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8 July 1954

Patrick Dean, Esquire
Chairman, Joint Intelligence Committee
Ministry of Defence
Whitehall, W.1
London, England

Dear Mr. Dean:

I have recently studied the Minutes of the Foreign Broadcast Information Service -- BBC Monitoring Service Joint Coordinating Committee Meeting held at Caversham Park on 4 June 1954. This letter is prompted by a paragraph of the Minutes dealing with the BBC Stockholm Project for monitoring broadcasts of the Baltic States and certain Soviet Regional stations unmonitorable at other FBIS -- BBC, MS facilities. In essence, the BBC states that for financial reasons it is likely that the Stockholm Project will be abandoned or a reduction will be made in other radio monitoring coverage. I fully realize the importance of financial considerations, but the universal interest of intelligence organizations of the United States Government in radio monitoring as a source of information compels me to view with concern any proposed reduction in the scope of monitoring by our two services.

I believe that monitoring must be maintained on a global basis, although major attention may be directed toward critical areas. We all recognize that the struggle in which we are engaged is world wide and that trouble may break out suddenly in remote and previously quiet areas. Further, the monitoring of radio broadcasts to or from presently non-critical areas may provide us with indications in regard to intentions and possible courses of action in critical areas. Therefore, since monitoring cannot be reinstated quickly once it has been cut off, I feel that it would be unwise to eliminate or substantially curtail monitoring of the less critical areas at this time.

The expression of intent on the part of the BBC Monitoring Service to advise the FBIS of proposed adjustment in its monitoring commitments before making any major change is greatly appreciated. I shall be interested in the final outcome of your discussion.

Sincerely,

Allen W. Dulles
Director

c.c. Sir Ian Jacob

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AMW. B. B. C.

AMW *John*

7 July 1954

Mr. J. T. Campbell, Head
BBC Monitoring Service
Caversham Park
Reading, Berks., England

Dear John,

I have just received a reply from the Chief of our Tokyo Bureau, [redacted] concerning Tokyo Bureau procedures in the use of NHK scripts. You will recall that Kit Saltmarsh had some reservations on using any of this material which had not been verified by monitoring the actual broadcasts.

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The procedure as described in the attached letter seems somewhat better than no check at all, but it still may be less than adequate for your purposes. I will appreciate hearing from you at your convenience on whether or not you will require further verification that the NHK scripts are identical to the broadcasts to which they pertain.

Sincerely,

STAT

[redacted signature box]

Attachment

AMW/peg

Distributions

0 & 1 - add.

1 - AMW

1 - exec files

cc: *Chief, Id. Bureau*

BBG

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

ORIG :
UNIT : FBID/00
EXT : 2927
DATE : 25 JUNE 1954

CONFIDENTIAL
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ROUTING		
1	<i>[initials]</i>	4
2		5
3		6

TO : LONDON STAT
FROM : FBID
CONF : FBID 3
INFO : 00 2

FBID 942 (OUT 57273)

1914Z 25 JUN 54

ROUTINE
PRECEDENCE

TO: LONDON

CITE: FBIS

BEFORE DIRECTOR SIGNS LETTER TO DEAN REFERENCE POSSIBLE
COVERAGE CURTAILMENT NEED ASSURANCE THAT DIRECTOR GENERAL
BRC CONSIDERS THIS ACTION APPROPRIATE IN ALL RESPECTS.

END OF MESSAGE

STAT

ACTING CHIEF, FBID

COORDINATING OFFICERS

CONFIDENTIAL
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RELEASING OFFICER

AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

IT IS FORBIDDEN TO MAKE A COPY OF THIS MESSAGE

Copy No.