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OPERATIONS COORDINATING BOARD
Washington 25, D.C.

June 20, 1956

MEMORANDUM OF MEETING: Working Group - Committee on Broadcasting and
Television (COBAT)

18th Meeting held 2 p.m. June 18, 1956
OCB Conference Room

Working Group Members Present:

USIA - Robert E. Button, Chairman
ICA - Gerald Winfield
State - Sidney B. Jacques
 Florence T. Dowling (alternate)
 T. H. E. Nesbitt - Chairman, TPIB
CIA - Representatives present
OCB - Ralph Busick
 Marjorie Denny

Others Present:

State - Charles C. Finch

1. A draft reply to Beirut concerning the Lebanese TV project was considered. With reference to the suggestion of presenting the educational TV station as an outright gift, the position of the State Department was that if it were predicated primarily or exclusively on commercial consideration rather than on informational or political considerations, State did not feel that donation of the station was justified. It was agreed the mission should be informed that an outright gift was considered a bad precedent. The draft cable was revised to include the fact that IES was willing to award leader grants to train Lebanese in techniques, program production and methods; and to suggest that USOM explore the possibility of providing U.S. program advisers and a plan for training Lebanese in the U.S. The revised draft has been circulated to COBAT members; final coordination will be accomplished by the State Department by telephone concurrence.

2. The ICA representative reported as of interest to the Committee the fact that a contract was being signed for the development of a design for a transistorized printed-circuit, mediumwave, flashlight battery-powered, radio receiver to be manufactured for sale at approximately \$10-15, for use in under-developed areas.

3. With reference to the Yugoslav TV situation, it was agreed no further substantive action was necessary other than to acknowledge receipt of recent information and express interest in being kept informed on future developments.

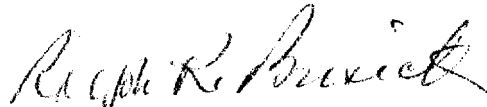
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4. In view of ICA's need for carefully prepared technical guidance on the project of a radio station for Libya, the Committee decided to refer both the technical study prepared by USIA on the project and the information obtained by Defense, to the TPIB. The technical panel will be requested by COBAT to prepare, in as great detail as possible, a proposal for radio broadcasting facilities in Libya. Since this proposal will be processed eventually through ICA, field comment will be secured by ICA following TPIB's recommendations. The TPIB Chairman agreed to call an early meeting for consideration of the Libyan project.

5. The next meeting will be at the call of the Chairman.



Ralph R. Busick
Staff Representative

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