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*gch*

BROUGHT FORWARD

EXECUTIVE

*1T9*

Previously filed

*8-23-74*

Date

Name

*Abbott Washburn*

Organization

*FCC*

New File Symbol

*same*

Date

*10-8-74*

Final Action

*ltr to above*

*from Mr Marsh*



OCT 5 1974

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

EXECUTIVE

COI (Baltic)

FI4

IT9

CO10

FC6-11-1/Marrs, Theodore

October 1, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE MAILROOM

FROM: DR. THEODORE C. MARRS

SUBJECT: Letters from The Joint Baltic American Committee<sup>X</sup>

HANDLE AS PRESIDENTIAL

The attached letters are forwarded for appropriate handling. Delivery to me was made today during a meeting with this group.

Attachments (3)

*Theodore C. Marrs*



*John B. Genys*  
Dr. John Genys, Chairman  
Joint Baltic American Committee

*Guntars Meierovics*  
Mr. Guntars Meierovics  
Latvian Association of the US

*K. Leesment*  
Mr. Helkki Leesment  
Estonian American Council, Inc.

*Edward Sumanas*  
Mr. Edward Sumanas  
Public Relations Director

RECEIVED  
OCT 7 1974  
CENTRAL FILES

October 8, 1974

IT9  
FG118

Dear Abbott:

Please accept my apologies for this belated reply to your August 7 letter.

I appreciate your concern regarding the necessity for continuation of the work being done by Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty. You were kind to send me the Eisenhower Commission Report. It is a persuasive, well-written document, which makes eminent good sense.

Many thanks for sharing your concern and thoughts with me.

Sincerely,

John O. Marsh, Jr.  
Counsellor to the President

The Honorable Abbott Washburn  
Commissioner  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554

JD:cmp



RECEIVED  
OCT 9 1974  
CENTRAL FILES



**NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL**

10/7/74

MEMORANDUM FOR JEANNE DAVIS

The attached memo for your signature to John Marsh would forward a proposed letter for his signature to Mr. Washburn.



A. Denis Clift



RECEIVED  
OCT 15 1974  
CENTRAL FILES


MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

4496

October 7, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR JOHN O. MARSH

FROM: Jeanne W. Davis   
SUBJECT: Reply to Abbott Washburn

On August 7, Mr. Abbott Washburn, a member of the Federal Communications Commission, sent you a letter concerning Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty.

Please find at Tab A a proposed reply for your signature to Mr. Washburn.





PROPOSED REPLY

Dear Abbott:

Please accept my apologies for this belated reply to your August 7 letter.

I appreciate your concern regarding the necessity for continuation of the work being done by Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty. You were kind to send me the Eisenhower Commission Report. It is a persuasive, well-written document, which makes eminent good sense.

Many thanks for sharing your concern and thoughts with me.

Sincerely,

John O. Marsh

Mr. Abbott Washburn  
Commissioner  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20554



4496  
7417276

## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

UNCLASSIFIED

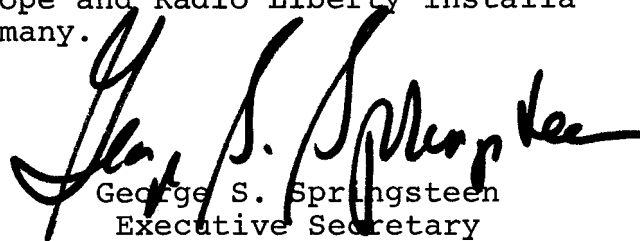
September 30, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR LIEUTENANT GENERAL BRENT SCOWCROFT  
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty

Attached is a draft reply from John O. Marsh, Assistant to the Vice President for Defense Affairs, to a letter from Abbott Washburn of the Federal Communications Commission, dated August 7, 1974 concerning Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty.

In his reply, Mr. Marsh praises the Eisenhower Commission report and responds positively to Mr. Washburn's suggestion that Mr. Marsh plan to visit Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty installations in Munich, Germany.



George S. Springsteen  
Executive Secretary

## Attachments:

1. Draft reply.
2. Incoming correspondence.
3. Eisenhower Commission Report.

UNCLASSIFIED

D R A F T

Mr. Abbott Washburn  
Commissioner  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20554

Dear Abbott:

It was good to see you at the Motion Picture Association on August 6 and to receive your August 7 letter about the necessity for continuation of the work being done by Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty. You were kind to send me the Eisenhower Commission Report. It is really a very persuasive and well written document, which makes eminent good sense as does your suggestion that I visit RFE and RL when next in Europe.

Many thanks for sharing your concern and thoughts with me.

Sincerely,

John O. Marsh



NSC/S:

Mr. Gates said to  
change the action on  
3688 from Elliott to  
Clift re: Radio Free  
Europe.

Chris

9/10

741 7276



THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

REFERRAL

To: State Secretariat  
Department of State

Date: September 9, 1974

ACTION REQUESTED

- XXX Draft reply for:
- \_\_\_\_\_ President's signature.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Undersigned's signature.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Memorandum for use as enclosure to reply.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Direct reply.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Furnish information copy.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Suitable acknowledgment or other appropriate handling.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Furnish copy of reply, if any.
- \_\_\_\_\_ For your information.
- \_\_\_\_\_ For comment.

NOTE

*Prompt action is essential.*

If more than 72 hours' delay is encountered, please telephone the undersigned immediately, Code 1450.

Basic correspondence should be returned when draft reply, memorandum, or comment is requested.

REMARKS:

Suspense date of September 20, 1974. Thank you.

Description:

XXX Letter: \_\_\_\_\_ Telegram: \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

To: Mr. John O. Marsh

From: Abbott Washburn

Date: August 7, 1974

Subject: Commissioner Washburn writes advocating continuation of Radio Free Europe.



By direction of the President:

*Pat L. Sudrick*

for Jeanne W. Davis  
National Security Council

EXECUTIVE

IT 9

EG 118

Radio Liberty

August 23, 1974

**MEMORANDUM FOR**

**Jeanne Davis  
Staff Assistant  
National Security Council**

**Mr. Marsh would like to have any comments  
NSC may have on the attached.**

**Howard "J" Kerr  
Commander, USN**



**Atch: Ltr, Federal Communications Commission, Abbott Washburn,  
August 7, 1974**

**HJK/ncc**

**RECEIVED**

**AUG 24 1974**

**CENTRAL**

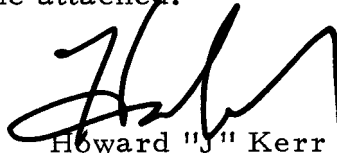
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

August 23, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR

Jeanne Davis  
Staff Assistant  
National Security Council

Mr. Marsh would like to have any comments  
NSC may have on the attached.

  
Howard "J" Kerr  
Commander, USN





# The Right to Know

REPORT OF THE  
PRESIDENTIAL STUDY COMMISSION  
ON  
INTERNATIONAL RADIO BROADCASTING

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

August 7, 1974

IN REPLY REFER TO:

The Honorable John O. Marsh  
Assistant to the Vice President  
for Defense Affairs  
Room 294, Old Executive Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20501

Dear Jack:

It was good to see you last evening at the Motion Picture Association.

Per our conversation at dinner, detente has brought no liberalization in the communist regimes' rigid control of information reaching their peoples. Indeed, the contrary has been the case. Radio Free Europe (for the five Eastern European satellite countries) and Radio Liberty (for the USSR), therefore, are serving as "substitute free presses." They are on the air all day long, sending in news and commentary -- the largest portion of which is devoted to what is going on in the listeners' own country and in the rest of Eastern Europe.

Until such time as there are policy changes toward a free-flow-of-information, Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty will be needed. In the Milton Eisenhower Commission Report, enclosed, this is estimated to be at least for another decade.

The Voice of America can't do this job. Its primary task is to convey official U.S. foreign policy positions and to depict America, its culture and people.

David Abshire is doing an outstanding job as Chairman, Board for International Broadcasting. This Board was established by Congress last October to serve as the oversight body for RFE and RL.

Since coming over here to the FCC, I have had to get off the Board for International Broadcasting. I much regret this but the statute makes it impossible to serve on both.

The headquarters of the two Radios are in Munich. Their staffs are highly professional. Next time you are in Europe you might want to

*Get this staffed if need be for response*

*= ?? when?*



- 2 -

consider scheduling a visit to take a look at these important facilities.

All best regards,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Abbott Washburn', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Abbott Washburn  
Commissioner

Enclosure

## PRESIDENTIAL STUDY COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL RADIO BROADCASTING

Milton S. Eisenhower, Chairman • Edward W. Barrett, Director, Communications Institute, Academy for Educational Development • John A. Gronouski, Dean, Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, University of Texas • Edmund A. Gullion, Dean, Fletcher School, Tufts University • John P. Roche, Professor of Politics, Brandeis University • Ben Posner, Executive Director

c/o Department of State • Room 5517 • Washington, D.C. •  
20520 • (202) 632-0532

FEBRUARY 5, 1973

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

The Presidential Study Commission on International Radio Broadcasting which you established on August 9, 1972, submits herewith its report.

The five members of the Commission state at the outset that they share a commitment to the principle of freedom of information.

"Let facts be submitted to a candid world," wrote Thomas Jefferson and his colleagues in the Declaration of Independence. It is in that spirit that all the members of this Commission have in the past supported various American programs designed to present facts and interpretations, not propaganda, to the citizens of nations within the Soviet bloc. The question we asked ourselves is: Are such instruments of information as Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty *still* worthy of our support? Is it *still* in the American national interest to broadcast directly into the Soviet Union and the five Eastern European nations under Soviet hegemony? Or are these radio stations relics of a by-gone age, Cold War monuments surviving in an era of detente?

We have attempted to answer these questions objectively. Our commitment to peaceful relations with the Soviet bloc is just as strong as our view on freedom of information. Since none of us has had any

*The President  
of the United States*

(III)





IV

operating, or any other sort of connection with either Radio Free Europe or Radio Liberty, we conducted our inquiry in an atmosphere of dispassionate skepticism. The fact that we are all on record against *summary* and *unreasoned* termination of these radio stations provided, if anything, a spur to our endeavors. We are satisfied that we have asked the right questions; we hope that you will find our answers useful in the formulation of your own views on "the relationship of the radios to the national interest and to this nation's foreign policy objectives."

You also asked us, if continuation of the radios is deemed to be desirable, to suggest how the stations should be operated and funded in the future. Obviously, the critical problem is how can Federal financial support be granted to private corporations in such a way as not to impair their professional independence, credibility, and effectiveness, while retaining assurance that the broadcasts will not jeopardize the objectives of United States foreign policy.

We have obtained, as you suggested, the views of some 30 members of the United States Senate and House of Representatives who have been most active in considering this important question. We have studied all of the relevant Senate and House hearings, the reports of the Research Branch of the Library of Congress, and the report of the General Accounting Office, which, collectively, deal with every aspect of the problem you assigned to us. We have conferred with the top leaders, headquartered in New York, of Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty, and held conferences with State Department officials as well as with interested private individuals who gave us their suggestions on whether—and how—the stations should be continued.

We have studied the hour-by-hour operations of Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty. For this purpose we went to Munich, Germany, site of the studios, where we went as deeply and thoroughly as we could into the research, news gathering, monitoring, broadcasting, and related operations. We interviewed recent emigres from the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe in an effort to satisfy ourselves of the validity of testimony previously presented to the Congress on the effectiveness of the broadcasts.

Finally, we conferred at length with those who write and voice the broadcasts in order to satisfy ourselves of their attitudes, notably their restraint from harmful polemics, from temptations to attack in-



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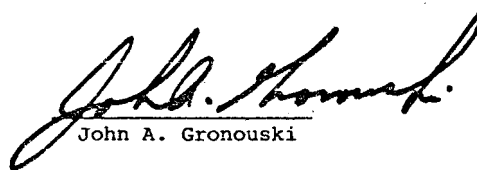
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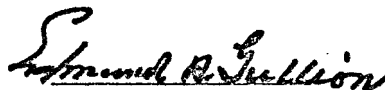
dividuals or governmental actions in the receiving countries. In our discussions with all of the foregoing individuals, we emphasized the absolute necessity for truth and objectivity.

We have arrived at unanimous judgments on the cardinal points in this important foreign policy assignment. We are submitting our report earlier than the February 28, 1973, deadline you suggested, for present financing of the stations will expire on June 30, 1973, and if the enterprise is to be continued we assume you will wish to submit your financial and policy recommendations to the Congress as early as possible in the present session.

Respectfully yours,

  
Edward Ware Barrett

  
John A. Gronouski

  
Edmund A. Gullion

  
John P. Roche

  
Milton S. Eisenhower, Chairman



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| DAVIS     | ST EX SEC          |       | S      | CODEWORD        |
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SUBJECT: *Letter to J. Hirsch from H. Raskin re  
Robin Free Europe & Radio Liberty*

## INTERNAL ROUTING AND DISTRIBUTION

| ADVANCE CYS TO HAK/SCOWCROFT     | ACTION | INFO | REC<br>CY<br>FOR | ACTION REQUIRED                                   |
|----------------------------------|--------|------|------------------|---|
| STAFF SECRETARY                  |        |      |                  | MEMO FOR HAK .....(.....)                         |
| FAR EAST                         |        |      |                  | MEMO FOR PRES .....(.....)                        |
| SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA               |        |      |                  | REPLY FOR .....(.....)                            |
| MID EAST / NO. AFRICA / SO. ASIA |        |      |                  | APPROPRIATE ACTION .....(.....)                   |
| EUROPE / CANADA                  | X      |      | X                | MEMO..... TO.....(.....)                          |
| LATIN AMERICA                    |        |      |                  | RECOMMENDATIONS .....(.....)                      |
| UNITED NATIONS                   |        |      |                  | JOINT MEMO.....(.....)                            |
| ECONOMIC                         |        |      |                  | REFER TO..... FOR:.....(.....)                    |
| SCIENTIFIC                       |        |      |                  | ANY ACTION NECESSARY.....(.....)                  |
| PROGRAM ANALYSIS                 |        |      |                  | CONCURRENCE. <i>to must</i> .....(.....)          |
| NSC PLANNING                     |        |      |                  | DUE DATE: <i>10-8</i>                             |
| CONGRESSIONAL                    |        |      |                  | <u>COMMENTS:</u> (INCLUDING SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS) |
| OCEANS POLICY                    |        |      |                  | <i>Indel: Bu</i>                                  |
| INTELLIGENCE                     |        |      |                  |   |

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| DISPATCH _____                     | MICROFILM & FILE RQMTS:<br><br>CART ID: _____<br>OPEN _____<br>CLOSE _____ | SA | SF |
| CY RQMTS: SEE ABOVE PLUS: _____    |  | HP | NS |
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| SPECIAL DISPOSITION: _____         |  | PA | DY |
| CROSS REF W/ _____                 |  |    |    |
| SUSPENSE CY ATTACHED: _____        |  |    |    |

## NSC CORRESPONDENCE PROFILE

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|---|-----------------|---|-------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| SOURCE/CLASS/DESCRIPTION  | TO: PRES _____  | FROM: <i>Ken, H. G.</i> KISSINGER, H. _____ | S/S _____   | REFERENCE: _____ | CIRCLE AS APPROPRIATE |
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|   | SCOWCROFT _____ | SCHLESINGER, J _____                        | _____       | C _____          | NO FORN NODIS         |
|   | DAVIS _____     | ST EX SEC _____                             | _____       | S _____          | EYES ONLY EXDIS       |
|   | _____           | _____                                       | _____       | TS _____         | CODEWORD SENSITIVE    |
| SUBJECT: <i>Reb ltr to John O. Mark from Abbott Washburn</i><br><i>Federal Communications Com re Soviet detente --</i><br><i>Communications</i> |                 |   |             |                  |                       |

|  |                                   |                   |                   |                  |                 |
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|  | ADVANCE CYS TO HAK/SCOWCROFT      |                   |                   |                  |                 |
|  | STAFF SECRETARY                   |                   | <i>[initials]</i> |                  |                 |
|  | FAR EAST                          |                   |                   |                  |                 |
|  | SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA                |                   |                   |                  |                 |
|  | MID EAST / NO. AFRICA / SO. ASIA  |                   |                   |                  |                 |
|  | EUROPE / CANADA                   | <i>X</i>          | <i>[initials]</i> |                  |                 |
|  | LATIN AMERICA                     |                   |                   |                  |                 |
|  | UNITED NATIONS                    |                   |                   |                  |                 |
|  | ECONOMIC                          |                   |                   |                  |                 |
|  | SCIENTIFIC                        | <i>[initials]</i> |                   |                  |                 |
|  | PROGRAM ANALYSIS                  |                   |                   |                  |                 |
|  | NSC PLANNING                      |                   |                   |                  |                 |
|  | CONGRESSIONAL                     |                   |                   |                  |                 |
| OCEANS POLICY                              |                                   |                   |                   |                  |                 |
| INTELLIGENCE                               |                                   |                   |                   |                  |                 |
| MEMO FOR HAK _____                         |                                   |                   |                   |                  |                 |
| MEMO FOR PRES _____                        |                                   |                   |                   |                  |                 |
| REPLY FOR _____                            |                                   |                   |                   |                  |                 |
| APPROPRIATE ACTION _____                   |                                   |                   |                   |                  |                 |
| MEMO _____ TO _____                        |                                   |                   |                   |                  |                 |
| RECOMMENDATIONS <i>to Ken/Mark *</i>       |                                   |                   |                   |                  |                 |
| JOINT MEMO _____                           |                                   |                   |                   |                  |                 |
| REFER TO _____ FOR: _____                  |                                   |                   |                   |                  |                 |
| ANY ACTION NECESSARY? _____                |                                   |                   |                   |                  |                 |
| CONCURRENCE _____                          |                                   |                   |                   |                  |                 |
| DUE DATE: <i>9-2</i>                       |                                   |                   |                   |                  |                 |
| COMMENTS: (INCLUDING SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS) |                                   |                   |                   |                  |                 |

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| SUBSEQUENT ROUTING/ACTIONS | DATE   | FROM              | TO    | S                        | SUBSEQUENT ACTION REQUIRED (OR TAKEN): | CY TO |
|                            | 9-9-74 |                   | NSC/S |                          | Send to State for preparation          |       |
|                            | 9/9    |                   | STATE | D                        | of proposed draft reply. A later.      |       |
|                            | 9/10   | <i>[initials]</i> | NSC/S |                          | Draft Reply (9/20)                     |       |
|                            | 11/4   |                   |       |                          | Transp to Elliaht                      |       |
|                            | 11/4   |                   |       |                          | Duplicate Action Report                |       |
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DATE 2 Draft (12/2)

Applicant's signature  
12/2/74

12/2/74

6

MEMORANDUM OF INFORMATION FOR THE FILE

EXECUTIVE

DATE 10/21/74

CO 158

PR 7-1

IT 9

SC

~~LETTER, MEMO, ETC.~~

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

TO: THE PRESIDENT

FROM: HENRY KISSINGER

SUBJECT: Meeting with Vladimir A. <sup>x</sup>Kirillin,  
Deputy Premier of the USSR and  
Chairman of the State Committee for  
Science & Technology



SPECIAL FILES

CORRESPONDENCE FILED CENTRAL FILES -- CONFIDENTIAL FILE

EXECUTIVE

FG 352

1 T 9

October 31, 1974

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This is to acknowledge and to thank you on behalf of the President for your letter of October 30 submitting the first Annual Report of the Board for International Broadcasting, as required in Public Law 93-129.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely,

Roland L. Elliott  
Special Assistant  
to the President



The Honorable David M. Abshire  
Chairman  
Board for International Broadcasting  
Suite 430  
1030 Fifteenth Street, NW.  
Washington, D. C. 20005

JJR:cmf

(One copy of report received. Sent to Warren Hendriks, Domestic Council.)



*gah*

EXECUTIVE  
*FI 4/FG 352*  
*FG 352*  
*IT. 9*

6192

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

December 24, 1974

Dear Dave:

Thank you for your December 16 letter concerning the Board's FY 76 budget request for Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty. In the meantime I have learned that the \$3.0 million capital investment request has been restored to your budget. I hope that this good news will permit you to proceed as planned with the transmitter improvements for both radio stations.

Best wishes for the Holiday Season.

Sincerely,

*Brent*

Brent Scowcroft  
Lieutenant General, USAF  
Deputy Assistant to the President  
for National Security Affairs

*x*  
Dr. David M. Abshire  
Chairman  
Board for International Broadcasting  
1030 Fifteenth Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dispatched 12/26/74 (adc)

RECEIVED  
DEC 30 1974  
CENTRAL FILES

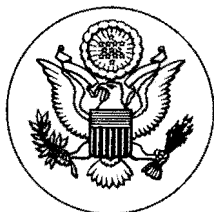
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EXECUTIVE

17 9

FG 352

(3)



BOARD FOR INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING

United States of America

Suite 430

1030 Fifteenth Street, N.W.

Washington, DC 20005

202/254-8040

FG 6-11-1/Marra, Ted

December 31, 1974

Honorable William J. Baroody, Jr.  
Assistant to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Bill:

This note is to express my deep appreciation for the assistance rendered recently by Ted Marrs at the time of our Board's appeal of an earlier OMB ruling with regard to a modernization request for Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty. It was truly essential that we move forward this year on a very limited modernization program -- one that has very strong Congressional support -- and I know that it was Ted's persuasive action with OMB that led to a reversal of its ruling.

I did want you and Ted to know how much we appreciated this action, which we all feel is so strongly in the national interest.

With warm regards,

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Dave", written over a horizontal line.

David M. Abshire  
Chairman



RECEIVED  
JAN 2 1975  
CENTRAL FILES

"WJB Has seen"

IT9

February 13, 1975

Dear Mr. Benton:

Enclosed is the transcript of the session you attended on January 29, 1975, in our Executive Briefing Room. I hope the session -- and this transcript -- prove useful to you in understanding the problems our Nation faces and the ways the President has proposed to deal with them.

I have also enclosed the President's fiscal 1976 budget message, which states quite succinctly and graphically the President's fiscal plans for the coming year.

If you have questions or if we can be of further assistance please feel free to write or call (202-456-6623).

With every good wish.

Sincerely,

Gerald L. Warren  
Deputy Press Secretary  
to the President



Mr. Monroe Benton  
Chief, Special Events  
Radio Free Europe  
Two Park Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

Enclosures: RTNDA transcript  
Budget Message

GLW:bmr

EXECUTIVE

KG 230

IT9

February 13, 1975

Dear Bob:

Thank you for your February 8 letter to the President expressing your opposition to certain recommendations of the Stanton Commission with respect to the United States Information Agency, Voice of America and Radio Free Europe.

You may be assured your views will be called to the President's attention at the earliest opportunity. In addition, they will be shared with the appropriate Presidential advisers. I know that your comments will be appreciated and will receive full consideration.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

*Vern*

Vernon C. Loen  
Deputy Assistant  
to the President



The Honorable Bob Wilson  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

cc: w/incoming to General Scowcroft for your consideration.  
cc: w/incoming to Bob Bonitati, OMB, for your information.

VCL:EF:VO:vo

6/16/75

MEMORANDUM OF INFORMATION FOR THE FILE

DATE 6/16/75

4

EXECUTIVE

IT 104

FG 352

IT 9

LETTER, MEMO, ETC.

TO:

David M. Gresham

FROM:

Gen. Scowcroft

SUBJECT:

Radio jamming issue in context  
of the Conference on Security and  
Cooperation in Europe



CORRESPONDENCE FILED CENTRAL FILES - CONFIDENTIAL FILE

B/B

①

MEMORANDUM OF INFORMATION FOR THE FILE

DATE

7/24/75

EXECUTIVE

IT9

CO122

LETTER, MEMO, ETC.

TO:

Sec. Kissinger

FROM:

Col. Granger

SUBJECT:

Radio Free Europe Contingency  
Plan



CORRESPONDENCE FILED CENTRAL FILES - CONFIDENTIAL FILE



BH  
MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

ACTION

July 24, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: SECRETARY KISSINGER

FROM: COLONEL GRANGER *col*

SUBJECT: Radio Free Europe Contingency Plan

*OBE.  
Should not have  
gone to HAK  
anyway*

At your direction, a working group has been formed comprised of representatives of the Department of State, USIA, the Board for International Broadcasting and Radio Free Europe (Tab A). This group is about to meet for the second time on Monday, July 28, at which time VOA and RFE are expected to present papers relating to the technical feasibility of VOA facilities acting as contingency backup for the loss of the RFE facility at Gloria, Portugal.

We have learned informally at the staff level that VOA representatives have been instructed by Mr. Keogh, Director USIA, to refrain from any discussion involving RFE use of VOA facilities in the event the Gloria facility is lost.

Contingency planning for the loss of the Gloria facility will be foreclosed from the outset if VOA refuses to even discuss the issue. I believe it would be useful if you would ensure that Mr. Keogh understands your desire that this issue be fully examined, including all aspects of RFE use of VOA facilities in a contingency situation. At the same time to press on Mr. Keogh now would compromise our source of information - on Mr. Keogh's staff, and would complicate our ability to negotiate the issues. However, if the VOA representatives hold with their obstructionist tactics, we will never get a contingency plan developed.

I would suggest that you communicate your concern over this possibility to State, to ensure that USIS conforms to the spirit and letter of the Secretary's directive of July 7, while not specifically admitting that the NSC staff is aware of the directions which Mr. Keogh has given to his staff.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_

Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

RECEIVED  
AUG 13 1975  
FILES



As an alternative, we can let the Monday meeting develop, and if VOA refuses to cooperate I can communicate concern to Mr. Keogh in the absence of you and the Secretary

Approve \_\_\_\_\_

Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_



5401.  
Granger

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

~~SECRET~~ - GDS

July 7, 1975

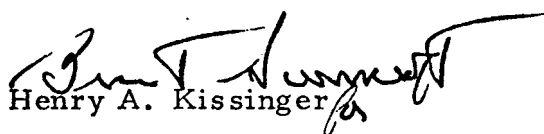
MEMORANDUM FOR:

The Deputy Secretary of State  
The Director, United States Information Agency  
The Director, Board for International Broadcasting

SUBJECT: Radio Free Europe Contingency Planning

The political situation in Portugal raises the possibility that Radio Free Europe (RFE) may at some point be denied the use of its Gloria transmission station. RFE broadcasts from Gloria to Eastern Europe are known to have an extensive and loyal listening audience and, as a result, make a valuable contribution to the successful execution of U.S. foreign policy. It is in the U.S. interest to insure continuation of RFE broadcasts should events result in termination of operations at Gloria. It is essential, therefore, to examine alternatives to the use of the Gloria facilities. A satisfactory contingency alternative, both in terms of technical quality and interagency relationships, can only be developed with the full cooperation of all interested parties.

It is requested that a working group comprising representatives from the Board for International Broadcasting, RFE, USIA, VOA and the Department of State convene as soon as possible to explore all possible options, excluding that of using the VOA facility at Greenville, North Carolina, for developing an acceptable contingency arrangement to be used in the event the RFE facility at Gloria is denied. This working group will be chaired by the representative of the Department of State. The findings and recommendations of the working group should be forwarded to the Assistant to the President for **National Security** Affairs no later than July 25, 1975.

  
Henry A. Kissinger

cc: The Director, Voice of America  
Deputy Assistant Secretary of State,  
Bureau of European Affairs

~~SECRET~~ - GDS

DAO, 2/15/85



## NSC CORRESPONDENCE PROFILE

| DOC |    | RECD |    | LOG NBR |         | INITIAL ACTION |
|-----|----|------|----|---------|---------|----------------|
| MO  | DA | MO   | DA | HR      |         |                |
| 7   | 34 | 7    | 30 | 12      | 1505079 |                |

|   |                 |                           |              |                       |
|---|-----------------|---------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| SOURCE/CLASS/DESCRIPTION                                      | TO: PRES _____  | FROM: KISSINGER, J. _____ | S/S _____    | CIRCLE AS APPROPRIATE |
|   | KISSINGER _____ | COLBY, W. _____           | OTHER _____  | UNCLAS LOG IN/OUT     |
|   | SCOWCROFT _____ | SCHLESINGER, J. _____     |              | LOU NO FORN NODIS     |
|   | DAVIS _____     | ST EX SEC _____           |              | C EYES ONLY EXDIS     |
|   |                 |                           |              | S CODEWORD            |
|   |                 |                           | TS SENSITIVE |                       |
| SUBJECT: <i>Status Report of HAK per Europe Category Plan</i> |                 |                           |              |                       |

| DISTRIBUTION/INITIAL ACTION ASGMT | INTERNAL ROUTING AND DISTRIBUTION |       |  | REC<br>CY<br>FOR | ACTION REQUIRED                            |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------|--|------------------|--|
|                                   | ACTION                            | INFO. |  |                  |  |
|                                   | ADVANCE CYS TO HAK/SCOWCROFT      |       |  |                  | MEMO FOR HAK ..... ( )                     |
|                                   | STAFF SECRETARY                   |       |  |                  | MEMO FOR PRES ..... ( )                    |
|                                   | FAR EAST                          |       |  |                  | REPLY FOR ..... ( )                        |
|                                   | SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA                |       |  |                  | APPROPRIATE ACTION ..... ( )               |
|                                   | MID EAST / NO. AFRICA / SO. ASIA  |       |  |                  | MEMO ..... TO ..... ( )                    |
|                                   | EUROPE / CANADA                   |       |  |                  | RECOMMENDATIONS ..... ( )                  |
|                                   | LATIN AMERICA                     |       |  |                  | JOINT MEMO ..... ( )                       |
|                                   | UNITED NATIONS                    |       |  |                  | REFER TO ..... FOR: ..... ( )              |
|                                   | ECONOMIC                          |       |  |                  | ANY ACTION NECESSARY? ..... ( )            |
|                                   | SCIENTIFIC                        |       |  |                  | CONCURRENCE. .... ( )                      |
|                                   | PROGRAM ANALYSIS                  |       |  |                  | DUE DATE: _____                            |
|                                   | NSC PLANNING                      |       |  |                  | COMMENTS: (INCLUDING SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS) |
|                                   | CONGRESSIONAL                     |       |  |                  |  |
| OCEANS POLICY                     |                                   |       |  |                  |  |
| INTELLIGENCE                      |                                   |       |  |                  |  |

| SUBSEQUENT ROUTING/ | DATE | FROM | TO  | S | SUBSEQUENT ACTION REQUIRED (OR TAKEN): | CY TO |
|---------------------|------|------|-----|---|--|-------|
|                     | 7/24 |      | HAK | X | Review (7-31)                          |       |
|                     | 7/24 |      |     |   | C O'Brien per Scroft                   |       |
|                     |      |      |     |   |  |       |
|                     |      |      |     |   |  |       |
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|------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|-------|
| NSC/S DISP INSTR | DISPATCH _____                     | AUG 11 1975 BY <i>ADC</i> |                    |       |
|                  | CY RQMTS: SEE ABOVE PLUS: _____    |                           |                    |       |
|                  | NOTIFY _____ & DATE _____ BY _____ |                           |                    |       |
|                  | SPECIAL DISPOSITION: _____         |                           |                    |       |
|                  | CROSS REF W/ <i>7405401</i>        |                           |                    |       |
|                  | SUSPENSE CY ATTACHED: <i>X</i>     | FOLDER: _____             |                    |       |
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|                  |                                    |                           | CLOSE: <i>ADC</i>  | WH SP |
|                  |                                    |                           |                    | PA DY |

BBh

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MEMORANDUM OF INFORMATION FOR THE FILE

DATE

9/17/75

EXECUTIVE

IT9

PR7

FB11

LETTER, MEMO, ETC.

TO:

Gen. Scowcroft

Radio Liberty

FROM:

Mr. Clift

SUBJECT:

Schedule Proposal for  
Sig Mickelson



CORRESPONDENCE FILED CENTRAL FILES - CONFIDENTIAL FILE

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

6068

ADMINISTRATIVELY  
CONFIDENTIAL

ACTION  
September 17, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL SCOWCROFT

FROM:

Mr. Clift

SUBJECT:

Schedule Proposal for Sig Mickelson

With the memorandum at Tab C, Max Friedersdorf informs you that Sig Mickelson, the new President of Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty, will be in Washington this week and that his Congressional Relations Director has asked for a courtesy call on the President for Mr. Mickelson. Mr. Friedersdorf asked for your views.

The Department of State advises (at Tab B) that the President agree to an appointment. I concur that a courtesy call would be appropriate. After extended controversy concerning the two Radios, Mickelson has the formidable task of consolidating their operations and restoring staff morale. The Radios have an important role in reaching Communist audiences in Europe, and a brief meeting would demonstrate continued Administration support for their mission.

If you agree, the schedule proposal for your signature at Tab A would recommend that the President agree to a brief courtesy call by Mickelson this week.

Les Janka concurs.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the schedule proposal at Tab A.

ADMINISTRATIVELY  
CONFIDENTIAL



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

## SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

Date:

FROM: Henry A. Kissinger

VIA: Warren S. Rustand

ADMINISTRATIVELY  
CONFIDENTIAL

MEETING: Mr. Sig Mickelson, President of Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty

DATE: September 18-19, 1975

PURPOSE: Courtesy call

FORMAT: -- The Oval Office  
-- Sig Mickelson and Henry A. Kissinger  
-- 10 minutes

CABINET PARTICIPATION: Secretary of State

SPEECH MATERIAL: Talking points will be provided by NSC.

PRESS COVERAGE: The meeting will be announced; White House photographer only.

STAFF: Henry A. Kissinger

RECOMMEND: Max Friedersdorf and Henry A. Kissinger

OPPOSED: None

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION: None

BACKGROUND: Sig Mickelson took office on July 1 as the first President of a unified Radio Free Europe (RFE) and Radio Liberty (RL). He has had a distinguished career in communications, during which he has served as President of CBS News and Vice President of Time, Incorporated.



ADMINISTRATIVELY  
CONFIDENTIAL

ADMINISTRATIVELY  
CONFIDENTIAL

- 2 -

Mr. Mickelson has become president of the unified RFE/RL after a long controversy over their past clandestine funding and at a time when major efforts are underway to rationalize and consolidate administrative, fiscal, engineering and other support services of the two Radios. The Radios continue to play an important role in furthering our foreign policy objectives by reaching audiences in Communist countries. A brief greeting for Mr. Mickelson would emphasize the importance you attach to the Radios' mission and would provide welcome encouragement for Mr. Mickelson's efforts to improve administrative and broadcast quality.

I recommend that you agree to a brief courtesy call by Sig Mickelson.

APPROVE \_\_\_\_\_

DISAPPROVE \_\_\_\_\_



ADMINISTRATIVELY  
CONFIDENTIAL



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

September 13, 1975

UNCLASSIFIED

MEMORANDUM FOR LIEUTENANT GENERAL BRENT SCOWCROFT  
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Appointment for Sig Mickelson with the  
President

In response to Mrs. Davis' request of September 10, the Department of State recommends that the President agree to an appointment with Sig Mickelson, the new President of Radio Free Europe (RFE) and Radio Liberty (RL). Mickelson took office on July 1 as the first President of a unified RFE and RL. He has had a distinguished career in communications which, among other things, has included service as President of CBS News and Vice President of Time, Incorporated.

He comes to the Presidency of RFE and RL at a time when major efforts are underway to rationalize and consolidate administrative, fiscal, engineering and other support services of the two Radios. The Radios continue to play an important role in the furtherance of our foreign policy objectives, and we believe that a meeting between the President and Mickelson would underscore the importance we attach to the Radios' mission.

*George S. Springsteen*  
George S. Springsteen  
Executive Secretary *For*

Attachment:

Correspondence returned.

UNCLASSIFIED





MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

INFORMATION

February 11, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: WILLIAM G. HYLAND

FROM: CLINTON E. GRANGER

SUBJECT: Radio Free Europe Credentials Lifted at Innsbruck Olympics

On February 4, 1976, the Radio Free Europe (RFE) news team at Innsbruck was informed by the Austrian organizing committee that the International Olympic Committee (IOC) had ordered the withdrawal of RFE credentials. While no reason was given, Lord Killanin of Ireland has admitted that the exclusion was based on political grounds. On that same day, Tass and Radio Moscow announced that the Soviet delegation at Innsbruck, supported by radio - TV representatives of Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland, Czechoslovakia and the German Democratic Republic, had challenged the RFE accreditation because (in Radio Moscow's words) RFE "represents no one and engages in slanderous subversion propaganda against the socialist countries." The Czechoslovak news agency Ceteka specified that the Communist initiative in the IOC had come through the East-block Organization for International Radio and Television.

RFE sports reporters have been accredited to every Olympic game since 1952. There have been Soviet challenges to RFE credentials at previous Olympics, notably Mexico City in 1968 and Munich in 1972, but these were rejected. If the present exclusion is allowed to stand, a serious precedent of political exclusions will have been set for future Olympics -- not only for Montreal this summer but, more importantly, Moscow in 1980. The Department of State is aware of the problem but has not taken any action pending RFE's assessment of support within the IOC. I understand Rogers Morton has also been briefed on the problem.

We are being briefed by representatives of the Board for International Broadcasting as the situation develops, and remain in contact with Jack Armitage at State (EUR).

*Urgent to office  
Sig Mickelson 16068*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

September 8, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

BRENT SCOWCROFT

FROM:

MAX FRIEDERSDORF *M.F.*

SUBJECT:

Sig Mickelson

Sig Mickelson, the new President of Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty will be in town the week of September 15th.

The Congressional Relations Director for Sig, Gretchen Brainerd, has requested we seek a handshaker that week for Sig with the President.

What think?



CLASSIFICATION: \_\_\_\_\_

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
REFERRAL

Date: Sept 10, 1975  
NSC log # 7506068

MEMORANDUM FOR:

George S. Springsteen  
Executive Secretary  
Department of State

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION:

To: General Scowcroft

From: Max Friedersdorf

Date: Sept 8, 1975

Subject: Request appt between Pres & Sig Mickelson new President of RFE

ACTION REQUESTED:

\_\_\_\_\_ Draft reply for: \_\_\_\_\_ President's Signature  
\_\_\_\_\_ White House Staff  
\_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Direct reply \_\_\_\_\_ Furnish info copy

\_\_\_\_\_ Dispatch \_\_\_\_\_ Translation

\_\_\_\_\_ ~~xxx~~ Recommendations / ~~Comments~~ \_\_\_\_\_ Appropriate Handling

\_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_ Information

DUE DATE: Sept 13, 1975

COMMENTS:



*Charlotte K. Davis*  
for Jeanne W. Davis  
Staff Secretary

CLASSIFICATION: \_\_\_\_\_

## NSC CORRESPONDENCE PROFILE

| DOC |    | RECD |    | LOG NBR |     | INITIAL ACTION |               |
|-----|----|------|----|---------|-----|----------------|---------------|
| MO  | DA | MO   | DA | HR      |     |                |               |
| 9   | 8  | 9    | 9  | 15      | 750 | 6068           | Clift + Frank |

|   |                    |                           |                  |                       |
|---|--------------------|---------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| SOURCE/CLASS/DESCRIPTION  | TO: PRES _____     | FROM: KISSINGER, H. _____ | REFERENCE: _____ | CIRCLE AS APPROPRIATE |
|   | KISSINGER _____    | COLBY, W. _____           | S/S _____        | UNCLAS LOG IN/OUT     |
|   | SCOWCROFT <u>X</u> | SCHLESINGER, J. _____     | OTHER _____      | LOU NO FORN NODIS     |
|   | DAVIS _____        | ST EX SEC _____           |                  | C EYES ONLY EXDIS     |
|   |                    |                           |                  | S CODEWORD            |
|   |                    |                           |                  | TS SENSITIVE          |
| SUBJECT: Request for appt w/ Pres for SIB Michelan<br>of Radio free Europe & Radio Liberty during<br>week of Sept 15 1975 |                    |                           |                  |                       |

| DISTRIBUTION/INITIAL ACTION ASGMT          | INTERNAL ROUTING AND DISTRIBUTION |          |          | ACTION REQUIRED |
|--|-----------------------------------|----------|----------|-----------------|
|  | ADVANCE CYS TO HAK/SCOWCROFT      | ACTION   | INFO.    |                 |
|  | STAFF SECRETARY <u>favor</u>      |          | <u>X</u> |                 |
|  | FAR EAST                          |          | <u>X</u> |                 |
|  | SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA                |          |          |                 |
|  | MID EAST / NO. AFRICA / SO. ASIA  |          |          |                 |
|  | EUROPE / CANADA <u>prime</u>      | <u>X</u> | <u>X</u> |                 |
|  | LATIN AMERICA                     |          |          |                 |
|  | UNITED NATIONS                    |          |          |                 |
|  | ECONOMIC                          |          |          |                 |
|  | SCIENTIFIC                        |          |          |                 |
|  | PROGRAM ANALYSIS                  |          |          |                 |
|  | NSC PLANNING                      |          |          |                 |
|  | CONGRESSIONAL                     | <u>X</u> | <u>X</u> |                 |
| OCEANS POLICY                              |                                   |          |          |                 |
| INTELLIGENCE                               |                                   |          |          |                 |
| ACTION REQUIRED                            |                                   |          |          |                 |
| MEMO FOR HAK ..... ( )                     |                                   |          |          |                 |
| MEMO FOR PRES ..... ( )                    |                                   |          |          |                 |
| REPLY FOR ..... ( )                        |                                   |          |          |                 |
| APPROPRIATE ACTION ..... ( )               |                                   |          |          |                 |
| MEMO ..... TO ..... ( )                    |                                   |          |          |                 |
| RECOMMENDATIONS ..... ( )                  |                                   |          |          |                 |
| JOINT MEMO. <u>for Scowcroft</u> ..... ( ) |                                   |          |          |                 |
| REFER TO ..... FOR: ..... ( )              |                                   |          |          |                 |
| ANY ACTION NECESSARY? ..... ( )            |                                   |          |          |                 |
| CONCURRENCE. .... ( )                      |                                   |          |          |                 |
| DUE DATE: <u>9/15</u>                      |                                   |          |          |                 |
| COMMENTS: (INCLUDING SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS) |                                   |          |          |                 |

| SUBSEQUENT ROUTING/ACTIONS | DATE        | FROM         | TO               | S        | SUBSEQUENT ACTION REQUIRED (OR TAKEN):  | CY TO |
|----------------------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|----------|---|-------|
|                            |             | <u>18</u>    | <u>NSC/S</u>     | <u>D</u> | <u>Send to State for recommendation</u> |       |
|                            |             |              |                  |          | <u>-urgent (9-13) (Cy to Frank)</u>     |       |
|                            | <u>9/15</u> |              |                  |          | <u>Recd State Recom 7517848</u>         |       |
|                            | <u>9/15</u> |              |                  | <u>5</u> | <u>prepare SP (9/17)</u>                |       |
|                            | <u>9/17</u> | <u>Clift</u> | <u>Scowcroft</u> | <u>X</u> | <u>Sign SP (9/17)</u>                   |       |
|                            | <u>9/19</u> |              |                  | <u>C</u> | <u>OBE per Scowcroft</u>                |       |
|                            |             |              |                  |          |   |       |
|                            |             |              |                  |          |   |       |
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| NSC/S DISP INSTR | DISPATCH _____                     | MICROFILM & FILE RQMTS:<br>M/F'D _____ BY _____                   |
|                  | CY RQMTS: SEE ABOVE PLUS: _____    |   |
|                  | NOTIFY _____ & DATE _____ BY _____ |   |
|                  | SPECIAL DISPOSITION: _____         |   |
|                  | CROSS REF W/ _____                 |   |
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|                  |                                    | SA SF<br>HP NS<br>WH EP<br>PA DY                                  |



*gah*  
MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE

IT 9

1-6 38

1-6 352

③

September 19, 1975

*Radio Liberty*

MEMORANDUM FOR: JON HOWE  
FROM: Jeanne W. Davis *JW*  
SUBJECT: Response to Letter from  
David Abshire on RFE/RL

Mr. Abshire's letter to the Vice President (Tab B) is one of a large number of similar letters he sent to Administration and Congressional officials seeking general statements of support which he can use in connection with his report to the full membership of the Board for International Broadcasting which is scheduled to meet in December.

A proposed response is at Tab A.



Dear Mr. Abshire:

I appreciate your most encouraging report on the recent activities of Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty. These activities ~~which~~ are critical to the continued accurate presentation of United States interests to many with whom our only link is through the regular broadcasts. It is personally gratifying to me to know that the continued efforts of a small group of dedicated Americans can achieve such exceptional results.

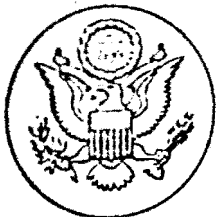
You may be certain that you have my continued interest and support, and I look forward to even more effective actions under the new professional leadership of both Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty.

Sincerely,



Mr. David M. Abshire  
Chairman, Board for International Broadcasting  
Suite 430  
1030 Fifteenth Street, Northwest  
Washington, D.C. 20005





# BOARD FOR INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING

United States of America

Suite 430

1030 Fifteenth Street, N.W.

Washington, DC 20005

202/254-8040

August 25, 1975

Honorable Nelson A. Rockefeller  
Vice President  
of the United States  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Vice President:

As a friend of Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty, you may have become aware of recent press reports from Munich reflecting employee anxiety in connection with pending staff reductions. You may therefore be interested in my recent letter to the Wall Street Journal commenting on one such report, and attempting to clarify the financial and political context of these reductions.

We believe that the Radios' consolidation efforts have been decisive in obtaining such broad Congressional support for our Fiscal Year 1976 budget request of \$65,640,000. Our legislative progress thus far has been encouraging, to wit:

Authorization: The Senate Foreign Relations Committee recommended--and the Senate has approved--the full authorization of \$65,640,000. The House International Relations Committee went even further, adding a \$5,000,000 reserve fund against possible future foreign currency losses. The committee likewise noted--see pp. 4-5 of its report, enclosed--that "the effectiveness of the broadcasts will be maximized if improved efficiencies are sought and instituted."

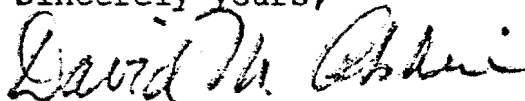
Appropriation: The House Appropriations Committee recommended--and the House has approved--a 5 percent reduction to \$62,350,000. However, the Senate Appropriations Committee subsequently recommended the full appropriation of \$65,640,000. These are indications that, if full funding is authorized by both Houses and the Senate votes to appropriate the full amount, the House may agree in conference to support the full appropriation.



Although legislative action may not be completed for several additional weeks, we believe there is reason for satisfaction in the broad extent of Congressional support for the Radios' essential mission. We feel confident, too, that the effectiveness and quality of RFE and RL programming (and of vital program services, such as research) will be maximized by the new Radio leadership which took office last month. We consider ourselves extremely fortunate to have attracted, as the first President of Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty, such a distinguished professional broadcast journalist as Sig Mickelson; and are pleased that he has recruited, as his principal aide in the U. S., Harold E. Anderson, former President of NBC International. In Munich, we are encouraged by the return, as Executive Vice President and overseas manager for the combined Radios, of Walter K. (Ken) Scott; his previous service as Executive Director of Radio Liberty, and as U. S. Consul-General in Munich, assures continuity and essential expertise.

The professional leadership of Mr. Mickelson, Mr. Scott and Mr. Anderson will, we expect, be of enormous benefit in solidifying the long-range Congressional support which is indispensable to the technical modernization of the transmitter facilities of Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty. We hope that we, and the Radios, can count on your continued sympathetic interest as we move forward in developing these long-range plans.

Sincerely yours,



David M. Abshire  
Chairman

Enclosures



# Letters to the Editor of the Journal

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, Monday, August 18, 1975



## Radio Free Europe

*Editor, The Wall Street Journal:*

Felix Kessler's report from Munich (July 23) presents a somewhat one-sided picture of the situation of Radio Free Europe. While staff reductions have been necessary at RFE and its sister station, Radio Liberty, the radios are in no danger whatever of being "silenced" by alleged calculations of detente. Quite the contrary: Under the process of open oversight, authorization and appropriation, they have won the broadest measure of bipartisan support in Congress.

Both the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the House International Relations Committee have now approved an unprecedented 30% increase in the radios' authorization for the new fiscal year. The action in both committees was without recorded dissent, a dramatic change from the period in which Senator Fulbright and others were challenging the radios' very existence.

However, this broad support is the result of actions taken to fulfill the clear mandate of Congress: Namely, in the words of the House Committee report, "to carry out the consolidation of the two radios" and "to reduce the personnel base to a stable and fundable level which will avoid future financial crises." A new consolidated management for RFE and RL has been created under Sig Mickelson, former president of CES News, with Harold E. Anderson, formerly of NBC International, as a principal aide. Personnel reductions have been made necessary by the rapid devaluation of the dollar since 1968. The cost per employe in Munich (where three-fourths of radio personnel are located) has more than tripled in these last seven years.

Even after the current personnel reductions, however, the consolidated radio staff will number more than 1,700 persons. Broadcast hours at RFE and RL remain more extensive than those of any other Western service—25 languages in all, with 12 or more hours daily in six of them (Russian, Ukrainian, Polish, Czechoslovak, Hungarian, Romanian). Employe pension plans are being improved for the first time since 1968, and new transmitters being installed for the first time since 1964. We are now working, with congressional support, on a major program for long-range transmitter modernization.

The administration and the Congress are in agreement that the mission of the radios—in maintaining an informed public opinion in the U.S.S.R. and Eastern Europe—is more important than ever. We believe that with new, professional management, streamlined organization and technical modernization, Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty—far from being "silenced"—will communicate more effectively to their scores of millions of listeners.

DAVID M. ARSHIRE

*Chairman*

*Board for International Broadcasting*

AMENDING THE BOARD FOR INTERNATIONAL  
BROADCASTING ACT OF 1973

JUNE 26, 1975.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of  
the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. MORGAN, from the Committee on International Relations,  
submitted the following

REPORT

together with

ADDITIONAL VIEWS

[To accompany H.R. 4699]

The Committee on International Relations, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 4699) to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 1976 and 1977 for carrying out the Board for International Broadcasting Act of 1973, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with amendments and recommend that the bill as amended do pass.

The amendments are as follows:

Page 1, beginning on line 10, strike out "\$65,640,000 for fiscal year 1976" and insert in lieu thereof the following: "\$70,640,000 for fiscal year 1976, of which \$5,000,000 shall be available only to the extent that the Director of the Office of Management and Budget determines (and so certifies to the Congress) is necessary, because of fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates, in order to maintain the budgeted level of operation for Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty".

Page 2, lines 1 and 2, strike out "and such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 1977".

Amend the title so as to read:

A bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1976 for carrying out the Board for International Broadcasting Act of 1973.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of H.R. 4699, as reported, is to authorize an appropriation of \$70,640,000 for fiscal year 1976 to support the operations of Radio Free Europe, Radio Liberty, and the Board for International Broadcasting.



## COMMITTEE ACTION

On February 5, 1975, the Executive forwarded to the Speaker of the House Executive Communication 257, together with a draft bill "to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 1976 and 1977 for carrying out the Board for International Broadcasting Act of 1973", which was referred to the Committee on International Relations. The Honorable Thomas E. Morgan, Chairman of the Committee on International Relations, introduced the draft bill as H.R. 4699 on March 12, 1975.

The committee held a public hearing on this bill on May 12, 1975. It received testimony from Dr. David M. Abshire, Chairman, and other members of the Board for International Broadcasting. Other Board members are: Hon. Foy D. Kohler, professor, Center for Advanced International Studies, the University of Miami, Coral Gables Fla.; Mr. Thomas Henry Quinn, general partner, law firm of O'Connor & Hannan, Washington, D.C.; and ex officio (nonvoting) Board members, representing the two stations—Hon. William P. Durkee, president, Free Europe, Inc., and Hon. Howland Sargeant, president, Radio Liberty Committee; Hon. John P. Roche, Henry R. Luce Professor of Civilization and Foreign Affairs, the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University, Medford, Mass., was unable to attend the hearing. The fifth voting member of the Board, Mr. John T. Murphy, president, AVCO Broadcasting Corp., Cincinnati, Ohio, had not been sworn in at the time of the hearing and, consequently, did not testify.

On June 17, 1975, the committee held an open markup session and ordered favorably reported the bill H.R. 4699 with amendments by unanimous voice vote.

## COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The first amendment authorizes an additional appropriation of \$5 million to be available until expended. These funds, or any portion thereof, may be made available to the radios *only to the extent* that the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) determines (and so certifies to the Congress) they are necessary to compensate for foreign currency exchange losses in order to maintain the budgeted level of operation for Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty. (For a full explanation of this amendment see sections on "Devaluation Problem" and "Committee Amendment on Exchange Loss Contingency Fund.")

The second amendment deletes all references to fiscal year 1977—thus limiting the authorization to fiscal year 1976 only.

The third amendment amends the title of the bill to reflect the above change.

## BACKGROUND

Radio Free Europe (RFE) and Radio Liberty (RL) had their origin in the years immediately following World War II, when the Soviets gave every indication of establishing hegemony over Eastern Europe and threatening Western interests. RFE was incorporated in New York in 1950 and RL in Delaware in 1951. Operational headquarters for both stations are located in Munich, Germany.

Until June 30, 1971, both radios were supported by funds provided by the Central Intelligence Agency. In the case of RFE, some funds

were passed from private sources including broadcasting stations through April 1975. After CIA funding of the two radios was terminated by Congress, they were funded on a temporary basis under section 703 of the U.S. Information and Educational Exchange Act of 1948, as amended. This funding procedure was adopted as a traditional mechanism—pending the completion of studies on RFE and RL by the Library of Congress, the General Accounting Office and subsequently, the Presidential Study Commission on International Radio Broadcasting, headed by Dr. Milton Eisenhower.

In October 1973, Congress passed and the President signed the Board for International Broadcasting Act of 1973. This act, based on the Eisenhower Commission's recommendations, created a five-member Board for International Broadcasting which was authorized to receive congressionally appropriated funds and to allocate them to the two radios. The Board was also charged with certain special review and oversight responsibilities.

## THE BOARD FOR INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING

The Board consists of five voting members appointed by the President by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and two ex officio (nonvoting) members representing the two stations. Voting members are to be selected from "among Americans distinguished in the fields of foreign policy or mass communications" who are regular full-time employees of the U.S. Government. Not more than three such members may be of the same political party. Board members serve without annual salary, although they may be compensated on a daily basis at level V of the executive schedule while attending Board meetings or engaged in official Board business, and receive travel expenses and per diem.

## STAFF

The Board is currently serviced by a small staff, consisting of five members and three secretaries. Staff headquarters are located in Washington, D.C.

## FUNCTIONS

The Board is authorized to receive congressionally authorized and appropriated funds for allocation to the two radios. In addition, it is charged with the responsibility of reviewing and evaluating the mission and operation of the two radios and assessing the "quality, effectiveness, and professional integrity" of their broadcasting within the context of broad U.S. foreign policy objectives. The 1973 act also requires the Board to "encourage the most effective utilization of available resources and undertake such studies as may be necessary to insure economic and efficient operations"; to develop financial auditing procedures to insure that grants are being made for the purposes Congress intended; and to report annually to the President and Congress on the activities of the Board and the operations of RL and RFE.

## BOARD'S OVERSIGHT PROGRESS DURING FISCAL YEAR 1975

The Board for International Broadcasting has been in operation for approximately 1 year—beginning in May 1974. Predictably, the first several months were taken up largely with organizational activities.

During fiscal year 1975, the Board utilized the assistance of experts and consultants in both the telecommunications and management areas. The consultants traveled to Munich and worked with Board staff on fiscal, management, and general operations relating to the two radios.

During fiscal year 1975, the New York headquarters of the two radios were brought together in one building—in preparation for the move to Washington. Early in fiscal year 1976, a single headquarters will be established there under one President, Mr. Sig Mickelson. A former president of CBS news, vice president of Time-Life, Inc., and chairman of the Department of Editorial Journalism of the Medill School, Northwestern University, Mr. Mickelson possesses outstanding qualifications for his new assignment. He is scheduled to take over as president of both Radio Liberty Committee, Inc. and Free Europe, Inc., on July 1, 1975.

Construction of added space at RFE's programing center in Munich will enable Radio Liberty programing to be accommodated there in the fall of 1975—with the reduction of 90 supporting service employees. Henceforth, RFE/RL programing will be carried out under a single program director stationed in Munich.

Despite these indications of initial progress, the committee is of the opinion that the Board has a long way to go in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities. During the hearings, evidence was presented which confirms that BIB consultants and staff have not had full and unimpeded access to information on the Radios. On the contrary, directives have been issued by the Radios' executives specifically limiting such access and circumscribing the Board's activities. Such actions, the committee wishes to state categorically, run counter to the legislative mandate assigned to the Board under the Board for International Broadcasting Act of 1973 and should be halted forthwith.

The committee supports the authorization contained in this bill because of its belief that during this past fiscal year, the U.S. Board for International Broadcasting has begun to carry out the mandate of the Congress to foster the consolidation of the two Radios, to reduce the personnel base to a stable and fundable level which will avoid future financial crises, and to accomplish these objectives with reference to other relevant U.S. international broadcasting activities. Any assertions (such as have appeared in the foreign press) that reductions in the personnel of the two Radios have been diplomatically or politically motivated as a part of "détente" are oblivious to: (a) the congressional demands for economies during a domestic recession; (b) the financial predicament of the Radios; (c) the need for a stable base and more interagency coordination prior to requesting greater Government resources for modernization; and (d) the fact that BIB has been persuasively testifying before Congress that the radio broadcasting mission is more important than ever.

The basis for the authorization has been the committee's belief that BIB is in the process of becoming an active oversight board. In this regard, it is important that the corporate management communicate to the rank and file of the Radios the need for the acceptance, in practice and in spirit, of the present process of authorization, appropriation and oversight, which is quite different from the earlier years of the Radios. Furthermore, the new Chief Executive Officer of the two corporations, Mr. Sig Mickelson, must have full corporate authority in his role; the mission of the Radios is too important to be

hindered by past bureaucratic interests. The effectiveness and quality of the broadcasts will be maximized if improved efficiencies are sought and instituted. Congressional support will be influenced by developments in those areas.

The committee intends to monitor the relationship between BIB and RFE/RL during the coming fiscal year to insure that the legislative intent set forth above is strictly adhered to. If necessary, the Board's authority to investigate, advise, and implement its recommendations will be strengthened by legislation.

The committee also hopes that before proceeding with the modernization of transmitters, the Board will carefully assess the possibility of sharing equipment which may be in the possession of—but not fully utilized by—other U.S. agencies, as well as other options (including rental or exchange of transmitter time with private or foreign entities) suggested in the course of the committee's hearings.

#### FISCAL YEAR 1976 BUDGET REQUEST

As noted above, the administration's request for a 2-year authorization was disapproved. As reported by the committee, H.R. 4636 authorizes appropriations only for fiscal year 1976.

The fiscal year 1976 request includes \$65,240,000 in grants to Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty—and \$400,000 to finance the operations of the Board for International Broadcasting. This compares with a total fiscal year 1975 authorization of \$49,990,000 and an appropriation of \$49,800,000. Thus the fiscal year 1976 authorization request represents an increase over the fiscal year 1975 authorization level of \$15,650,000 or approximately 30 percent.

This proposed grant increase to the two Radios is based on: (1) Exchange loss since last September resulting from the devaluation of the dollar vis-a-vis European currencies, especially the deutsche mark (see section entitled "Devaluation Problem"); (2) increased pension payments imposed by the Employment Income Security Act and similar legislation enacted by the West German parliament; (3) severance pay and benefits for the termination of approximately 245 employees; (4) Baltic language programing (initiation of Latvian and Estonian service in addition to Lithuanian programing begun in January 1975); and (5) net operating cost increases due to inflation.

#### ONE-TIME COSTS

The fiscal year 1976 budget includes an estimated \$11.1 million in so-called "one-time costs." These are nonrecurring expenditures for such purposes as:

- (1) Cost of headquarters consolidation in the United States and proposed move to Washington, D.C.
- (2) Cost of operational consolidation in Munich.
- (3) Replacement of transmitters.
- (4) Severance pay and benefits for terminated employees, required by law.
- (5) Pension "make-up" (i.e., pension payments for past years in which payments were not made owing to budgetary limitations).

A detailed breakdown of the BIB request follows:

# RADIO FREE EUROPE/RADIO LIBERTY DISTRIBUTION OF COSTS BY TYPE OF EXPENSE

(In thousands of dollars)

|   | Fiscal year 1974<br>actual |        | Fiscal year 1975<br>estimate |        | Fiscal year 1976<br>estimate |        |
|---|----------------------------|--------|------------------------------|--------|------------------------------|--------|
|   | Number                     | Amount | Number                       | Amount | Number                       | Amount |
| <b>Regular operating expenses:</b>                      |                            |        |                              |        |                              |        |
| Personnel compensation:                                 |                            |        |                              |        |                              |        |
| Annual salaries:  |                            |        |                              |        |                              |        |
| Permanent employees                                     | 2,025                      | 25,547 | 2,011                        | 27,457 | 1,789/1,739                  | 25,242 |
| Temporary and part-time employees                       | 48                         | 306    | 31                           | 348    | 26                           | 258    |
| Total annual salaries                                   | 2,073                      | 25,853 | 2,042                        | 27,805 | 1,815/1,765                  | 25,500 |
| Employee benefits:                                      |                            |        |                              |        |                              |        |
| Taxes   |                            | 2,673  |                              | 2,883  |                              | 3,147  |
| Pension program   |                            | 605    |                              | 1,170  |                              | 1,538  |
| Fringe benefits   |                            | 6,570  |                              | 6,544  |                              | 7,139  |
| Total employee benefits                                 |                            | 9,848  |                              | 10,597 |                              | 15,671 |
| Miscellaneous fees and professional services            |                            | 1,749  |                              | 2,001  |                              | 2,309  |
| Total personnel compensation and benefits               |                            | 37,450 |                              | 40,403 |                              | 43,480 |
| Administrative costs:                                   |                            |        |                              |        |                              |        |
| Travel  |                            | 217    |                              | 265    |                              | 292    |
| Rent and utilities                                      |                            | 1,319  |                              | 1,233  |                              | 965    |
| Licenses, royalties, copyrights                         |                            | 576    |                              | 619    |                              | 630    |
| Technical   |                            | 2,111  |                              | 2,378  |                              | 2,856  |
| News and information                                    |                            | 424    |                              | 456    |                              | 566    |
| Conferences   |                            | 1      |                              | 5      |                              | 5      |
| Representation  |                            | 36     |                              | 49     |                              | 53     |
| General and administrative                              |                            | 2,005  |                              | 2,040  |                              | 2,416  |
| Total administrative costs                              |                            | 6,690  |                              | 7,045  |                              | 7,783  |
| Total regular operating expenses                        |                            | 44,140 |                              | 47,448 |                              | 51,263 |
| Consolidation expenses:                                 |                            |        |                              |        |                              |        |
| Operating and termination costs                         |                            | 5,518  |                              | 375    | (240/290)                    | 1,562  |
| Capital   |                            |        |                              | 775    |                              | 470    |
| Total consolidation expenses                            |                            | 5,518  |                              | 1,150  |                              | 6,092  |
| Capital expenses:                                       |                            |        |                              |        |                              |        |
| Regular   |                            | 68     |                              | 292    |                              | 425    |
| Modernization   |                            |        |                              | 370    |                              | 2,710  |
| Total capital   |                            | 68     |                              | 662    |                              | 3,135  |
| Summary:  |                            |        |                              |        |                              |        |
| Regular operating expenses                              |                            | 44,140 |                              | 47,448 |                              | 51,263 |
| Consolidation expenses                                  |                            | 5,518  |                              | 1,150  |                              | 6,092  |
| Capital expenses  |                            | 68     |                              | 662    |                              | 3,135  |
| Subtotal, expenses at \$1 = Deutsche marks as indicated |                            | 49,726 |                              | 49,260 |                              | 60,490 |
| Exchange loss as indicated                              |                            |        |                              | 2,276  |                              | 1,300  |
| Exchange loss as indicated                              |                            |        |                              |        |                              | 3,453  |
| Grand total expenses                                    |                            | 49,726 |                              | 51,536 |                              | 65,240 |
| Financing:  |                            |        |                              |        |                              |        |
| U.S. Government grant                                   |                            | 49,500 |                              | 49,510 |                              | 65,240 |
| Application of working capital                          |                            | 226    |                              | 2,026  |                              | 0      |
| Total   |                            | 49,726 |                              | 51,536 |                              | 65,240 |

¶ 1 The Radios' pension plans are of the type normal to the private sector requiring premium payments that include amortization of past service costs and funding for future benefits in accordance with generally accepted actuarial principles. In addition, they are now governed by the provisions of new pension legislation, both in the United States (ERISA) and in Germany.

2 This line includes the cost of 90 reductions from consolidating the management and supporting services of the Radios and from 150-200 additional terminations not related to consolidation.

3 Congressional authorization for broadcasting in the Baltic languages at the earliest possible date required that a portion of the technical modernization program scheduled for fiscal year 1976 be completed earlier.

4 Deutsche marks 2.54.

5 Deutsche marks 2.69.

6 Represents 7 months actual loss; 5 months projected loss at \$1 = Deutsche marks 2.35.

7 Deutsche marks 2.53.

8 Deutsche marks 2.34.

## Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty Justification

Regular operating expenses:

Annual salaries—Permanent employees

(In thousands)

—\$2,

Savings from fiscal year 1975 and fiscal year 1976 consolidation actions: Fiscal year 1975 nonrecurring cost of salaries prior to terminations; fiscal year 1976 salary savings after terminations

Other termination actions in fiscal years 1976: In order to achieve a lower fiscal year 1977 budget level, the Radios will reduce staff during fiscal year 1976 by about 10 percent (150-200 employees) beyond the 90 staff reductions due to consolidation efforts. This will result in savings of approximately \$4.1 million (at \$1/DM 2.35) in fiscal year 1977.

The fiscal year 1976 salaries for the personnel affected will be reprogrammed to pay their termination costs

General salary increase of 5 percent for all employees in line with expected cost of living and wage scale level increases. In-grade increases in accordance with union contracts and company policy for employees below the tops of their grades. Annualization of fiscal year 1975 personnel actions (in-grades, hires, promotions, etc.)

Salaries for 15 new employees to initiate broadcasting in Latvian and Estonian as authorized by Congress

Annual salaries—temporary and part-time employees

Savings from fiscal year 1975 and fiscal year 1976 consolidation actions

Savings from reduced usage of temporary personnel

General salary increase of 5 percent for all personnel in line with expected cost of living increase

Employee benefits: Taxes

Savings from fiscal year 1975 and fiscal year 1976 consolidation actions

Increase in taxes due to fiscal year 1976 general increase, fiscal year 1976 in-grade increases and annualization of fiscal year 1975 personnel actions

Effects of known or expected increases in tax rates in the United States, Germany, Iberia, and other countries in which the Radios operate

Employee benefits: Pension program

Increase in current year's pension premiums caused by salary increases offset by savings from fiscal year 1975 consolidation actions

Increase in or reinstatement of current pension premium funding to four plans: RL: German plan \$225; HQ plan \$70; RFE: DM plan \$913; Dollar plan \$1,200

Budgetary problems in prior years had required some deferral of pension premiums. Partial makeup payments are planned this year in accordance with new United States and German pension legislation and with actuarial recommendations: RL-HQ plan \$395; RFE-DM plan \$895

Improvements in pension plans in order (a) to bring them into line with new pension legislation and (b) to make RFE and RL plans more comparable

Employee benefits: Fringe benefits

Nonrecurring fiscal year 1975 costs and savings from consolidation

Improvements in insurance provisions to make RFE and RL plans more comparable



Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty Justification—Continued

Regular operating expenses—Continued

Employee benefits: Fringe benefits—Continued

(In thousands)

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| Annualization of effects of salary and price increases on fiscal year 1975 costs  | +60    |
| Increase due to salary increases (e.g. life insurance, some allowances for overseas service) and price increases (e.g. insurance, home leave travel, housing and utility costs)   | +501   |
| Insurance costs for new retirees and increased number of home leave travelers   | +54    |
| Miscellaneous fees and professional services  | +308   |
| Nonrecurring fiscal year 1975 costs due to consolidation  | -2     |
| New freelance requirements due to implementation of Baltic programming  | +130   |
| Reinstatement of freelance usage deferred in fiscal year 1975 due to financial situation and increased requirements in fiscal year 1976 due to major staff reductions   | +139   |
| Price increases in outside professional services (e.g. legal, auditing, engineering consultants)  | +41    |
| Travel: Cost of price increases   | -127   |
| Rent and utilities  | -268   |
| Saving on Radio Liberty's Munich rental costs due to consolidation in RFE's building  | -292   |
| Increased cost of utilities   | +24    |
| Licenses, royalties and copyrights: Annualization of fiscal year 1975 price increase in royalty payment   | +11    |
| Technical   | +478   |
| Annualization of fiscal year 1975 and new fiscal year 1976 increases in power costs, and other price increases  | +228   |
| Increased technical requirements due to modernization of equipment  | +250   |
| News and information  | +110   |
| Reductions in personnel will require an increase in the purchase of news and information services   | +37    |
| Increase due to initiation of Latvian and Estonian broadcasting   | +20    |
| Annualization of fiscal year 1975 and cost of new fiscal year 1976 increases  | +53    |
| Representation: Cost of price increases   | +4     |
| General and administrative: Cost of annualization of fiscal year 1975 and new fiscal year 1976 price increases (e.g. postage, stationery, copy machines, telephones, general repairs, general insurance, building maintenance) offset by savings from reduction in personnel and economy measures | +376   |
| Consolidation expenses  | +4,942 |
| Cost for severance payments and related costs to terminate 90 Munich employees on Dec. 31, 1975. Cost to restore RFE's Munich office to proper condition prior to return to landlord, and moving costs for relocation of RFE equipment to FRE building  | +1,542 |
| Cost for severance payments and related costs to terminate an additional 150-200 employees during fiscal year 1976  | +3,705 |
| Decreased requirement for remaining cost to complete construction on RFE's Munich office prior to consolidation   | -305   |

Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty Justification—Continued

(In thousands)

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Capital expenses   | +2,4  |
| Regular costs: Continues program to replace worn and obsolete equipment and to install new equipment for more efficient operations   | +1    |
| Modernization costs: Required funds to continue the modernization program of the technical facilities of the Radios (\$370 was expended in fiscal year 1975 for this purpose)  | +2,4  |
| Foreign exchange loss  | +2,4  |
| Continued deterioration of the U.S. dollar in relation to the foreign currencies in which the Radios are required to expend most of their funds (primarily the deutsche mark, peseta and escudo) has substantially increased their operation costs. This loss amounted to \$2.276 million in fiscal year 1975 and represented the difference between the buying power of the dollar at the original budgeted rate of DM 2.60/\$1 and the actual average cost of foreign currencies for 7 months plus the remaining 5 months loss projected at DM 2.35/\$1. |       |
| The loss for fiscal year 1976 is estimated at \$1.750 million (an increase over fiscal year 1975 of \$2.474 million) and is composed of \$1.3 million representing the difference between \$1/DM 2.60 and the fiscal year 1976 budgeted rate of \$1/DM 2.53, and \$3.450 million reflecting the additional cost arising out of the dollar's further deterioration to around \$1/DM 2.35  | 12,4  |
| Board for International Broadcasting, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty: Distribution of costs by type of expense for the transition period (July 1, 1976, to Sept. 1976) (In thousands of dollars)  |       |
| Personnel compensation:  |       |
| Annual salaries—all employees (estimate 1,804)   | \$6,4 |
| Employee benefits:   |       |
| Taxes  | 8     |
| Pension:   |       |
| Normal payment   | 1,2   |
| Deferred fiscal year 1976 payment plus interest and penalty*   | 2,1   |
| Minor cost-of-living adjustment past pensioners (3 percent per year from 1968)*  | 8     |
| Fringe benefits  | 1,4   |
| Miscellaneous fees and professional services   | 1     |
| Total personnel compensation and benefits  | 13,9  |
| Administrative costs:  |       |
| Licenses, royalties, copyrights (increase by Spanish and Portuguese Governments in fees)*  | 8     |
| Remainder of administrative costs  | 1,8   |
| Total administrative costs   | 2,6   |
| Total regular operating expenses   | 16,5  |
| Consolidation expense—Senior staff termination costs and December cuts*  | 1     |
| Capital maintenance at normal level  | 1     |
| Devaluation—covers \$1/2.60 DM down to \$1/2.35 DM   | 1,1   |
| Total other costs  | 1,7   |
| Total grant to radios  | 18,1  |
| Board for International Broadcasting   | 1     |
| Total estimated transition period costs  | 18,2  |

\*Note.—All categories unless marked \* are 1/4 of full year costs. Those marked \* are payable in 1976.

## DEVALUATION PROBLEM

Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty are especially vulnerable to the effects of dollar devaluation because 80 percent of their expenditures are made in foreign currencies, especially the deutsche mark (DM).

In this connection, the Comptroller General of the United States observed:

We think this situation is rather unique in the case of the Radios from the standpoint of the large percent of their funds being spent in foreign currencies. Offhand, I cannot think of a single U.S. Government Department or Agency that spends near that percent of funds in foreign currencies \* \* \* (Letter, dated April 11, 1975, from Comptroller General Elmer B. Staats to Hon. John M. Slack, chairman, Appropriations Subcommittee on State, Justice, Commerce and Judiciary.)

The Board for International Broadcasting budget request for fiscal year 1976 was submitted to the Office of Management and Budget in September 1974. At that time the value of the U.S. dollar to the German deutsche mark was \$1=2.60 DM. By November 1974, the exchange rate had slipped to \$1=2.53 DM. This change was provided for in the budget transmitted to Congress by the President. But even before the President's budget was printed in final form, the dollar had slipped to \$1=2.25 DM. Although the exchange rate has since leveled off at \$1=2.35 DM, the total loss resulting from the devaluation of the dollar since last September already amounts to \$4.750 million. An authorization sufficient to cover this exchange loss is included in the bill.

It is impossible to predict at this point what will happen to the U.S. dollar-deutsche mark exchange rate during the next 12 months. If the value of the dollar should drop further, the Radios will be faced with a second consecutive annual deficit. In fiscal year 1975, that deficit was covered by personnel reductions, reprogramming, and depletion of the working fund. Continued reliance on such administrative remedies can only aggravate the already difficult personnel and operational situation faced by the Radios.

#### COMMITTEE AMENDMENT ON EXCHANGE LOSS CONTINGENCY FUND

During the hearings on H.R. 4699, attention was called to one possible long-range solution to this problem, suggested by the General Accounting Office. In his communication to the Appropriations Subcommittee (referred to above), Comptroller General Staats suggested the establishment of a \$5 million "reserve fund" to be used *exclusively* for the purpose of compensating the Radios for currency exchange losses. Under this concept, funds would be made available to the Radios to maintain programmed levels of operations and placed *back* into reserve when and if the dollar is revalued upward.

## EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

With the general outlines of the GAO proposal in mind, the committee adopted, by unanimous voice vote, an amendment which includes the following provisions:

1. It authorizes an additional appropriation of \$5 million which is authorized to remain available until expended.

2. It stipulates that this additional funding, or any portion of it, "shall be available only to the extent that the Director of the Office of Management and Budget determines (and so certifies to the Congress) is necessary because of fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates in order to maintain the budgeted level of operation for Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty."

Because the budgeted level of operation for the radios for fiscal year 1976 takes into account an anticipated \$4,750 million devaluation loss, funds made available under the committee amendment could not be used to offset devaluation during fiscal year 1976 except to the extent that the resulting loss may exceed \$4,750 million. For any subsequent fiscal year, funds in the devaluation reserve will be available to maintain the budgeted level of operations if the rate of exchange falls below that which was used in preparing the budget for such fiscal year.

It is understood by the committee that, in the event of an upward revision in the value of the dollar, the Board for International Broadcasting would make its grants in such a way that the amounts furnished to the Radios would not exceed those required by them to maintain their budgeted levels of operation.

The legislative intent of the committee's amendment is identical with the following declaration of purpose set forth by the Comptroller General in his letter to Chairman Slack:

The whole idea of our proposal is that Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty could be assured that they may proceed to operate at an approved program level without being penalized if the dollar depreciates against the German mark and other foreign currencies and without gaining any advantage from the upward revision of the dollar.

#### THE RADIOS AND "DÉTENTE"

In the past, critics of the Radios have charged that the operations of Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty are inconsistent with the official U.S. policy of seeking "détente" with the Soviet Union. The committee has reviewed this issue over a period of years and finds the argument unpersuasive.

The continuation of RFE/RL broadcasting has been advocated by an impressive cross-section of academic specialists in Soviet and Eastern European affairs, as well as by journalists with experience in the U.S.S.R. The Radios also enjoy strong editorial support within the United States and Western Europe. It is the overwhelming consensus of those knowledgeable in the field that these Radios continue to perform a useful function and, in long-range terms, contribute toward, rather than inhibit, a lessening of tension between the United States and the countries of Eastern Europe.

If a meaningful détente is to develop—one that is based on substance rather than rhetoric—it must include a freer flow of people, ideas and information between East and West. That has been the position of the United States at the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Geneva which is moving toward conclusion of a crucial stage in the negotiations. International broadcasting has become an important aspect of those negotiations. Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights—to which both the United States and the Soviet Union are signatories—states that “everyone has the right of freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference, to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through media, regardless of frontiers.” This right to impart ideas through any media, regardless of frontiers, is also spelled out in the Board for International Broadcasting Act of 1973, enacted by the Congress. Any unilateral action to terminate the Radios’ operations would, in fact, serve to undermine U.S. adherence to this position at a crucial juncture in the Geneva negotiations.

Moreover, the Radios permit the voices of moderation within Soviet and Eastern European societies to be heard—an essential ingredient of détente. Recent audience research studies, conducted by reputable, independent polling organizations in the West, indicate that the Radios are listened to not only by so-called “dissidents” within the target areas but also by a substantial number of middle- to senior-level Communist party officials. These individuals have come to rely on the Radios for news and information about what is actually taking place within their own societies—information which is denied to them by their own strictly controlled media. Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty are, in fact, the *only* source of this type of information. It is not provided by any other broadcast facility. It is for this reason, in particular, that the committee feels their operations should be continued.

#### THE IMPORTANCE OF DEVELOPING A COMPREHENSIVE U.S. INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING POLICY

Although the proposed legislation (H.R. 4699) is concerned exclusively with the support of Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty, the mandate given the Board for International Broadcasting by the Congress—to eliminate costly duplication, to promote consolidation of facilities and broadcasting hardware, and to achieve greater economy in operations—cannot be carried out without reference to other U.S. broadcasting activities in Europe. Moreover, there is an evident need for the United States to develop a broader, more comprehensive policy on *all* U.S. international broadcasting operations.

To date, there has been a notable lack of cooperation and coordination among U.S. overseas broadcasters, which include—in addition to RFE and RL—the Voice of America (VOA), the Armed Forces Network (AFN), and Radio in the American Sector of Berlin (RIAS). The history of these various operations, which have developed since World War II, indicates that each has operated independently of the others, leading to duplication of facilities and efforts and, in some cases, bureaucratic conflicts.

Apart from the urgent need to rectify this situation for budgetary reasons, the U.S. Government should be concerned about the lack of interagency cooperation because of recent developments relating to pending reallocation of international broadcasting frequencies.

Last October, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) sponsored a Regional Administrative Conference for Low and Medium Frequency Broadcasting. The first session of that Conference, held in Geneva, produced general agreement on criteria for assigning or reassigning radio frequencies to various government and commercial interests throughout Europe, Africa, and the Middle East. The crunch will come at the Conference’s second session, scheduled for next October, when specific proposals for reassigning frequencies will be considered.

In the competition for available wave bands, pressures have been building up among European commercial broadcasters to have U.S. broadcasters move from LF/MF bands to shortwave. The United States is not a participant in the ITU Conference and much will depend upon the outcome of forthcoming bilateral talks with the FRG authorities who will represent U.S. interests at the Conference. If some sacrifice is called for in this regard, there is an evident need to develop a set of priorities which represent the overall U.S. interest as opposed to the parochial interests of the individual U.S. Government broadcasters.

#### POSSIBLE EXPANSION OF U.S. BROADCASTING TO OTHER REGIONS

During the hearings on H.R. 4699, questions were raised by committee members as to the possible expansion of U.S. broadcast operations to include other parts of the world—particularly in Asia. It was suggested, in fact, that BIB be authorized to conduct a feasibility study along this line.

After considerable discussion, a consensus was reached that such a move would be premature at this time. It was felt, in particular, that certain basic policy decisions would have to be made in order to establish the parameters or terms of reference within which such a study of technical possibilities would be carried out. There was general agreement among the committee’s membership, however, that this is a desirable area for future investigation, leading to development of policy recommendations which could provide the framework for subsequent action.

#### BALTIC LANGUAGE PROGRAMING

In accordance with last year’s congressional mandate, broadcasting in Lithuanian began in January 1975. Radio Liberty now broadcast up to 9 hours a day in Lithuanian and will begin weekly programming in Latvian and Estonian in July 1975. Daily broadcasting in the latter two languages is scheduled to commence in September 1975.

Financing of these Baltic language broadcasts is included in the fiscal year 1976 authorization request.

## COST ESTIMATE

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XIII of the House Rules, the committee has examined the request submitted by the Executive and has determined that an authorization of \$70,640,000—including a \$5 million contingency for unforeseen exchange losses—is sufficient to support the operations of Radio Free Europe, Radio Liberty, and the Board for International Broadcasting for fiscal year 1976. As noted elsewhere in this report, the fiscal year 1976 request includes an estimated \$11.1 million in nonrecurring expenditures for such special requirements as replacement of transmitters, consolidation of facilities, and severance pay and benefits for terminated employees. The Board for International Broadcasting has assured the committee that if the fiscal year 1976 request is approved and the necessary funds appropriated, the fiscal year 1977 authorization request should not exceed \$57 million.

The projected cost of this program over the next 5 years cannot be estimated at this time. The level of future funding will depend in part on progress achieved in consolidating broadcasting facilities available to the U.S. Government and in implementing a coherent interagency policy on international broadcasting.

## STATEMENT REQUIRED BY RULE XI(1)(3) OF HOUSE RULES

Pursuant to the requirements of rule XI(1)(3) of the Rules of the House of Representatives the following statements are made:

(A) *Oversight findings and recommendations.*—Under applicable provisions of the Board for International Broadcasting Act of 1973, the Board is assigned direct oversight responsibility over two distinct aspects of the Radios' operations: (1) Broadcast policy and effectiveness, including the responsibility to insure that broadcasts of RFE and RL are carried out within the context of broad U.S. foreign policy objectives, and (2) administration, to insure the most effective utilization of available resources. The Board is also required to report annually to Congress on the operations of the Board and the two Radios.

Since the Board has only been in existence for approximately 1 year, several months of which were devoted primarily to organizational requirements, a definitive assessment of its effectiveness is not yet possible. The committee has included in this report a summary of its preliminary findings in this regard, including certain initial accomplishments, apparent deficiencies and recommendations for future action.

The committee also reached a consensus in favor of pursuing an investigation during the coming fiscal year into developing a comprehensive international broadcasting policy, which would include not only the two Radios covered under this authorization bill, but also other publicly funded U.S. international broadcasting operations. Such a policy is necessary to increase U.S. broadcasting effectiveness, avoid duplication, and cut operating costs.

(B) *Congressional Budget Act section 308(a) requirement.*—This measure provides no budget authority or increased tax expenditures outside of the regular authorization and appropriation process.

(C) *Congressional Budget Office estimate and comparisons.*—No estimate and comparison prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office under section 403 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 has been received by the committee.

(D) *Committee on Government Operations summary.*—No oversight findings and recommendations have been received which relate to this measure from the Committee on Government Operations under clause 2(b)(2) of rule X.

## INFLATIONARY IMPACT STATEMENT

The measure would not have any identifiable inflationary impact. Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty have undergone significant staff reductions in recent years: Net reductions in personnel amounted to 295 in fiscal year 1974, 31 in fiscal year 1975, and will reach 227–271 in fiscal year 1976. Total staff reductions since 1965 (not including the fiscal year 1976 projections) amount to about 30 percent. Moreover, consolidation of headquarters in the United States and operating facilities in Munich is expected to be completed in the fall of 1975. As a consequence of this retrenchment program, long-range economic are anticipated. The fiscal year 1977 authorization request, for instance, will be at a level of about \$57 million or \$13,640,000 less than that provided for in this bill.

Given the phase down of the program as a whole and the fact that 80 percent of the proposed authorization will be spent abroad on international operations, this authorization is not likely to have any measurable inflationary impact.

## CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW MADE BY THE BILL, AS REPORTED

In compliance with clause 3 of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, changes in existing law made by the bill, as reported, are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets, new matter is printed in italic, existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

## BOARD FOR INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING ACT OF 1973

\* \* \* \* \*

## FINANCING AND IMPLEMENTATION

SEC. 8. (a) There are authorized to be appropriated, to remain available until expended, [\$49,990,000 for fiscal year 1975, of which not less than \$75,000 shall be available solely to initiate broadcast in the Estonian language and not less than \$75,000 shall be available solely to initiate broadcasts in the Latvian language] \$70,640,000 for fiscal year 1976, of which \$5,000,000 shall be available only to the extent that the Director of the Office of Management and Budget determines (and so certifies to the Congress) is necessary, because of fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates, in order to maintain the budgeted level of operation for Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty. There are authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year [1975] 1976 such additional or supplemental amounts as may be necessary for increases in salary, pay retirement, or other employee benefits authorized by law and for other non-discretionary costs.

(b) To allow for the orderly implementation of this Act, the Secretary of State is authorized to make grants to Radio Free Europe and to Radio Liberty under such terms and conditions as he deems appropriate for their continued operation until a majority of the voting members of the Board have been appointed and qualified, and until funds authorized to be appropriated under this Act are available to the Board.

## ADDITIONAL VIEWS OF HON. STEPHEN J. SOLARZ

Although efforts must be made to continue and strengthen the important broadcasts produced by Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe and beamed to the captive nations of Eastern Europe, we must also take affirmative steps to direct our attention to those nations in other parts of the world which are governed by totalitarian regimes and in which there is neither freedom of expression nor any sort of opposition media as well.

There are several nations in the Western Hemisphere, in the Far East and in Africa in which the written and electronic media are strictly controlled and where the general populace is not permitted to know of significant developments in either the outside world or home. Artists, intellectuals, journalists, political leaders and others who fail to parrot the government dogma or who partake in responsible opposition to the regimes in power are silenced. In some instances the suppression is ruthless and many have been arrested and imprisoned. Other nations strictly censor and control all media and form of public information and the people are unaware of any developments—internally or externally—even of those events which directly affect their daily lives and destiny.

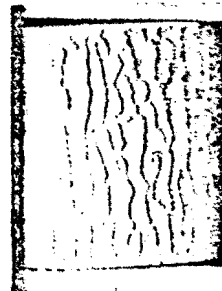
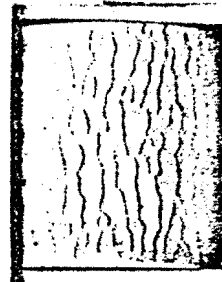
If the justification for RFE and RL rests ultimately on the fact that both of these stations beam their messages into those closed societies in order to provide the peoples of those countries with precise and accurate information and news, then presumably the same rationale would apply elsewhere in the world. During the course of the hearings on H.R. 4699 there was general agreement that the committee would carefully consider the lack of a free press, of free speech or of unfettered expression in other closed societies throughout the world with a view toward recommending legislation to authorize broadcasts similar to those now conducted by RL in the Soviet Union and RFE in Eastern Europe. To the extent that closed societies exist in other parts of the world, meaningful steps must be taken to insure that the people of these lands know of important developments in their own countries as well as in the outside world. I am hopeful that the committee will closely examine this issue and that it will focus its attention on those countries in which responsible dissent and free press are stifled. Should it be determined that there are nations in which there is little or no open communication, then we must decisively insure that uncensored and unabridged news reaches as many people as possible.

STEPHEN J. SOLARZ

to impose Russian over their own languages. In the face of the Soviet Union's policy of genocide in the Baltic nations, the Board for International Broadcasting and Radio Liberty are serving a tremendous humanitarian interest in beaming these broadcasts to the Baltic lands in their native languages.

I urge my colleagues to join me in voting approval of this authorization request.

EDWARD J. DERWINSEI.



## MEMORANDUM

## NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

September 19, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:       JEANNE W. DAVIS

FROM:                   CLINTON E. GRANGER *oil*

SUBJECT:                Response to Mr. Abshire from the Vice  
President

I have been in close contact with Dave Abshire on the problems of the Board for International Broadcasting for quite some time. He is now in the process of establishing a solid foundation to report to the full membership of the Board for International Broadcasting (next scheduled for December), and the letter to the Vice President is one of a large number which he shotgunned to the Administration and the Congress.

He is only seeking generalized statements of support, which he can in turn cite to his Board in his role as chairman. It would be inappropriate to have too specific a statement from the Vice President, but would be a useful aid for our overall policies to have a general statement of support which he can refer to. Such a generalized answer is at Tab A.



Dear Mr. Abshire:

I appreciate your most encouraging report <sup>on</sup> ~~of the advances in~~ <sup>result</sup> the activities of Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty. These are activities which are critical to the continued accurate presentation of United States interests to many with whom our only link is through the regular broadcasts. It is personally gratifying to me to know that the continued efforts of a small group of dedicated Americans can achieve such exceptional results.

You may be certain that you have my continued interest and support, and I ~~will~~ look forward to ~~the certainty of~~ <sup>OK</sup> even more effective actions under the new professional leadership ~~acquired by~~ both Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty.

Sincerely,



Mr. David M. Abshire  
Chairman, Board for International Broadcasting  
Suite 430  
1030 Fifteenth Street, Northwest  
Washington, D. C. 20005

## MEMORANDUM

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT  
WASHINGTONACTIONMemo No. 798-75  
September 10, 1975

FOR: JEANNE DAVIS

FROM: Jon Howe *JH*

SUBJECT: Letter to the Vice President from Mr. David  
Abshire

The Vice President has received the attached letter from Mr. David Abshire, Chairman of the Board for International Broadcasting, U.S.A. Mr. Abshire requests the Vice President's continued support for Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty.

Could we please have a proposed response.



MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

ACTION

September 23, 1975

EXECUTIVE

FG 352

IT 9

PR 7

FG 11

MEMORANDUM FOR:

SECRETARY KISSINGER

FROM:

CLINTON E. GRANGER

SUBJECT:

Schedule Proposal for the President to  
Meet with Members of the Boards for  
International Broadcasting, Radio Free  
Europe and Radio Liberty

The Board for International Broadcasting will be meeting in Washington in December. Dr. David Abshire, the Chairman, has requested that the Board, along with selected members of the Boards of Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty, be given an opportunity to meet with the President during that period.

President Ford has not yet met with these bodies. Such a meeting would afford him an opportunity to review with them the current status of U.S. foreign broadcasting programs and to discuss key issues in this extremely important policy area. In this regard, Congressional interest in the government's activities in this area is high, due in part to recent recommendations on this subject made by the Stanton Panel and Murphy Commission. The meeting will also serve as an opportunity for the President to thank the members of these Boards for their unselfish service to the country and to encourage their future activities. Dave Abshire feels strongly that such a meeting will cement his efforts to coordinate foreign broadcasting, and facilitate relations with the Congress.

RECOMMENDATION

That you approve the attached schedule proposal.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_

Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_





**BOARD FOR INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING**

United States of America

Suite 430

1030 Fifteenth Street, N.W.

Washington, DC 20005

202/254-8040

7956 (4)  
EXECUTIVE

FG 352

IT 9

PR 7

*Beam. Jacot D*

*Hayes, John S.*

December 29, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Jeanne W. Davis  
Staff Secretary  
National Security Council

SUBJECT: Draft Presidential Statement  
Submitted by RFE/RL

The statement forwarded by you was initially drafted in connection with a proposed meeting of the President with members of the Board for International Broadcasting, trustees of Radio Liberty and directors of Free Europe, Inc. Since the meeting could not take place, there is no need for a statement along these lines at this time.

The Board will submit an appropriate draft in the event a meeting should be scheduled at some future time.

*Walter R. Roberts*  
Walter R. Roberts  
Executive Director



EXECUTIVE

IT 9

FG 352

RE 14

13

*[Handwritten signature]*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

February 13, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR           RON NESSEN  
FROM                       ROGER ~~ROOM~~ MORTON

David <sup>x</sup>Abshire, Chairman of the Board for International  
Broadcasting, gave me this material and considerable  
verbage on this issue, of which I know nothing.

Dispose of it as you will.





**BOARD FOR INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING**

United States of America

Suite 430

1030 Fifteenth Street, N.W.

Washington, DC 20005

202/254-8040

February 11, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. C. B. Rogers Morton  
Counsellor to the President  
The White House

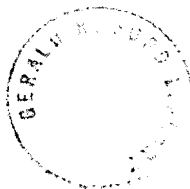
SUBJECT: RFE Credentials at Innsbruck  
Olympics

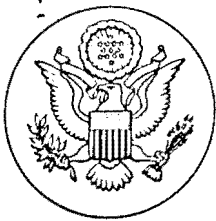
Apropos our conversation of last night attached is a background paper regarding the RFE credentials at the Innsbruck olympics. I feel that it would be very appropriate for the President to make a statement deploring this action.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "D. Abshire".

David M. Abshire  
Chairman

Attachment





## BOARD FOR INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING

United States of America

Suite 430

1030 Fifteenth Street, N.W.

Washington, DC 20005

202/254-8040

February 10, 1976

### RFE Credentials Lifted at Innsbruck Olympics

The Problem: As a result of Soviet initiatives, Radio Free Europe sports reporters, who have been accredited to every Olympic game since 1952, have been excluded from Innsbruck. The chairman of the International Olympic Committee, Lord Killanin of Ireland, has openly admitted that the exclusion was based on political grounds. If this decision is permitted to stand, a dangerous precedent of political exclusions will have been set for future Olympics--not only Montreal this summer but, more importantly, Moscow in 1980.

Background: There is no evidence that Lord Killanin or other members of the committee are aware that since 1971, RFE and its sister station Radio Liberty have been funded by open Congressional appropriation--at first through the Department of State, and since April 1974 through grants from the Board for International Broadcasting, whose members were appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate. The FY 1976 appropriation for the Board and the Radios, representing more than 99 percent of their funds and a 30 percent increase over FY 1975, was passed without a single recorded dissent in either house of Congress.

There have been Soviet challenges to RFE credentials at previous Olympics, notably Mexico City in 1968 and Munich in 1972, but these have been rejected. RFE has covered the games in a completely non-political manner.

The Facts: On February 4, 1976, the RFE news team at Innsbruck was informed by the Austrian organizing committee that the IOC had ordered the withdrawal of RFE credentials. No reason was given. However, the Tass news agency at 1427 Innsbruck time, followed by Radio Moscow at 1700 Innsbruck time that same day, announced that the Soviet delegation at Innsbruck, supported by radio-TV representatives of Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland, Czechoslovakia and the German Democratic Republic, had challenged the RFE accreditation because (in Radio Moscow's words) RFE "represents no one and engages in slanderous



subversion propaganda against the socialist countries." The Czechoslovak news agency Ceteka specified that the Communist initiative in the IOC had come through the East-bloc Organization for International Radio and Television.

In the face of the initial IOC action February 4, the Austrian organizing committee gave the RFE reporters until February 7 to return their credentials. The Austrian committee has stated repeatedly that in its view, and according to the bylaws of the IOC, RFE had been properly and duly accredited. Some confusion entered the situation when an anonymous IOC spokesman told the Reuters news agency that the credentials had been withdrawn because of a technicality--namely, that RFE credentials had not been formally endorsed by the West German Olympic Committee. However, this alleged technicality was exposed as fraudulent by West German and other journalists on the scene: many other press and radio organizations located in West Germany lacked the same endorsement because of last-minute haste. Thereafter, no further reference was made to the technicality. On February 9, after RFE reporters had left the Olympic grounds, Lord Killanin stated on West German television that RFE had been excluded because "we do not want the Olympic games to be used for propaganda, or as bait for propaganda."

Soviet and Eastern European media, who are in the midst of a major campaign against RFE and RL which charges that they are still controlled by the CIA, continue to take credit for the IOC exclusion of the RFE news team.

Membership of the IOC: In addition to Lord Killanin as chairman, the executive committee of the IOC includes representatives of the FRG, Spain, Brazil, Canada, Japan, Tunisia, Hungary and the U.S.S.R.

CSCE Relevance: The U.S.S.R. and its allies, in their campaign of recent months, have charged that RFE and RL are contrary to the spirit of Helsinki. However, the Final Act of the CSCE declared that the participating states "will favor cooperation among public or private, national or international radio and TV organizations, in particular through the exchange of both live and recorded radio and TV programs, and through the joint production and the broadcasting and distribution of such programs."

In a clear reference to Soviet and East European jamming, the Final Act declares: "The participating states note the expansion in the dissemination of information broadcast by radio, and express the hope for the continuation of this process, so as to meet the interest of mutual understanding among peoples and the aims set forth by this Conference."

MEMORANDUM OF INFORMATION FOR THE FILE

DATE

7/9/76

EXECUTIVE

RE14

PR16-1

PR16-2-1

FD5-3

FG11

IT9

LETTER, MEMO, ETC.

TO:

Brent Scowcroft

FROM:

Clinton Granger

SUBJECT:

Radio Free Europe / Radio Liberty  
at The Olympics



CORRESPONDENCE FILED CENTRAL FILES - CONFIDENTIAL FILE

EXECUTIVE

RE 14  
CO 158

IT 9

July 16, 1976

Dear Senator:

This will acknowledge receipt and thank you for your July 14 telegram to the President expressing your concern over reports that the Soviet Union is endeavoring to have press credentials withheld from Radio Free Europe.

Please be assured your message was called promptly to the President's attention upon receipt.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

*Bill*

William T. Kendall  
Deputy Assistant  
to the President

The Honorable James L. Buckley<sup>X</sup>  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

/bcc: w/inc to James Cannon for appro. handling  
/bcc: w/inc to General Scowcroft - FYI

WTK:JEB:VO:jem



RECEIVED  
JUL 17 1976  
CENTRAL FILES