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RUDOMLB/FBIS CAVERSHAM UK
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FROM [redacted] WA170

REF [redacted] 3 NOV 78 AND 3 JAN 79 LETTERS AND SUBSEQUENT MESSAGES
ON TRIPOLI AND ADEN "VOICE OF OMAN" SOURCE LINES:

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OUR APOLOGIES FOR THE BELATED RESPONSE ON THIS QUESTION. THIS APPEARS TO BE ONE OF THOSE SOURCE LINE PROBLEMS WHERE THERE IS NO STANDARD, CUT AND DRIED SOLUTION.

AGREE WITH YOUR SUGGESTION THAT THE MOST CONSISTENT ELEMENT IN THE STATION ANNOUNCEMENTS OF BOTH RADIOS ON WHICH TO HANG A SOURCE LINE IS THE REFERENCE TO THE POPULAR FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF OMAN. REFERENCES TO "VOICE OF OMAN" OR "VOICE OF THE OMANI REVOLUTION" DO NOT APPEAR TO BE USED CONSISTENTLY.

WITH REGARD TO BEAMING: OBVIOUSLY, THE INTENDED PRIMARY AUDIENCE IS OMAN. IT IS POSSIBLE, AND IN FACT PROBABLE, THAT THE CASTS ARE ALSO INTENDED FOR THE REST OF THE ARAB WORLD, BUT STATION ANNOUNCEMENTS ARE NOT CONSISTENT IN INDICATING THIS AND THE IMPRESSION IS THAT THIS IS CLEARLY A SECONDARY OR INCIDENTAL TARGET. THUS, WE WOULD PREFER USE OF SOURCE LINE: ADEN (OR TRIPOLI) VOICE OF

MLD-9003

3 January 1979

[redacted] Chief
Field Coverage Staff, FEIS

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Dear Joe:

Subject: Voice of PFLO

This is in reference to my letter of 3 November on the subject of sourcelines.

There was a slight mix-up in signals between the BBC here and EAU, so we weren't able to get a sampling of Tripoli and Aden Voice of the PFLO programs until the 20 and 21 November casts. The attached program summaries were done by [redacted] from recordings of Aden sent here by EAU and recordings of Tripoli made here by the BBC.

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As far as content is concerned, the Aden and Tripoli programs contained similar material but, not really unexpectedly, the same items did not appear in the programs of the two radios. Of course, two days' worth is not nearly a long enough sample to prove anything, but any type of longer survey would be a rather involved undertaking, and it might well not prove anything either. As far as the announcers are concerned, [redacted] states that the Tripoli announcer spoke with a Libyan accent, while the Aden announcer spoke with an accent typical of someone from that part of the Arab world.

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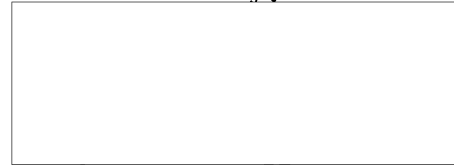
While they were checking the Tripoli program here back in October, the BBC had program summaries ("picture bulletins" in BBC lingo) done for three days: 25, 27 and 28 October. As you will see from the attached program summaries from October and for 20-21 November, the Tripoli program calls itself "The Voice of the Revolution, Voice of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman." The phrase "Voice of the Omani Revolution" does not appear to be used by the Tripoli program. (In regard to LD181100 January 1978 FYI on the Tripoli program, the actual closing announcement was: "Voice of the Revolution, Voice of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman," while during the monitorable portion of the program it was identified as the "Voice of the Revolution in Oman.") Comparing the Tripoli announcements with the Aden announcement attached, it's clear that the one element in common is still: "Voice of the PFLO." Thus, I would still suggest that the evidence supports two similar sourcelines:

Aden Voice of the PFLO in Arabic to Oman
Tripoli Voice of the PFLO in Arabic to Oman and the Arab World

The 21 November opening announcement to the Tripoli program--in particular the phrase "brother listeners everywhere"--supports the view that the program is not beamed solely to Oman.

One interesting note is that the 20 November Tripoli program appears to be a repeat of the 25 October program. The BBC has not sampled the program enough to indicate any kind of repeat pattern, however, and in view of the low-level nature of the material carried, plus the fact that EAU has regular coverage of the longer Aden program, they have never planned on adding the Tripoli program to coverage here.

Sincerely,



Chief Editor, London Bureau

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