

February 19, 1963
Memorandum, Howland H. Sargeant to the
[AMCOMLIB] Advisory Board

Citation:

"Memorandum, Howland H. Sargeant to the [AMCOMLIB] Advisory Board", February 19, 1963, Wilson Center Digital Archive, Released by the Central Intelligence Agency on October 16, 2019, in response to Mandatory Declassification Review request EOM-2018-00930. Contributed by A. Ross Johnson.
<https://wilson-center-digital-archive.dvincitest.com/document/290959>

Summary:

AMCOMLIB President Sargeant responds to CIA on a revised RL Country Paper it had forwarded.

Credits:

This document was made possible with support from Blavatnik Family Foundation

Original Language:

English

Contents:

Original Scan

9

February 19, 1963

MOST CONFIDENTIAL

Memorandum to: The Advisory Board
From: The President
Subject: Updating of Radlib Country Paper

The attached Radlib Country Paper which you forwarded to me with your memorandum of January 23, 1963 was reviewed here by Messrs. Bertrandias, Sosin and Yedigaroff and Mrs. Dupuy. I personally went over it several times.

This strikes us as an adequate and workable paper and we agree with the revisions over the previous paper, which all seem to move us in a constructive direction. One rather minor editorial comment: the target groups listed on pages 4-5 and page 17 are apparently meant to be identical, but actually include slightly different combinations of specific groups (i.e., party officials are included in the former, not in the latter). If this is not intentional, it might be helpful to make both lists completely identical.

Strictly speaking, there is nothing in the present Radio Liberty Policy Manual which is inconsistent with or in contradiction to the new Radlib Country Paper. However, because these two documents were originally drawn up to conform quite closely to each other, it would be desirable to introduce some modifications in the Policy Manual so that it might reflect the new Country Paper more directly. Specifically, there is no reference in the Policy Manual to three items introduced into the new Country Paper: 1) the implications of the Sino-Soviet dispute and intra-party rivalries for RL output; 2) that broadcasts should attempt to bring out the isolation of upper Party levels from the interests of the people and 3) the statement in the new paper that news and explanatory comment on the news will constitute the main element of RL broadcasts. There are other, more minor modifications of language which could also be made to bring the two papers closer together. Finally, the new paper makes reference to two objectives of programming - to encourage the development of elements of pluralism, and to encourage the exchange of persons and ideas with non-Communist countries. These both reflect changes in the actual situation since the Policy Manual was drafted, and RL output has in fact kept up with them although the Policy Manual makes no explicit statements on these subjects.

These and other changes in the Radio Liberty Policy Manual will be made on receipt of an approved Country Plan.

Enclosure