

ADMINISTRATIVE-INTERNAL USE ONLY

Policy JPRS contracts

REF

14 April 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence
SUBJECT : Questionable JPRS Contracts
REFERENCE : DCI Statement of Policy on CIA Relationships
with Newsmen and Churchmen, dtd 11 Feb 76

1. This memorandum requests your concurrence with continued JPRS contractual relationships with a priest, a nun and a former newsman.

2. Referenced DCI Statement of Policy prohibits CIA contractual ties with members of the American press and secret contractual relationships with members of the clergy. JPRS, in fact, presents unique problems with regard to this Policy Statement. There are presently some 650 active JPRS independent contractors -- paid by the 1,000 words for translations performed off-premises. All are witting of the JPRS affiliation with CIA, so that none of the contract relationships can be construed as being "secret," but a painstaking search would be required to confirm that none of these contractors has connections with the news media. Even then, there would be no assurance that such links with the press have not been established subsequent to the signing of their contract with JPRS, or will not be in the future.

3. We do know that JPRS has independent translator contracts with the [redacted]

[redacted] There is nothing "secret," however, about Agency involvement in these relationships. All JPRS contractors are advised in advance of signing a contract that JPRS is "directly associated with and funded by the Central Intelligence Agency." [redacted] and [redacted] have been contracted to do unclassified translations from Arabic and Portuguese, respectively, both important languages at this time.

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4. JPRS is also in the process of arranging an editing contract with a [redacted] has worked for the Cincinnati POST, the Washington STAR, the New York SUNDAY WORLD and NBC, as well as the State Department, VOA, USIA and the Department of Commerce. He has stated that he has not been an accredited member of the press for the past 15 years.

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5. It is our position that these contractual relationships do not violate the terms of the Director's Statement of Policy and therefore may continue in force.

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[redacted]
Director
Foreign Broadcast Information Service

CONCUR:

Deputy Director for Intelligence

Date

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