

JUN 27 1957



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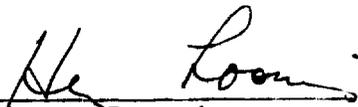
June 13, 1957

MEMORANDUM

FOR: Mr. Allen Dulles,
Central Intelligence Agency,
Washington, D.C.

SUBJECT: The Khrushchev Interview.

At Mr. Larson's request and for your information, I am forwarding a Memorandum prepared for him showing the discrepancies between Khrushchev's live statements and the English translation on his recent TV interview.


Henry Loomis
Director, Office of Research and
Intelligence

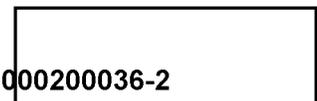
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Enclosure:

Memorandum

State Department review completed

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The Khrushchev Interview: Soviet Versus CBS Version

A. Dissemination in the USSR

1. A transcript of the panel interview with Khrushchev (broadcast by CBS in the U.S. on June 2) was read over the Radio Moscow Home Service on June 2. Correspondents' questions were paraphrased, while Khrushchev's answers were presented as verbatim quotes, although not in his voice. With the exception of the second part of a question on "contradictions within a 'socialist' system" (see below), the Radio Moscow version was complete and, compared with the CBS translated version, was edited only in a few details. Certainly there was no more editing on the text before it was published than is customary before the release of unrehearsed interviews or press conferences by public officials in the U.S.

2. Pravda of June 4 carried the full, verbatim text of the interview (questions as well as answers), again with the exception of the second question and answer on "contradictions." The Pravda text corresponds to the Radio Moscow version.

3. The CBS interview was filmed and recorded in Moscow several days before it was broadcast in the U.S. Consequently there was no simultaneous broadcast in the USSR at the actual time of the interview, nor, so far as can be determined, have sound or picture recorded at that time been used by Soviet media since. The Radio Soviet version, mentioned above, was read by an announcer. A Soviet TV newsreel is reported to have carried a spot concerning the interview, but not taken from the interview.

B. Comparison Between Khrushchev in Russian and the English Translation

1. CBS failed to obtain a recording of Khrushchev in Russian; and unscrambling the sound from the version broadcast in the U.S. is, in the opinion of USIA engineers, not feasible.

2. It has been possible for native-speaking Russians to catch exactly what Khrushchev said only here and there by listening attentively when the sound level is sufficiently high. Khrushchev rarely faced the camera, but kept turned toward his interviewers, so that lip-reading is not possible.

C. Notes on Discrepancies Between the Simultaneous English Translation and the Soviet Version

1. The only significant item cut from the Soviet version as broadcast by Radio Moscow and published in Pravda is the exchange following Schorr's first question on "contradictions" between the Communist leaders and the masses noted in China. After Khrushchev's rather rambling reply to this, Schorr asked, "But are you saying these contradictions do not exist in the Soviet Union today?" and Khrushchev replied, "We believe that we have no contradictions of that nature." These two sentences do not appear in the Soviet transcription.

2. In the simultaneous translation, Khrushchev's long reply to Novins' question concerning the competition of ideas included the statement that "We believe that our Socialist system will be victorious, but that does not mean under any conditions that we want to impose that system on anyone." In the Soviet version, this assertion is qualified at the end with the addition of "Through war (apparently allowing it to be understood that the Soviet leaders might want to impose the system through means other than war).

3. In some cases where Khrushchev was reported by the simultaneous translator to have said "I" the Soviet transcript reads "the Communist Party." The slip concerning "my Defense Minister" (corrected immediately by the translator to "our Defense Minister") appears to have been the translator's rather than Khrushchev's. In general, the translator lagged behind Khrushchev and somewhat smoothed out passages which are sharper in the Russian.

4. In answer to Novins' question as to what the Soviet Union would consider to be conditions under which it would feel sufficiently secure to withdraw from the countries in which Soviet troops are now situated, Khrushchev was reported by the translator to have said, in part: "We feel ourselves sufficiently secure and are not afraid of anything." In the Russian transcript, Khrushchev is quoted as saying only, "The estimation that we are afraid of something doesn't hold for us. We fear nothing..."

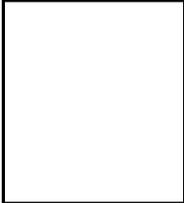
5. Whereas the translator had Khrushchev asking rhetorically how long it would take to move Soviet troops from Irkutsk or Vladivostok to Eastern Germany, the Russian transcript says, simply, "from Irkutsk or Vladivostok," omitting the possible destination.

6. Other differences in the two texts are minor matters of wording or grammar.

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D. Soviet Follow-Up Exploitation of Interview

Up to June 9, the Soviet radio had publicized Khrushchev's statements on the CBS interview in 172 broadcasts at home and abroad. This represented a volume exceeded this year only by publicity for the Supreme Soviet sessions, some of the Satellites' visits to the USSR and the Bulganin-Khrushchev visit to Finland. This total includes re-broadcasts of excerpts from the interview (although not in Khrushchev's voice), and comments on the interview as part of broadcasts devoted to domestic or global topics.

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Dulles 

Copies of attached have been forwarded to DD/I and DD/P for info.

No acknowledgement is believed to be required unless you desire otherwise.



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FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101
1 AUG 54 WHICH MAY BE USED.

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