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PRIVATE 10725

FUND MEMORANDUM NO. 61

27 JUN 1950  
PUNCHED

June 26, 1950  
FUND

Referring to Fund Memorandum No. 60, fund representative reports another visit from Mr. Nikola Abrantchik on the afternoon of June 22, 1950.

Mr. Abrantchik said that he was greatly discouraged to learn that the Voice of America is launching several new language broadcasts, including Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian, to the exclusion of Byelo-Russian. He feels that this is a direct boycott of the Byelo-Russians and cannot understand why they are excluded from the interests and activities of the Voice of America and the Department of State, when even the Ukrainians merit VOA broadcasts in their language. Byelo-Russian, he says, is more different from Russian than Ukrainian is. The Soviet regime recognizes it as a separate and distinct language and arranges Byelo-Russian broadcasts. It has also seen to it that all important Soviet literary works are translated into Byelo-Russian. Lenin's complete works, for example, have been translated. Furthermore it is the language of 18 million persons. These millions look to America for help and encouragement, Mr. Abrantchik says, and receive nothing. When they hear that broadcasts are being made in the Baltic languages and not Byelo-Russian, they will regard this exclusion as a boycott and be bitterly disheartened. Yet they have a large and well organized resistance movement in the country and something to offer the U.S. in the way of cooperation against communism if and when such cooperation is desired. (It has previously been called

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to the Fund representative's attention that Abramovich's  
organization and contacts formerly received financial support  
from the Polish Government-in-Exile, support which, perforce,  
has stopped).

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