

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM

October 29, 1953

TO: NEA:GTI - Mr. Stutesman
FROM: P - Mr. Huyler *CH*
SUBJECT: Your Letter of October 28 to Ambassador Henderson

1. Your paragraph three is not entirely accurate. I would suggest that it be revised after the third sentence to read more or less as follows:

As you are doubtless aware under terms of Reorganization Plan #8 whereby the USIA was created, the Department of State was enjoined to provide that Agency with full policy guidance as affecting conduct of our foreign relations and the prime purpose of the Agency is, of course, to further the conduct of our foreign relations abroad.

The Secretary has designated the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs as the responsible office for providing full policy guidance to the United States Information Agency. In addition, the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs is responsible for the administration, supervision, and control of the International Educational Exchange Service as well as the Department's News Division and the Department's Offices of Public Affairs and Public Liaison which, concentrates upon the provision of information domestically, including placement of speakers, magazine articles, background information, etc.

Within the geographic bureaus of the Department, there are what have come to be known euphoniouly as the "/P" offices. They have the arduous responsibility of providing policy guidance specifically relating to their particular bureaus through the Office of the Assistant Secretary of State for Public Affairs to USIA, etc.

2. With regard to your paragraph # four, suggest adding at the end:

On the advice of the geographic desk as coordinated through the "/P" office.

3. I do not feel that your paragraph # 8 is entirely accurate. Feel that the second sentence might be revised to read:

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This does not reflect any unwillingness on the part of the individual participants, but rather a degree of uncertainty and lack of knowledge with regard to their respective responsibilities since the reorganization the establishment of the new Agency.

For your information, since 1948 it has been the responsibility of the "P" elements within the bureau, the Assistant Secretary of State for Public Affairs as well as the geographic and bureau officers concerned, to recommend and prepare statements for the Secretary, for press release, and/or for other key officials of the Department or Government as pertaining to the bureau's affairs. It has never been the responsibility of the USIA or its predecessor to prepare or recommend that such statements be made. An alert Public Affairs Advisor within the bureau is expected to anticipate propaganda needs in this regard, whether for domestic or overseas information consumption. Your paragraph as it now reads would tend to indicate that this is a new procedure which works to the detriment of effective USIA operations. In fact, it is a well established procedure which is exercised effectively within the Department's mechanism with the evident probable exception of the NEA area.

The foregoing is not sent in criticism, but for your information and use as you see fit.

P:CDHuyler:bd