December 31, 1968 Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty Funding Issues Deferred for Nixon Administration

Citation:

"Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty Funding Issues Deferred for Nixon Administration", December 31, 1968, Wilson Center Digital Archive, Obtained and contributed to CWIHP by A. Ross Johnson. Reference Ch8 p207 in his book Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty, CIA mandatory declassification review document number C01441048 https://wilson-center-digital-archive.dvincitest.com/document/115117

Summary:

The outgoing Johnson administration defers for action by the incoming Nixon administration decisions on future funding of RFE and RL

Credits:

This document was made possible with support from Blavatnik Family Foundation

Original Language:

English

Contents:

Original Scan

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MEMORANDUM FOR MR. ROSTOW

SUBJECT: RFE-R/L Funding Problem for Next Administration

FYF

President Johnson was faced with the choice of preparing a high budget which could be pared and shaved by a Nixon Administration or a low budget to which the new administration could make add-ons.

President Johnson chose the latter.

The most appropriate solution for the new administration to this problem of funding the radios (either for continuation or termination) is to reinstate this amount.

This is normally done by the new Budget Director writing a letter to the Mahon and Russell commuttees asking for the add-on.

and a somewhat less amount if they are to be terminated.

Prior to policy examination by the new administration, either by committee designated by Mr. Kissinger, or by direction of the new President, this budgetary step would seem to be a wise move. Regardless of the decision, money will be needed.

With "x" amount ______ the new administration can approach the problem at the pace or intensity they choose.

"signed"

Peter Jessup

APPROVED FOR RELEASE **MARCH 2009**