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12/85

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET				
SUBJECT: (Optional) Proposal for Discussions with USIA 				25X1
FROM: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service		EXTENSION 2927	NO. FBIS-0027/85	
			DATE 22 January 1985	
TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)
1. Deputy Director for Science and Technology Room 6E45, Headquarters	RECEIVED	FORWARDED		The attached recommends that FBIS engage in exploratory discussions with USIA on possible sharing of circuitry and equipment for handling television.
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10. Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service				
11. 1013 Key Building				
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FBIS-0027/85
22 January 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Science and Technology

FROM: [redacted] 25X1
Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service

SUBJECT: Proposal for Discussions with USIA [redacted] 25X1

1. This memorandum requests your approval, or that of higher authority, to engage in exploratory discussions with the U.S. Information Agency on possible sharing of Government-leased circuitry and/or equipment. [redacted] 25X1

2. Both FBIS and USIA are engaged in modernization programs. Although historically USIA has been disinclined to cooperate with FBIS because of the attachment of FBIS to the Central Intelligence Agency, and may continue to take this position, both FBIS and USIA are now proposing to engage in the transmission of video signals between foreign and U.S. facilities. USIA has a program called WORLDNET which delivers, or will deliver, U.S. television programming to European consumers, particularly U.S. embassies. FBIS has a program in the budget called INTERNET which will, among other things, transmit foreign television to Washington. Both systems presumably will use commercial communications systems; both are unclassified. We understand that USIA Director Wick, in November, held discussions with State officials in Europe on the matter of situating TV antennas at U.S. embassies. [redacted] 25X1

3. Inasmuch as a USIA objective is to transmit television in one direction, and FBIS in the other, there may be some commonality in utilization of equipment and circuitry that would save the Government money. I believe that some discussion to see if a cooperative effort in this limited area would be possible would be useful in this time of budget constraints and austerity for the entire government. The only obstacle that I can see is that the DCI may feel it is useless to try to effect a cooperative venture with an agency outside the Intelligence Community, or USIA may not want to play ball. It can be noted, of course, that FBIS, being an overt intelligence collector, and a service of common concern, serves USIA (especially VOA) as well as Intelligence Community components. We know, for example, that VOA is very much interested in television monitoring. [redacted] 25X1

[redacted] 25X1

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SUBJECT: Proposal for Discussions with USIA

25X1

APPROVED:

Deputy Director for Science and Technology

Date

DDS&T/FBIS/ (22 Jan 85)

25X1

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