

By 1/1966 (2)

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

INSTRUCTIONS: Officer designations should be used in the "TO" column. Under each comment a line should be drawn across sheet and each comment numbered to correspond with the number in the "TO" column. Each officer should initial (check mark insufficient) before further routing. This Routing and Record Sheet should be returned to Registry.

FROM:

DOFE/PL & OP

NO.

DATE

TO	ROOM NO	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS
		REC'D	FWD'D		
1. CIO				[]	<p>7 to 2. What is active Logan's answer to the question "what can RFA do that VOA cannot?" []</p> <p>DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT DATE 2007</p>
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18 October 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE RECORD

SUBJECT : Meeting on Radio Free Asia, 16 October 1951

PARTICIPANTS : John Devine
Brad Connors
Artie Lazarus
John Elwood
James Day

DOCUMENT NO. _____
NO CHANGE IN CLASS.
 DECLASSIFIED
CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS S C
NEXT REVIEW DATE: 2010
AUTH: HR 70-21980
DATE: 18 JUN REVIEWER []

1. The purpose of this meeting which took place in Mr. John Devine's office at the Department of State was to acquaint Mr. Devine and Mr. Connors more thoroughly with Radio Free Asia, its stage of development and plans for the future. The conversation was initiated by Mr. Devine who stated that he would like to get RFA's ideas for any contemplated expansion of the program. He indicated that Rod Hussey had promised a paper on this some five or six weeks ago. Mr. Mason stated that the indicated paper was probably the "technical survey" now in preparation by CIA Commo but as yet not completed, and further stated that any plans for the expansion of RFA would of necessity be based on the result of a survey currently being conducted covering the following points:

- a. Additional transmitting facilities now available throughout the Far East on which time could be leased.
- b. What additional facilities of what kind it would be necessary to construct to give maximum coverage in FE area.
- c. Maximum potential audience to be reached through the medium radio in FE.
- d. U.S. State Department policy.
- e. Determination by OPC as to what portion of the total FW media RFA was to fill.

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f. Ability of RFA to design and produce a program of sufficient local interest to make its listeners "risk their lives" to hear.

g. Success of RFA in recruiting competent and experienced people.

3. Connors offered the comment that most radio stations in Southeast Asia were Government owned and as such, would not lease time to private foreign organizations. The conclusion that was drawn from this after discussion was, in order to reach a maximum potential audience in Southeast Asia, there was little doubt but that RFA would have to own and operate its own facilities, but that RFA was some time away from this phase.

4. Mr. Devine asked the question, "what can RFA do that VOA can't," and after considerable discussion on this point, it was resolved that it was in the "approach" or "slant" given. In the case of VOA, it was a Government to people approach, where as in the case of RFA, it was a people to people approach. Mr. Lazarus mentioned the necessity of developing a program "personality" for RFA.

5. Mr. Devine then asked why additional weekly content reports had not reached the Department of State. Mr. Elwood explained that there had only been the one so far and that as additional ones were published they would be forwarded.

6. The matter of transmission of the State Department Overnight and Weekly guidances to RFA was discussed and it was decided that in as much as there were two each available for the use of CFA, one would be sterilized and sent by air mail and the other in original form by TWI, thus determining which was the most satisfactory time wise, the other being discontinued.

7. Mr. Connors offered the information that such guidances were transmitted over U.S. Army facilities to the field immediately upon publication, the first stop being Manila and Tokyo. [] suggested that arrangements be made to have the Presidio of the San Francisco monitor these transmissions and deliver them to RFA. (Arrangements will be handled through CIO).

8. Mr. Devine then inquired as to the "label" which RFA placed upon its broadcast. Mr. Elwood answered that emphasis was placed upon the international or "oriental to oriental" flavor and the American minimized. He stated that no reference was made to either San Francisco or U.S. as the source of the broadcast and give a manila post office box as the return address. Mr. Elwood said he hoped that later the broadcast would originate in the FE using indigenous personnel.

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9. When asked by Mr. Devine if there were any plans for immediate expansion, Mr. Day outlined that the next step in expansion would be that of adding an half hour of music to the program, and this would be merely for orientation. Mr. Elwood added that this expansion depended a great deal upon the solving of certain technical problems as well as others as mentioned above.

10. Upon conclusion of the meeting, Mr. Devine and Mr. Connors seemed satisfied and stated that their questions regarding RFA had been satisfactorily answered and that Mr. Devine would brief Mr. Barrett on the contents of the meeting.

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