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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2007

17 April 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT : Conversation (15 April 1953) concerning SR use of Athens Radio Facilities for clandestine broadcasting to the Ukraine and the Caucasus.

PARTICIPANTS : [ ] PP/PYD  
[ ] Office of Communications  
[ ] SR/PP

1. [ ] explained that, on the basis of propagation studies conducted by the Office of Communications and his personal knowledge of the conditions under which the Athens radio facilities operate, he concludes that an audible radio signal can be put into the Soviet Ukraine and into the Caucasus. The Ukrainian broadcasts can be handled on a selective basis, that is, broadcasting to one area, such as Kharkov and its environs up to 150 - 200 miles, at a time. The Caucasian broadcasts will necessitate the installation at the present site of one rhombic antenna. This will enable one broadcast to cover almost the entire area of the Caucasus.

2. The propagation studies also show that broadcasts on the short wave bands from 6 to 14 megacycles will be audible throughout the year only for a limited amount of time. In most cases this will be six or seven hours during the period beginning a few hours after sunrise. During certain times of the year, however, atmospheric conditions will permit broadcasting over longer periods of time. It is also true that broadcasting in the lower frequencies, in the five megacycle band, will permit greater coverage in terms of hours during which an audible signal can be heard in a given area.

3. [ ] agreed that, even though limited time is available as shown by the propagation studies, SR should be given first priority on the use of the Athens facilities in view of the fact we have no other clandestine means of reaching this audience. [ ] suggested that SR not submit projects on the operations until he has had the opportunity to investigate other possibilities for the future expansion of the operations. His idea seems to be that the operations should be presented as part of a comprehensive radio plan encompassing the areas involved.

4. It was agreed that for security reasons involving the [ ] and the Greek government, the radios should be black and that the mechanics of broadcasting can best be handled by having finished taped broadcasts sent to Athens from outside the area itself.

SR/PP/RTA:cm

Distribution:

1 - CSR  
1 - SR-3      2 - SR/PP  
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