

December 21, 1951 George Kennan's Views on Radio Liberty

Citation:

"George Kennan's Views on Radio Liberty", December 21, 1951, Wilson Center Digital Archive, Obtained and contributed to CWIHP by A. Ross Johnson. Referenced Ch1 p29 in his book Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty, CIA mandatory declassification review document number C01441009 https://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/document/114372

Summary:

Office of Policy Coordination officers visit Princeton to solicit George Kennan's views on Radio Liberty broadcasting

Credits:

This document was made possible with support from Blavatnik Family Foundation

Original Language:

English

Contents:

Original Scan



APPROVED	FOR	RELE	ASE
March 2009	11/2 37		

SECRET SECURITY INFORMATION

□ EO 12958 3.3(b)(1)>25Yrs

(C)

11 December 1951 11,2

MEMORANDUM POR: 0/ME-4

SUBJECT:

BE-4 Meeting with George Kenman on Thursday, 20 Dec 51

December 1	161. It was	Princeton, No J their purpose to ly as to the lin	sound out the	Continue on the
viet authori	tites.	y	o was drawn on or	. The madments Att
•		المراجعة المستقدمة المستقدات المستقدات		
2.	abenes A	the discussion by	A DATESTE IN F	
r political	ounters On	the whele.	ware the	mpathetie takin
suds male e	the politice	d conter is mi	v erasking addit	dental transition to
already to	one pipunties	and that it is	interfering with	N .
			for the	parpets of
enering inte	elligense,		,	
A.	*****			
4.	\$hos	a seminod up our r		
4.	the		3	articularly in
iso.		The sea Before	District Land Atlanta	articularly in
det people	for their re	Non to appe	District Land Atlanta	articularly in
det people		Non to appe	District Land Atlanta	articularly in

79-02124 14 MM 38

SECURITY INFORMATION

CONFIDENTIAL

EO 12958 3.3(b)(1)>25Yrs

19)

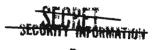
SECURITY INFORMATION-

- S. Mr. Kennan contioned that the radio sust consider the pecition of Western Germany as a governige host country and as a special responsibility of the U.S. Mr. Kennan further advised that we not just considerations of the possibility that there will be no war, that there will be no change in Seviet authority, and that we will have to continue to do business with the Pelitoure. The United States government, if not the pelitical cember, must consider that Stalin might change his ways. 6. Mr. Kennan continually stressed that our radio should put the by der and the Severament at the Seve brune of its attack on the Relaborik party, not the Communist party,
- "Fusa up" disposition of Seviet authority and not call for a violent denil overthrow of the Seviet Geverrment.
- 7. Our point of departure should be the Bolzhevik dispersal of the Constituent Assembly which deprived the Russian people of that one appartunity for free choice in Government.
- S. He suggested that we do not lump the Seviet Army and the rank and file of the Communist Party and even the security police with Edvict leadership.
- 9. The Soviet system is not only a conspiracy against the sutside world and its own oithsons but against its own bureausrasy which it controls by accelerating or slowing down its rate of degreet-deg competition. As a consequence, maximum tention exists in these branches of Soviet authority directly below the Polithure.
- 10. Mr. Emma set forth two guiding principles for the operations Padies (1) it must consider its rele as a guest on German territory and sentain its attack so as not to projudice German security and indirectly American interests therein, and (2) it should avoid the question of destroying the Soviet Government. Lemma probably Elember 11.

 Solt that Point I would make some to numbers of the
- political esmos and help us in gaining their acquisseems to our epatrol.
- rel par 4. 12. As the immediate target of redio is the discussion turned to appropriate thumes. the sublished are leaded there there descriptions of defectors' life and treatment in the Wast and the like. In any We should impresse disentiafection with Army discipline and with the strict confinement of officers and soldiers on occupation duty. We should tell them may they are restrained from travel and fereign contracts.
- 18. We should also attack their political indostrination as intelleatual subversion and stress the fact that the Soviet regime classed the window on Europe and the world so deliberately and painstakingly spened by Peter the Great; our propagands is but striving to knock that window out again,



C01441009



14. Hr. Kennam feels that the Seviet people are immensely interested in cultural activity and news, and that we should give them periodic provide seconds of cultural achievements by Austians abroad and these purged part within the USER. He mentioned his interest in the Checkbery publishing company which among other things is reviving the works of Zoshehemke and further. Admintons, both victims of Soviet wrath. He also suggested that we present a rounday of the Buigre press where it supports our purpose.

15. As to style of presentation, Mr. Kennan advectors a dignified, forceful and concine presentation and couplons against the expansivement, characteristic of Ressian Bulgres. What is the type large the district intillegant life. On the whole, he advectors a large measure of independence for

16. On the whole, he advesses a large measure of independence for the political center radio within the framework of a few simple rules laid down by us.

17. The meeting adjourned for lunch at appreximately 1:00 p.m. and was not continued.

		/AY/go
		ard buttion:
*	*	Band.

0 - 00/

