

RADIO REPORTS, INC.

Nov 11 1958

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Fulton Lewis Jr. at 7:00 P.M. over WOL (Washington) and the
MBC Network:

Mr. Lewis discussed economic aid to Poland, and the following was heard, in part:

"What becomes of the two years of propaganda broadcasting by RADIO FREE EUROPE, which has been holding Poland up as a model for the peoples of other countries to follow in weaning themselves away from Moscow Communism in the direction of freedom? All that is now just a lot of wasted words unless the State Department is going to try to pretend that Gomolka didn't mean what he said in this statement at all today, and that in spite of this, Poland is still different.

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"Incidentally, speaking of Radio Free Europe, our old friends, the CRUSADE FOR FREEDOM, which raises the funds to fiance Radio Free Europe, just finished putting on another junket to Europe for selected leaders of public opinion, as they call them, the junketers having been flown to Munich with a side trip to Berlin, and stops in Paris and Lisbon, Portugal, on the way home, in what they call an inspection tour. Actually, it's a ten day free trip which the Crusade for Freedom says is not paid for out of Crusade funds, although the trip a year ago, which was handled by Pan American Airways, was paid for by a check on the Crusade for Freedom in the amount of \$28,055. As far as I can see, this is just flat misrepresentation. This time the trip was handled by Dutch KLM.

"When I was in Munich recently, I went to Radio Free Europe's headquarters there and was given the spiel that is fed to visitors on these junkets, and it is probably the most juvenile performance I have ever witnessed. And this is what happened to these 60 individuals, men and women, who went on this inspection tour. There is an original briefing in a special briefing room, complete with a lot of Madison Avenue visual charts and maps and what-not, and a scale model of a section of the Iron Curtain, with row after row of barbed wires, which they say is charged in places with as much as 10,000 volts of electricity.

"After this treatment and an explanation of what Radio is and where the Radio Free Europe towers are located, and the standard cliches about the money that Russia spends every year jamming its broadcasts, all this being standard stuff, which I have exposed repeatedly over this microphone as being totally phony, but they just go on with it all the same.

"I have some newspaper clippings here from various parts of the country of interviews with people who went along on this particular junket after they got back, which provides some idea of just how irresponsible this whole thing is, and just how pathetically

these junketeers get brain-washed. Here is one from the Milwaukee Sentinel, interviewing a man named Arthur S. Ehrmann, E-H-R-M-A-N-N, the editor of the Eagle which is the national magazine of the Fraternal Order of the Eagles. I'm sure the gentleman is very sincere, his heart is in the right place; his organization is listed as one of the sponsors of the Crusade for Freedom and Radio Free Europe, so he went on the junket. But if he is correctly quoted, he got one of the greatest brain-washings any man ever had during the course of this trip.

"I quote from his article. "Ehrmann said Radio Free Europe has 3,000 employees of various nationalities in Europe alone. A key to the job they are doing lies in the fact that monitoring stations pick up thousands of blasts from the Reds against the station almost daily."

"Just what any such operation could possibly do with 3,000 employees in Europe alone is considerable of a mystery, and the fact is that the New York headquarters of Radio Free Europe states officially that their total payroll in Munich, Portugal, New York and everywhere else is approximately 2,000, which I can tell you from personal observation as a professional in the business of radio and a metropolitan newspaper editor as far back as 35 years is a grotesque, ridiculous figure.

"The Munich operation is about the equivalent of a small town newspaper, perhaps the Washington bureau of some leading nationally known newspaper such as the Chicago Tribune. It subscribes to the various press associations, has a monitoring operation which listens in and records the news programs of various stations behind the Iron Curtain, of which there are only a few. It has a so-called morgue, like any newspaper would, a reference library with a card system for checking out names of people involved in the news. The whole thing could be run with 200 people instead of 3,000 and it would still be two to one overstaffed.

"But Mr. Ehrmann was very much impressed, as most anybody would be on a superficial sightseeing tour through a radio station operation, particularly if he hadn't seen one before. There are tape machines and people transcribing some of the material that has been taken off the air. There's a total force of 28 people, including stenographers, various kinds of clerical workers and so forth. They make up the newsroom, a staff of 28 all told in the newsroom. It's a small newsroom; if I remember correctly, they said that eight of the 28--they said that eight employees are actual editors and writers. That then is the heart of the Radio Free Europe operation, but according to the information they fed me, Ehrmann, it takes 3,000 employees in Europe alone to support those eight writers.

"Another person who made the trip was Carl Schimmel, who was

interviewed in the Lincoln, Nebraska State Journal. He says that the number of employees in Munich alone is 2,000. He too was much impressed, which is fortunate, because he is Nebraska head of the Crusade for Freedom."