

August 10, 1950

Office of Policy Coordination Provides Propaganda Themes for Radio Free Europe

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Summary:

The Office of Policy Coordination provides the Free Europe Committee with four suggested propaganda themes for RFE broadcasts.

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TONIC

In reply refer to 6-429

10 August 1950

Mr. William Digby
National Committee for Free Europe, Inc.
301 Empire State Building
350 Fifth Avenue
New York 1, New York

Dear Mr. Digby:

The attached document enumerates four potential propaganda themes
and will be of particular interest to you.

Sincerely,

Reginald S. Godell

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SP/SS Chrono ✓
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1. The anti-Soviet forces cannot lose -- the freedom you live under will be lifted. This is the familiar 'victory,' or inevitable defeat theme. The freedom-loving world in the present crisis of Korea is overwhelmingly against the position of the Soviets and their puppet governments of Central Europe and Asia and these freedom-loving states are solidly united that aggression by Communist forces will be halted everywhere - the concerted power of fifty-nation nations guarantees this and Soviet forces will be unable to change or alter the outcome.

2. Be armed against the Soviet's propaganda - you know they lie to you and that their present statements are full of lies. Soviet and satellite citizens know well that Soviet statements are full of lies, but they lack the outside evidence, the needed cross-check which would enable them to distinguish between truthful and untruthful statements issued by their governments. When we say that the Soviets are aggressive, we are saying that the Soviet Government is lying about its peaceful 'intentions.' Themes can be developed about Soviet lies in many fields- production figures, claims about scientific discoveries (the 'real inventor' program), relative standards of living, efficiency of collectivization program, benefits which the worker enjoys as compared to those of capitalistic nations, and countless other subjects can be shown as false. A constant search for evidence which would be convincing to Soviet and satellite peoples would be extremely valuable to nurture this approach.

3. Do not be provoked into haste and undue action - skepticism is needed to help when the Right cannot agree. This theme is specialized and is primarily an operational one. It lends itself to reserve use -- i.e., consideration, study and processing for immediate use at some future time should the circumstances warrant.

4. Look about you and remember those who really hate the Soviet tyranny. A reliable old standby. This theme cannot be overlooked and should appear in many guises - indirect, direct and inferred. This theme needs no further development than constant use.