

July 22, 1954 American Committee for Liberation Mission Statement Criticized

Citation:

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Summary:

CIA official Richard Bissell criticizes the April 21, 1954, AMCOMLIB mission statement ["Revised American Committee for Liberation Mission Statement"], now endorsed by the State Department, as postulating far reaching goals without identifying the means necessary to achieve them.

Credits:

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- Scan of Original Document

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Plans)

22 July 1954

SUBJECT : Statement of Mission and Objectives of the American Committee for Liberation from Bolshevism

REFERENCE : Memorandum for Mr. Allen Dulles, dated 12 July 1954 from Lampton Berry, State Department, subject as above.

The Director asked me to look over this statement. I am delighted to see that this Committee is going to be in favor of good and against evil. Happily, the State Department appears to have endorsed this position, after deliberating from 21 April until 12 July. As to the twenty-eight operational objectives (if I have counted them correctly), I could not possibly add to the list and can only hope that it is helpful to the operators who have to try to achieve these objectives or to those who have to approve the projects. I take it for granted that the really difficult judgment is whether the means proposed to be employed in pursuit of these ends are likely to be sufficiently effective to justify the cost. The list of objectives is not of course the kind of evidence that is required for this judgment. I apologize if the tone of this comment is unhelpful; it reflects a sense of chronic frustration at the enormous discrepancy between our ends and the capabilities we have developed for achieving them.

RICHARD M. BYSELL, JR.
Special Assistant to the Director
for Planning and Coordination

Attachment:
Ref memo

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