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19 November 1951

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THROUGH: FE/Plans, []
SUBJECT: Radio Free Asia

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1. The following suggestions are called to your attention in reply to the projected question "What can R.F.A. do that V.O.A. is not already doing?" You will note that these are largely implementations of Dr. Linebarger's general suggestion that R.F.A. can be utilized as an instrument of timely disagreement with official U. S. policy (V.O.A.) when this would appear desirable.

2. As regards the Philippines, R.F.A. could:

a. Express pronounced sympathy toward Philippine aspirations to a seat on the Security Council. Official policy leans toward support of Greece for this seat. R.F.A. could take theme that equitable geographic distribution of membership contemplated by the U.N. charter should include a Southeast Asian country.

b. Debate pros and cons of Japanese reparations to Philippines (as well as other S.E.A. countries). This can take neutral stand -- that Japan does morally owe huge reparations and should pay, but perhaps - just perhaps - Philippines owes the free world unimpassioned examination of effect on Pacific security before pressing demands immediately. R.F.A. might go on to suggesting means of Japanese payment: e.g. providing free technical assistance in reconstruction of destroyed buildings, factories, et cetera, or free processing of raw materials in Japanese factories. Here, official position is laissez faire.

c. Exhort the Filipinos to clean up their government. Put Tony Quirino, Lacsan et als on the spot. This could follow news reports on current cleanup in U.S. Obviously no official position here.

d. Stage dramatic shows beamed at laboring classes, basically anti-Communist in content but with good strong swats at such unsavory unions as the Water Front Union (U.O.E.F.) and Associated Workers Union (A.W.U.). V.O.A. can't do this. This, of course, should be timed with OPC labor-organizing effort.

e. Act as transmitter of black "plants". Thus, can report to Filipinos (and OPC station, Manila) that the London Times carried a story that Scotland Yard suspects Tony Quirino of murder, arson and rape. This type of operation may in the future become a valuable R.F.A. function.

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f. There are obviously many other specific missions which R.F.A. can undertake which V.O.A. cannot, limited largely only by the imagination.

3. As regards other Southeast Asia countries, and following the same general pattern, R.F.A. might, if its cover is secure,

a. As independent American businessmen, criticize backward French Imperialism in Indochina or praise French treatment of Vietnamese - whichever best serves present OPC effort.

b. Demonstrate American understanding of Islam, Buddhism, etc., show how they are all in danger of Communist attack from within. Inasmuch as this can reach the point of supporting Pan-Islam, V.O.A. is limited in its reach.

(c. Attack by name corrupt, incompetent or wavering individual leaders as it serves U.S. interests.)

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