If the British do agree, it will largely depend on the circumstances and timing of the request. The FRG reaction to the proposal was mixed but BIB is confident that approval can be obtained. In accordance with your guidance, no discussions have been held with the Government of Liberia.

#### RECOMMENDATION

That you authorize Jeanne Davis to sign the memorandum at Tab I.

Denis Clift concurs.

Subject to GDS of E.O. 11652. Automatically Downgraded at Two

Year Intervals and Declassified on

December 31, 1984.

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E.O. 1383

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#### NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

SECRET GDS

MEMORANDUM FOR:

MR. GEORGE S. SPRINGSTEEN

Executive Secretary Department of State

SUBJECT:

Radio Free Europe Contingency Plan

The facility sharing contingency plan developed by the Board for International Broadcasting and the United States Information Agency for use in the event Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty broadcasting operations are curtailed in Portugal or Spain is hereby approved. Implementation of this plan will be solely on the order of the President.

Jeanne W. Davis Staff Secretary

cc: The Director, United States Information Agency
The Director, Board for International Broadcasting

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E.O. 13634 DEC. SEC 3.3

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By WA NARA, Date 3 12 12

Subject to GDS of E.O. 11652. Automatically Downgraded at Two Year Intervals and Declassified on December 31, 1984.

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#### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

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May 28, 1976

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MEMORANDUM FOR MR. BRENT SCOWCROFT THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty

Contingency Planning

The Board for International Broadcasting and the United States Information Agency have agreed upon a detailed technical and programming contingency plan for the sharing of broadcasting facilities in the event that Radio Free Europe or Radio Liberty transmitting facilities in Portugal or Spain are not permitted to continue functioning by the host government. The attached contingency plan was prepared in response to the National Security Memorandum on the subject of February 7, 1976.

The plan contains two separate schedules:
Schedule "A" is a contingency for the loss of the
Pals transmitter in Spain and shows the planned
utilization of transmitter time at Munich and Woofferton
for programs directed at the Soviet Union. Schedule
"B" is a contingency for the loss of the Gloria
transmitters in Munich, Woofferton and Monrovia
targetted at Eastern Europe.

The specific times and programs in these contingency plans are based on the Spring VOA transmission schedule. Since the VOA schedule changes frequently during the course of the year, minor modifications in the contingency schedules would have to be made, in accordance with the prevailing VOA schedule at the moment of implementation.

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It is important to note that in our several exchanges with the Government of the UK, the British have shown a reluctance to be forthcoming on the question of allowing RFE/RL transmissions from the UK. Our ability to obtain HMG's cooperation will depend on the circumstances and timing of any request.

BIB officials David Abshire and Walter Roberts are currently discussing with officials in Bonn the FRG's position on the use of Munich transmitters. We have not approached the Government of Liberia on the use of the Monrovia transmitter in accordance with the instruction in the February 7 NSC Memorandum.

We are mildly optimistic that our ongoing negotiations with the Portuguese Government will have positive results, and that we will be able to conclude a contract with the Portuguese which will insure the continued use, and possibly expansion of, transmitter facilities in Gloria. With regard to Spain, our current agreement with the Spanish on the transmitters has lapsed. The Spanish have taken no action to close them down. Our negotiations with Madrid are temporarily in abeyance until after the visit to the U.S. June 2 and 3 by the King and Foreign Minister. The Spanish have proposed that another session be held at a date to be determined in June. We hope at that time to convince the Spanish that the existing lease should be extended for a reasonable period of time. We will keep you informed of developments in both the Portuguese and Spanish negotiations.

George S. Springsteen
Executive Secretary

Attachment:

VOA-BIB Contingency Plan

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# VOA-BIB CONTINGENCY PLAN

(In the event of the denial of use of BIB relay facilities in either Gloria, Portugal (RFE) or Pals, Spain (Radio Liberty).

# Implementation:

This contingency plan will be implemented solely on the order of the President.

USIA Operations Center (632-4976 or 5147) is designated the key element to be notified when the plan is to be implemented.

Implementation is also contingent on prior approval by the British government for the leasing of time on the BBC Woofferton, England transmitters for the relaying of BIB broadcasts, and on the German government's consent to the use of the VOA relay station in Munich, Germany for that purpose.

The required approval of the Liberian government for the relay of BIB broadcasts over the VOA relay station in Monrovia has not been sought in advance, in keeping with the instructions in the February 7, 1976 White House memorandum, and will be sought only when further instructions are received.

# Coordination:

In the event of implementation, BIB or RFE/RL engineering staff will coordinate all facility usage through IBS/E, Washington. Stations will receive all instructions through appropriate elements of IBS/E.

### Separation:

To insure and maintain distinction between VOA and BIB programs, the additional program transmissions resulting from shared VOA-BIB usage of VOA facilities will be treated as "special programs". Therefore, relay stations will receive operating instructions through appropriate

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E.O. 13538 (18 800000000) SEC 3.3

By NARA Date 3/12/12

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elements of IBS/E as normally done for VOA transmissions. No VOA station identification or other VOA identifying announcements will either precede or follow RFE or RL transmissions. BIB will not announce the use of VOA facilities in its programs. BIB will provide, coordinate and clear all frequencies for RFE/RL transmissions. VOA frequencies will not be used.

# Funding:

- 1. BIB will fully reimburse VOA if additional personnel shall be needed at Monrovia and Munich to provide coverage for the increase in operational activity, and to insure that all maintenance is completed according to schedule.
- 2. BIB will also reimburse VOA for additional fuel, tubes, repair parts, and other expenses incidental to increased operations at these two relay stations.
- 3. BIB will pay for the time it will lease on the BBC Woofferton, England transmitters and will separately contract with the BBC for all related services.

# Required Program Lines and SSB:

BIB will arrange for the leasing of the needed program lines from RFE or RL to the VOA receiving plant in Munich and to BBCs Bush House in London. BIB will also provide Single Side Band feeds from RFE or RL in Munich to the VOA receiving plant in Monrovia.

# Broadcast Schedules:

The attached Schedule "A" shows the transmitters and times to be used, in Munich and Woofferton, to carry RL programming, in the event of the loss of the Pals, Spain relay facility.

Schedule "B" shows the transmitters and times to be used in Munich, Woofferton and Monrovia, to carry RFE programming, in the event of the loss of the Gloria, Portugal relay facility.

Attachments: Schedules "A" and "B"

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- -- Discussions with the Government of Liberia should not be conducted at this time.

Brent Scowcroft

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E.O. 13525 (An ADDRESS)
NSC Memo, SALANA, SERRE LA
By NARA, Date 3/12/12

SECRET (CDS)

# SECURITY COUNCIL

ACTION

July 9, 1976

3900

MEMORANDUM FOR:

BRENT SCOWCROFT

FROM:

CLINTON E. GRANGER

SUBJECT:

Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty at the Olympics

Bud McFarlane has relayed your request for an information memorandum to the President outlining the Radio's status at the Montreal Olympics. State has provided the paper at Tab A outlining the issue as it currently stands. In summary, the Radios have been accredited by the appropriate bodies, including the Executive Board of the IOC. However, we expect the Soviets to challenge their accreditation at the full IOC meeting on July 12.

The following options have been considered:

Α. Have at least a few of our Embassies attempt to contact IOC members before they travel to Montreal.

Pro: We would explain the role of the Radios and make our position clear before the members are buttonholed by the Soviet IOC representatives in Montreal.

Con: We would run the risk of alienating IOC members, especially in the Third World, who are sensitive to USG pressure. Moreover, many IOC members will already have departed their respective countries for Montreal.

В. Contact the Soviets directly and protest their attempts to exclude the Radios.

Pro: Get right to the heart of the matter and make clear our strong concern.

Con: The Soviets would reject our bringing up as a bilateral matter, and would claim that this is an issue for the IOC to decide.

> Subject to GDS of E.O. 11652. Automatically Declassified December 31, 1982.

C. Maintain close liaison with the U.S. members of the IOC in Montreal. State Department and Radios' representatives, who will be in Montreal, would watch for Soviet attempts to bring the issue up, and attempt to counter them with an information campaign.

Pro: Avoids direct action on our part until a Soviet maneuver becomes clear.

Con: The various IOC members may be physically dispersed and difficult to reach in Montreal. The Soviets would face the same difficulty.

State recommends Option C and has dispatched a cable (Tab B) in implementation thereof. The State cable, which was not cleared with us, erroneously states that a White House statement supporting the Ribicoff resolution was released on July 8 -- we have informed State of this error. We agree that this is the best course at the present, without prejudging our future course of action depending on the outcome of the July 12 vote. Should the vote go against us, we will need to carefully analyze the vote and consult with appropriate U.S. Olympic officials in determining a viable course of action.

# RECOMMENDATION

That you authorize release of State's recommended White House statement at Tab C.

Approve	Disapprove	Other
That you sign the informate provides background and		
Approve	Disapprove	
Depts Clift and Les Janka	concur.	

# CONFIDENTIAL - GDS

#### THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

#### C<del>ONFIDENTIAL</del> - GDS

# INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

BRENT SCOWCROFT

SUBJECT:

Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty at the Olympics

The Radios have covered all the Olympic Games since 1952 except for the February 1976 Innsbruck Winter Games when the Soviets and their allies successfully challenged Radio Free Europe's (RFE) right to accreditation on a technicality. The refusal of credentials stirred a storm of protest in the U.S. In March, the Senate began work on a Sense of the Senate Resolution (Ribicoff), which was passed 74-0 on July 1, deploring the Innsbruck accreditation withdrawal and supporting freedom of the press at the Olympics.

RFE/RL applications for accreditation to the Montreal Games were accepted by the U.S. Olympics Committee and the Canadian Olympic Organizing Committee. In spite of a Soviet public and private campaign to have the Radios' accreditation withdrawn, on July 1 the Executive Board of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) recommended that the accreditation be accepted. However, we have indications that this decision will be challenged by the Soviet IOC representative and brought to a vote before the full (75 members) IOC at its July 12 Montreal meeting. A simple majority of the IOC membership (8 - Soviet Bloc; 40 - U.S., European or Asian allies/European neutrals; 27 - Third World) can overturn an Executive Board decision.

Our options are limited. In discussing the problem with U.S. IOC member Douglas F. Roby, he warned that United States Government involvement in the issue (e.g., having our Embassies approach individual IOC members) would be counterproductive and could open the U.S.G. to charges of having "politicized" the Olympics. Mr. Roby did believe that the Ribicoff Resolution and a White House statement could be very helpful in countering Soviet moves before the full IOC. We are making a press release to this effect.

Subject to GDS of E.O. 11652. Automatically Declassified December 31, 1982.

CONFIDENTIAL - GDS

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Until the Soviet position becomes clear in the July 12 IOC meeting, we will maintain close liaison with the U.S. members of the IOC in Montreal. State Department and Radios' representatives, who will be in Montreal, will watch for Soviet attempts to bring the issue up, and attempt to counter them with an information campaign. This course provides us flexibility to maneuver on behalf of RFE/RL after the July 12 meeting, if this is necessary.

I will continue to monitor this situation closely in the event further action on our part is necessary.



Α



#### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

July 8, 1976

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. BRENT SCOWCROFT THE WHITE HOUSE

In response to Jeanne Davis' request of July 6 for background papers on RFE/RL news accreditation and Republic of China/PRC representation at the 1976 Montreal Olympics, I attach two briefing papers giving background and options for the USG in dealing with the issues.

George S. Springsteen Executive Secretary

Attachments:

As stated

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#### RADIO FREE EUROPE/RADIO LIBERTY AT THE OLYMPICS

# Background

The Radios have covered all the Olympic Games since 1952. At the Innsbruck Winter Games in February 1976, the Soviet Union and its allies successfully challenged Radio Free Europe's right to accreditation on a technicality -- its accreditation documents were not properly signed and stamped by an appropriate national Olympic committee. The refusal of credentials to RFE inspired a storm of protest in the US. On February 13, Secretary Kissinger sent a message to Julian Roosevelt, one of the US members of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), terming the accreditation withdrawal as "totally unwarranted" and a "capitulation to blatant communist efforts to make Olympic activities serve their political purposes." In March, the U.S. Senate began work on a Sense of the Senate Resolution deploring the Innsbruck accreditation withdrawal and supporting freedom of the press at the Olympics. That Resolution (Ribicoff) passed 74-0 on July 1 and is being transmitted to the US Olympic Committee.

Mindful of the Innsbruck experience, RFE/RL scrupulously filed their applications for accreditation to the Montreal Games in full accord with Olympic regulations. Those applications were accepted by the US Olympic Committee and the Canadian Olympic Organizing Committee. The Soviets nevertheless mounted a new public and private campaign to have the Radios' accreditation withdrawn. Moscow lost an important round, however, when the Executive Board of the International Olympic Committee on July 1 recommended that the accreditation be accepted.

#### The IOC Decision Process

IOC press accreditation regulations and parliamentary procedures are vague. The July 1 IOC Executive Board decision on the Radios' accreditation

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By Mr. NARA, Date 3 12 12

can be challenged by the Soviet IOC representative and brought to a vote before the full (75 member) IOC when it meets in Montreal July 12. A simple majority can overturn an Executive Board decision. The IOC membership breaks down roughly as follows: 8-Soviet bloc; 40-U.S. European or Asian allies/European neutrals; 27-Third World.

### US Options

Our options are limited. We discussed the problem of countering a Soviet move with US IOC member Douglas F. Roby. Roby is sympathetic and has written directly to the IOC President Killanin supporting the RFE/RL accreditation. Roby promised to contact a few IOC members to sound them out on the issue. As far as we are aware, however, he has not done so.

Roby warned that USG involvement in the issue (i.e., having our Embassies approach individual IOC members) would be counterproductive and could open the USG to charges of having "politicized" the Olympics. He did believe that the Ribicoff Resolution and a White House statement in support of freedom of the press at the Olympics (which we understand was to be released July 7) could be very helpful to the attempts of the US and/or other Western Olympic Committees to ward off any Soviet efforts before the full IOC in Montreal.

We cannot predict what the outcome of a full IOC vote might be. Our experience in Innsbruck leads us to believe that the US and friendly IOC members may not be willing to stand up firmly to any Soviet pressure. On the other hand, the full IOC would presumably be reluctant to reverse an Executive Board decision.

We are left with the following options:

A. Have at least a few of our Embassies attempt to contact IOC members before they travel to Montreal.

CONFIDENTIAL

Pro: We would explain the role of the Radios and make our position clear before the members are buttonholed by the Soviet IOC representatives in Montreal.

Con: We would run the risk of alienating IOC members, especially in the Third World, who are sensitive to USG pressure. Moreover, many IOC members will already have departed their respective countries for Montreal.

B. Contact the Soviets directly and protest their attempts to exclude the Radios.

Pro: Get right to the heart of the matter and make clear our strong concern.

Con: The Soviets would reject our bringing up as a bilateral matter, and would claim that this is an issue for the IOC to decide.

C. Maintain close liaison with the US members of the IOC in Montreal. State Department and Radios' representatives, who will be in Montreal, would watch for Soviet attempts to bring the issue up, and attempt to counter them with an information campaign.

Pro: Avoids direct action on our part until a Soviet maneuver becomes clear.

Con: The various IOC members may be physically dispersed and difficult to reach in Montreal. The Soviets would face the same difficulty.

#### Recommendation:

The Department shares the view of RFE/RL officials who believe that a White House Statement responding to the Senate Resolution, combined with an informational campaign in Montreal (Option C), is our best course of action.

CONFIDENTIAL



# Department of State

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.O. 11652: GDS

AGS: PFOR, SOPN, UR

UBJECT: SOVIET LOBBYING IN MONTREAL AGAINST RFE/RL LYMPIC ACCREDITATION

AS POSTS ARE AWARE, SOVIETS ARE ATTEMPTING TO UPLICATE AT MONTREAL THEIR SUCCESSFUL CAMPAIGN AT INNSBRUCK DIMAYE RADID FACE EUROPEZRADIO LIPERTY ACCREDITATION FOR AMES NITHDRAWN. SOVIETS WILL HAVE UPHILL FIGHT, SINCE ADIDS THIS TIME SCRUPULOUSLY ABIOED BY PRESS CREDENTIALS ULES, AND THETE ADDREDITATION APPLICATIONS HAVE BEEN COLPTED BY US OLYMPIC COMMITTEE AND CANADIAN OLYMPIC RGANIZING COMMITTEE. THE ICC EXECUTIVE BOARD DECIDED ON ULY 1 TO APPROVE REEZRL ACCREDITATION. WE UNDERSTAND THAT

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E.O. 13626 (as amended) SEC 3.3
State Dept Guidelines
NARA, Date 3/12/12

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# Department of State

TELEGRAM

# CONFILENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 169644

ONLY OPTION AVAILABLE TO SOVIETS IN MONTREAL WOULD BE TO CHALLENGE ACCREDITATION BEFORE FULL IOC DURING THAT BODY'S MEETING JULY 13-15.

2. DEPARTMENT HAS LEARNED THAT LARGE SOVIET CONTINGENT INCLUDING SOME FROM SOVIET EMBASSY WASHINGTON AND DIHERS FROM MOSCOW ARE GOING TO MONTREAL (PRIMARILY TO EXAMINE SITUATION WITH EYE TO 1989). THIS COULD LEAD TO SOVIET DIPLOMATS AND OLYMPIC OFFICIALS ACTIVELY CAMPAIGNING WITH IOC REPRESENTATIVES FROM OTHER COUNTRIES (CONCENTRATING ON

THIRD WORLD MENEERS) TO PERSUADE THEM TO VOTE AGAINST ACCREDITATION.

- 3. WE SHOULD BE PREPARED TO COUNTER A SOVIET CAMPAIGN IN MONTREAL. REE/RL PERSONNEL AND STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICER ROBERT JONES WHO WILL BE IN MONTREAL JULY 12 HAVE ALREADY ARRANGED TO MAINTAIN LIAISON WITH USOC AND IOC MEMBERS. AND WILL DISCUSS ROLE OF RADIOS. THEY WILL ALSO DRAW ATTENTION TO SENATE RESOLUTION ON FREEDOM OF THE PRESS AT THE OLYMPICS (PASSED 74-0 ON JULY 1) AND THE WHITE HOUSE STATEMENT (RELEASED JULY 8) SUPPORTING THAT RESOLUTION
- 4. IF LARGE SOVIET CONTINGENT IN MONTREAL UNDERTAKES MAJOR LOBBYING EFFORT ON REEZRL ISSUE, USG WILL HAVE TO ORGANIZE RESPONSE, DRAWING ON EMBASSY/CONGEN TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE. AT THIS TIME, YOU SHOULD, AS FEASIBLE, MONITOR THE SITUATION AND CABLE THE CEPARTMENT IMMEDIATELY WITH ANY NEWS ON THE ISSUE OF THE RADIOS! ACCREDITATION, WHICH WE WILL PASS ON TO REEZPL IN HASHINGTON AND NEW YORK. THE DEPARTMENT WILL ADVISE IF ANY FURTHER STEPS BECOME NECESSARY YOU SHOULD NOT AT THIS TIME ATTEMPT TO CONTACT ANY NOTHER DLYMPIC COMMITTEE MEMBERS, ALTHOUGH YOU MAY SMARE THIS IMPO WITH CANADIAN MEA.

KISSINGER



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D. C. 20020

Special Assistant to the Secretary

6/29/76

WH - General Scowcroft

Attached is draft text of White House statement which might be issued after Ribicoff sense of the senate resolution is passed on RFE/RL accreditation at Montreal.

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#### WHITE HOUSE STATEMENT

The President is in full agreement with the Senate resolution which expresses the sense of the Senate in support of freedom of the press at the Olympic games. In this regard, he is pleased that representatives of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty have been duly accredited, as is their right as legitimate news agencies, to cover the Olympic games. The American people regard the Olympics, past, present and future, as a marvelous sports drama which belongs to all people of the world. We believe that the freedom of all peoples to hear this drama, The Almerican people unfold should not be curtailed. and the President/would take a most serious view of any attempt to introduce political issues into the Olympics which would interfere with normal coverage of the games by these radios or other duly accredited media,

