

September 19, 1972

CIA Ends All Involvement with Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty

Citation:

"CIA Ends All Involvement with Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty", September 19, 1972, Wilson Center Digital Archive, Obtained and contributed to CWIHP by A. Ross Johnson. Cited Ch8 n56 in his book Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty, CIA mandatory declassification review document number C01441052.

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Summary:

A CIA chronology records the end of all financial support to RFE and RL on June 30, 1971, and the end of all supervision and other involvement on March 30, 1972. [Thereafter, funding and oversight were temporarily the responsibility of the Department of State and thereafter until 1995 the responsibility of a new federal body, the Board for International Broadcasting, and subsequently the responsibility of the Broadcasting Board of Governors.]

Credits:

This document was made possible with support from Blavatnik Family Foundation

Original Language:

English

Contents:

Original Scan

01441052

EO 12958 3.5(c)

APPROVED FOR
RELEASE MARCH
2009

19 September 1972

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FY 72 CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS

In accordance with the expressed intent of the Congress that CIA disassociate itself from any role with Free Europe, Inc. / Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty Committee, Inc. / Radio Liberty, the Agency ceased all funding and financial support to both organizations as of 30 June 1971.

At the expressed request of the Department of State, the Office of Manpower and Budget and the United States Information Agency, CIA continued its informal supervision of the activities of the two organizations as set forth in a letter from the Deputy Director of Central Intelligence dated 1 July 1971 to each of the project presidents. The letter stated this informal role would continue until such time as supervision of the organizations was officially assigned elsewhere.

On 30 March 1972 President Nixon signed Senate Bill S-18 into law. This bill officially designated the Department of State as the governmental agency responsible for the continued supervision, funding and support of Free Europe, Inc., and the Radio Liberty Committee, Inc. With the signing of this bill the Agency's twenty-plus years of responsibility for the two organizations came to an end.

SEP 42 1972 78-02924
SEP 7 1972 99

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