

May 28, 1958

**Memorandum for the Record from the Assistant to
the President: Review of Country Paper with Key
Members of the Board of Trustees**

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Summary:

Assistant to the AMCOMLIB President Yedigiaroff summarizes a meeting of that date with four AMCOMLIB Trustees devoted to a review of a new Country Paper for RL

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A M C O N F I D E N T I A L

May 28, 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

FROM: Assistant to the President

SUBJECT: Review of Country Paper with Key Members of the Board of Trustees

At Mr. Sargeant's request there was a meeting on Tuesday, May 27, 1958, under the chairmanship of Mr. Dunham, to review with key members of the Board of Trustees the main points of the approved Country Paper. Also present at the meeting were Messrs. Sargeant, Lyons, Levine and Townsend, as members of the Board; Mr. Poor, our legal counsel; and Mr. Yedigiaroff. Mr. Dunham's review followed the attached outline.

Mr. Lyons expressed deep concern for the policy expressed in the paper. He said that it reflects the basic weakness of U.S. policy toward the Soviet Union, which considers revolutionary changes in the U.S.S.R. unrealistic, but holds high hope for evolutionary changes despite forty years of experience to the contrary. The policy sections of the paper suffer, in his judgment, from an illusion on the part of the United States that it can coexist with a system that is dedicated to destroying the U.S. and the free world.

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It was Mr. Levine's position that considering the political climate in Washington today we have a firmer paper than could have been expected. He felt that the paper provided a considerable degree of latitude for the radio to do a "militant" propaganda job. His position was that within the framework of the Country Paper, Radio Liberation could be as effective or as ineffective as its management wished.

Mr. Townsend expressed disappointment with the policy portions of the paper, saying that to him they read like a statement of coexistence.

At the conclusion of Mr. Dunham's presentation all present agreed that the Country Paper offered enough latitude to do an effective propaganda job. It was again emphasized by Messrs. Levine and Lyons that much depended on the manner of the paper's adaptation to Radio Liberation programming.

There was some discussion of the term "militant." It was agreed that perhaps another term would more accurately reflect what Messrs. Levine and Lyons meant by "militant"; i.e., vigorous, forceful programming that provides Radio Liberation with propaganda initiative.

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It was noted that the Committee's basic documents including the RL programming manual are being revised to conform with the approved paper and that no significant changes to the current basic documents are indicated.

All present were to make arrangements to read the Country Paper for themselves.