

RADIO FREE EUROPE
MUNICH

OUTGOING CIPHER

1971 SEP 1

14:02 TO: C

MUN 3 1 SEP 71

TO: DURKEE INFO YARROW HOVEY
FM: WALTER

011302:

HEREWITH COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ATTACHED TO HOVEY'S 27 AUGUST LETTER. BOTH QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ARE VERY WELL DONE AND FOLLOWING SUGGESTIONS ARE ESSENTIALLY OF A MARGINAL NATURE.

PAGES 1 AND 2: YOU MIGHT WISH TO MENTION THE BBC PARALLEL AS WELL AS THAT OF WEST GERMAN FOREIGN BROADCASTING AND EVEN DOMESTIC BROADCASTING AND TV SETUP.

PAGE 3: I BELIEVE IT MIGHT BE TACTICALLY USEFUL TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT CERTAIN BROADCASTS DURING THAT PERIOD WERE NOT EXACTLY WHAT THEY SHOULD HAVE BEEN. YOU WILL RECALL THAT ONE OF THE POINTS FREQUENTLY MADE BY JOURNALISTS VISITING RFE IS THAT WHILE WE MAY HAVE MADE MISTAKES EARLIER AND PARTICULARLY AT THE TIME OF THE HUNGARIAN REVOLUTION, WE HAVE LEARNED OUR LESSONS AND WE HAVE APPLIED THEM WITH THE RESULT THAT OUR WORK IS CONSIDERABLY CHANGED AND IMPROVED.

PAGE 4: FOURTH PARAGRAPH IS SOMEWHAT CONFUSING AS IT STANDS. THE DGS IN QUESTION WAS REFERRING ONLY TO INTERNAL PRESSURES FOR FASTER REFORM AND NOT TO SOVIET PRESSURES. SUGGEST PARAGRAPH MIGHT BEGIN AS FOLLOWS: "WHEN INTERNAL PRESSURE BEGAN TO MOUNT AGAINST THE REFORM GOVERNMENT, SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH THE ACCELERATION OF EXTERNAL PRESSURE FROM THE USSR, RFE'S GUIDANCE STATED THAT THE CZECHOSLOVAK BROADCASTING DEPARTMENT WILL SEE ITS ROLE NOT IN INCREASING SUCH INTERNAL 'PRESSURES' BUT RATHER IN PROVIDING ALL THE RELATIVE FACTS, ' ETC."

PAGE 11: SUGGEST CHANGING FIRST SENTENCE OF NUMBERED PARA. 1 AS FOLLOWS: RFE AND RL REPORT AND COMMENT NOT ONLY ON U.S. AND WORLD NEWS BUT ALSO AND EXTENSIVELY ON THE INTERNAL DEVELOPMENTS

(MORE)

OF THE COUNTRIES TO WHICH THEY BROADCAST. THEY ALSO CROSS REPORT EVENTS TAKING PLACE IN VARIOUS SOVIET AND EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.

PAGE 11, NUMBERED PARA. 2: SUGGEST LAST SENTENCE MIGHT READ: ANY EFFORT BY THE VOA OR ANY OTHER U.S. GOVERNMENT AGENCY TO OBTAIN LICENSES IN THOSE COUNTRIES FOR THE KIND OF BROADCASTING IN WHICH RFE AND RL SPECIALIZE WOULD, AT MINIMUM, BE A COMPLICATED AND PROBABLY DIFFICULT PROCESS.

PAGE 12, PARA. 4: SUGGEST FIRST SENTENCE READ: FOR THESE REASONS, RFE'S INITIAL CAPITAL PROGRAM PROVIDES FOR THE ADDITION OF FOUR 250 KW SHORTWAVE TRANSMITTERS, ETC.

PAGE 16, SECOND PARA: SUGGEST SECOND SENTENCE READ: A NUMBER OF WEST EUROPEANS (AS WELL AS EAST EUROPEANS) HOLD IMPORTANT POSITIONS IN THE ORGANIZATIONS.

PAGE 18: PARA. 3 IS NOT STRICTLY TRUE. YOU MIGHT CONSIDER EITHER LEAVING IT OUT ALTOGETHER OR PUTTING IN A BRIEF PASSAGE ABOUT THE NEED TO PROTECT SOURCES.

PAGE 19, SECOND PARA: SUGGEST ADDING ADDITIONAL SENTENCE AS FOLLOWS: WHEN AN EMPLOYEE LEAVES RFE, IT IS ONLY POSSIBLE TO WARN HIM OF THE POSSIBLE DANGER OF TRAVEL IN COMMUNIST EUROPE.

PAGE 21: THE SECOND PART OF THE CITATION FROM THE NOUVEL OBSERVATEUR MIGHT BE USED AGAINST US BY SOME. PERHAPS A LESS DRAMATIC PASSAGE COULD BE QUOTED, OR JUST THE FIRST PART OF THE PRESENT PASSAGE COULD BE LEFT AND THE LAST PART EXCLUDED.

POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL ITEMS: 1) A QUESTION AND ANSWER ABOUT THE OLYMPICS, THE ANSWER OBVIOUSLY TO USE SUCH ITEMS AS THE RECENT EAST GERMAN YOUTH PAPER'S FLAT STATEMENT THAT THE EAST GERMANS WOULD DEFINITELY PARTICIPATE, THE CZECHOSLOVAK ACCEPTANCE OF THE INVITATION WHICH DAUME RECENTLY TOOK TO PRAGUE, ETC. 2) I BELIEVE YOUR ORIGINAL LIST CONTAINED A QUESTION ON POSSIBLE MERGER OF RFE AND RL. PERHAPS IT WAS DECIDED TO EXCLUDE IT, ALTHOUGH IT WOULD SEEM LIKELY SOMEBODY COULD RAISE THAT ISSUE.

END MSG