

October 25, 1967

Memorandum, Alex Long to Catherine Dupuy, 'Policy Review Report'

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Summary:

The CIA liaison official provides AMCOMLIB President Sargeant which his comments on draft policy papers (not attached).

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25 October 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR: The President, RadLibCom
ATTENTION: Catharine Dupuy
SUBJECT: Policy Review Report

1. With apologies for the delay, I am returning your drafts of the policy review report and the policy structure paper with my comments and suggested emendations penciled in. As you can see, I have had no major problems with the constructions in either draft, and have addressed myself to only a few relatively minor points in the structure paper, most of which are explained below.

2. Page 2: I am still somewhat unhappy with the "all areas of significance should be identified" formula: either it says to little ("everything that needs policy should have policy"), or it says to much ("significance is the criterion for choosing a subject for policy treatment")-- and I am particularly concerned with avoiding the almost limitless scope of the latter definition. Perhaps the wording change I have made will get across the idea that "significance" at least should be interpreted narrowly.

3. Page 3: I think that we are agreed that, wherever possible, we effect consultation.

4. Page 6: The "complete umbrellas" concept, again, is misleadingly suggestive of an all-inclusive system, and I think the phrase could be dropped without doing damage to the function intended for Basic papers. The idea intended here is better expressed in the first sentence of the second paragraph on page 11.

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5. Page 13: Although I remember disqualifying myself when it came to the discussion of these implementation papers, I think it would be useful as a matter of record--since this structure paper is to be a governing document--to define them more precisely, even if it means saying that they can take whatever form is deemed necessary or useful from time to time.

6. Page 15: Since I have been under the assumption that there is nothing sacrosanct about a policy paper from one January to the next, I have suggested additional wording to this effect.

7. Page 16: Intentions for these Broadcast Guidances should also be delimited as narrowly as possible if we are to facilitate their use and avoid a great backlog of outdated papers that still remain vaguely relevant.

Alex Long