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To the Editor

Radio Free Europe

As a member of a national women's organization which has lent the prestige of its name to the Crusade for Freedom, may I congratulate you upon the objectiveness of your editorial "Mr. Lewis and Radio Free Europe" [March 29]. I have protested against circularizing petitions for the organization which purports to send "truth dollars" to free the enslaved peoples behind the Iron Curtain. My tilt with Radio Free Europe is not that it is mismanaged, inefficient and pro-National Communism. The philosophy behind the whole operation is a delusion. What right have we Americans to extol the advantages of democracy and freedom to those whose necks bear the yoke of the slave, while at the same time our government subsidizes the same cruel tyrants in power, as in Poland and Yugoslavia? What Hungarian would believe a word of what comes over Radio Free Europe after we urged them to aspire to freedom and then, like Pilate, "washed our hands" of them when they attempted revolt?

The only way we can prove our sincerity and deep concern for the 850 million captives behind the Iron Curtain is . . . by withdrawing diplomatic recognition of Soviet Russia. No other single move would so electrify the captive nations to the possibility of freedom as our denunciation of their rulers. . . . Until we change our foreign policy, the Crusade for Freedom and Radio Free Europe might as well be written off. Does it not seem ironic to be supporting a \$30 million project beamed behind an Iron Curtain which spares no expense to jam the reception, and then roll out the carpet for the Drum & Bugle Corps of the Red Army in the interests of "exchanging culture"? As Alice put it, things "get curioiser and curioiser."

Pittsburgh, Pa.

MARY A. SHERMAN

I fully endorse your editorial "Mr. Lewis and Radio Free Europe." However, I still think with Mr. Lewis that

a full-fledged congressional investigation is by far superior to any privately organized investigation. Only a congressional committee would have enough money to spend and the power to subpoena. You cannot get the whole story without the sworn testimony of dozens of witnesses, among them top officials, present and former employees who have nothing to fear and no RFE job to lose. . . .

Since I have been interested in RFE for many years and since I have just visited its installations in Munich, I'm well aware of the almost unsurmountable difficulties any private investigation must encounter. Only Congress has the power to force witnesses to appear under oath and to be heard in public as well as in executive sessions which latter proved so important in the congressional investigation of the Katyn massacre.

New York City

JULIUS EPSTEIN

Your lengthy editorial on Lewis vs. RFE was interesting reading. I shall only comment on your recommendations for a survey committee. I have followed the activities of RFE since its inception—at which time I recognized that a large number of its officials and sponsors were also identified with socialistic inclinations. This created a stimulus to the analysis of a problem—how could Socialists sell the American Way of Life to foreign nations? My conclusions to date jibe with those of many other individuals, including Lewis. They have not portrayed or tried to sell their audience on the principles of freedom that created this nation. They have advertised this nation as a socialist state.

It does not require a commission to confirm this fact. You can't get a zebra by mating a lion with a tiger. You can't get Americanism from the lips of Socialists.

Washington, Ind.

A. G. BLAZEY, M.D.