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MEMORANDUM TO: PROJECTS REVIEW COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: Move FBIS Monitoring Station from Portland, Oregon,
to Reseda, California

1. Scope of Project

FBIS desires to move its present foreign broadcast monitoring station in Portland, Oregon, to Reseda, San Fernando Valley, California. This monitoring station is designed to intercept primarily shortwave broadcasts from Latin America, Russia, China, India and other countries in the Far East. The proposed move is necessary for the following reasons: (a) FBIS is occupying property of the Federal Communications Commission which the Commission would like to obtain for its own uses as soon as possible; (b) for FBIS purposes, more favorable reception can be obtained farther south on the West Coast; (c) a site with buildings especially designed for radio reception has been located at Reseda which radio tests indicate is far superior to the present Portland site; and (d) it will be possible to consolidate the entire operation under one roof and obtain optimum physical efficiency.

2. Urgency of Completion

The proposed site should be leased as soon as possible in order that the necessary antenna poles can be erected before the beginning of the rainy season in Southern California. If these poles are not installed before the ground becomes a quagmire of mud, the development of this project will be delayed by approximately three months.

3. Type of Funds Required

Vouchered

4. Estimated Cost

a. Number of Personnel

(1) Transfer of entire staff from Portland to the new location at Reseda with no increase in the existing payroll. There are 45 employees involved with a total annual payroll of \$160,000.

b. New construction additions to present buildings and erection of antennas. The survey made by the Army engineers estimates this cost at approximately \$130,000.

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c. Special Equipment

- (1) Receivers, recorders, transcribers and other fittings for a radio receiving station will have to be purchased. New equipment of this type would have to be obtained if FBIS remained in Portland, however, due to serious deterioration as a result of five years' use. Estimated cost \$40,000.

d. Travel

- (1) Trip of CIG representatives to negotiate the lease of the site. Approximate cost \$600.
- (2) Transfer of personnel and equipment from Portland to Reseda at approximate cost of \$10,000.

e. Communications

- (1) Approximately \$7,500 will be saved by means of re-arranging communications facilities between Washington and the West Coast. This will reduce the FBIS annual expenditure for this portion of its communication network from \$60,000 to \$52,500.

f. FBIS rental on Reseda location per year \$7,200.

g. Operational Supplies

- (1) Office supplies and replacement parts for radio equipment estimated cost per year \$5,000.

h. Summary of Costs

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|-------------------------------|-----------|
| (1) Cost of move | \$180,000 |
| (2) Annual operating expenses | \$229,700 |

The annual operating expenses at Reseda will be \$3,300 less than present costs at Portland.

5. Advantages of transferring to Reseda, California:

- a. Greatly improved reception with more comprehensive coverage at increased efficiency.
- b. Slightly less overall operating expenses on an annual basis.

cc: Asst. Dir. for Ops. (2)
Dir., FBIS

RMS:odr
4-12-46
OO/FB

EDWIN L. SIBERT
Brigadier General, USA
Assistant Director for Operations

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