

SECRET

Chief, London Bureau

21 March 1949

Chief, FBIB

Moscow Broadcasts of Slavyane Article

1. FBIB was somewhat embarrassed on 17 March 1949 by not having available from the Moscow broadcast to Yugoslavia excerpted in attachments the passages indicated by underline which had been picked up and given play by Italian and American press agencies.

2. While it is true that underlined passages acquire a sensational character only when taken out of context, an examination of the two excerpts discloses (a) that the one originally filed is a familiar account of economic and social distress laid to the Tito regime, whereas (b) the one filed later upon request is a statement of measures being taken by the Yugoslav proletariat, the Soviet Union and the "people's democracies" to rectify this condition, a statement which acquires some weight in being broadcast by the Moscow radio even as a quote from another source; and that (c) the editor's note cuing the unfiled portion gave no indication of its nature, implying similar or less significant material than the portion filed.

3. This case is brought to your attention in the belief that London Bureau editorial performance in excerpting and cuing broadcast material can be improved even under the stress of present staff shortages.

L. K. WHITE

Attachment

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Adm Off

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