



## MOSCOW'S RADIO PEACE AND PROGRESS

August 1982

Radio Peace and Progress (RPP) plays a special role in the U.S.S.R.'s foreign propaganda operations. As the purported voice of Soviet "public opinion," it is targeted primarily at mass audiences in the Third World. In line with this programming concept, its broadcasts are characteristically more outspoken and less sophisticated than those of the official Radio Moscow. The carefully maintained distinction between RPP and official broadcasts allows for the transmission of material which the Soviet Government and Communist Party might wish to disclaim responsibility.

RPP now broadcasts a total of 161 hours weekly in 1 languages and dialects. It uses, as it has since its first broadcast in 1964, the same facilities as Radio Moscow. The "public" (as opposed to government or party) organizations which sponsor RPP broadcasts include the Union of Journalists of the U.S.S.R., Novosti news agency the Union of Societies of Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries, the Writer's Union of the U.S.S.R., the Union of Composers of the U.S.S.R., the Znaniye Society (a lecture and public information organization), the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace, the Committee of U.S.S.R. Youth Organizations, and the Soviet Women's Committee. Announcements which precede RPP broadcasts explain that it "aims at cooperating in the development and strengthening of mutual understanding, trust, and friendship."

While RPP's coverage accurately reflects Soviet policy, it is occasionally used to air unique material that does not appear in any form in official Soviet media. In one such case, an RPP Spanish-language broadcast in January 1981 attributed to a Salvadoran insurgent the view that the situation in El Salvador might deteriorate to the point that Cuba would consider military intervention in support of the guerrillas there. Official Soviet media have not been heard to suggest such a Cuban role. Similarly, RPP has vehemently attacked "reactionary leaders in Iraq" for "fabricated" accusations against Iraqi Communists. Official Soviet media, however, have been scrupulously correct in their treatment of the Iraqi regime.

RPP's program material, above all, is designed to reinforce trends in public opinion that serve Soviet foreign policy interests. For example, RPP Hebrew-language broadcasts are intended to strengthen opposition elements in Israel (including the Israeli Communist Party) and exploit divisions in Israeli public opinion on controversial foreign and domestic issues. In contrast, but in line with the same objective, RPP Spanish-language broadcasts to Latin America are highly inflammatory and designed to exacerbate suspicions and traditional tensions between the United States and its southern

neighbors. A sample of recent, regionally specialized RPP themes is given below:

### In Arabic to the Arab World

- The United States colludes with Israel to dominate the Middle East.
- The sale of AWACS aircraft allows the United States to control the Saudi Arabian Government.
- U.S. leaders consider Arabs to be incapable of grasping the real intentions of American policy.
- Saudi dealings with the United States serve U.S. and Israeli designs against Arabs.
- Moscow is the true ally of the Arab cause.
- Communism is a friend of Islam.

### In Hebrew to Israel

- The Israeli Government is a hostage to U.S. policy, and Prime Minister Begin has no concern for Israeli interests.
- The United States is an unreliable ally since it arms Arabs as well as Israelis.
- Continuing tension between Israelis and Arabs serves U.S. interests, and the CIA is encouraging criminal acts to aggravate mutual enmity.

### In English to Asia

- America infiltrates mercenaries into Afghanistan. (Soviet troops there are rarely, if ever, mentioned by RPP.)
- The U.S. Embassy in India is smuggling Afghans out of Afghanistan to attend special spy and sabotage schools in the United States to learn, among other things, how to poison wells.
- The CIA is financing a separatist movement in the Punjab.
- Pakistan, with U.S. and Chinese help, is a nuclear threat to its neighbors.
- The United States and China have agreed to an aggressive military alliance to threaten Asia.

### In Spanish to Latin America

- The CIA has assassinated well-known Latin American politicians such as Presidents Torrijos of Panama, Roldes of Ecuador, and others.
- The United States is conducting chemical and biological warfare in a program of mass extermination.

- Salvadoran children are kidnapped for terrorist training at “CIA centers” and to be used as guinea pigs.
- U.S. multinational companies such as Coca-Cola employ “hoodlums” to repress and murder local workers.
- U.S. military advisers torture Salvadoran rebels and train Latin Americans in torture techniques.

The excerpts from broadcasts collected in the Annex are chosen to illustrate RPP’s treatment of the above propaganda themes. While taken from only 4 of RPP’s 15 language services, they convey a tone and level of blatancy which is typical of RPP’s entire range of programming.

## ANNEX

### Quotations From Radio Peace and Progress

#### Arabic to the Arab World

“... on recent occasions some reactionary leaders in Iraq have tried in their speeches to distort the heroic struggle of Fahd and his comrades and the history and attitude of the Iraq! Communist Party with fabricated unfounded accusations .... These accusations and this feverish campaign in antagonizing Iraq! Communists and the Soviet Union is nothing new to the patriotic and democratic Iraq forces. The Iraqi people know well that the weapon of Iraqi reactionaries in antagonizing the progressive forces has been and still is one and the same at all times, although the lies differ somewhat . . . .” (March 6, 1980)

“General Eytan, the Israeli Chief of Staff, confessed in one of his recent statements that the United States supplies Israel with intelligence information about strategic military targets in Saudi Arabia. Although this admission did not disclose anything new to the world, it gives us another chance to talk about the so-called balanced U.S. policy in the Middle East. America has strived to depict its policy in the region as being just and evenhanded toward both Israel and the Arab. However, such claims are pure propaganda because the United States continues to be eager to consolidate Israel’s military capabilities and thus continues to totally back and support Israel in its expansionist and aggressive designs.” (November 29, 1981)

“...the Reagan Administration is trying to exploit the AWACS deal in order to increase Saudi Arabia’s subservience to American imperialist policies. Furthermore, Washington’s plans to tame Riyadh, which rejects the Camp David deal, have the same colonial crudeness as that of Washington’s British predecessors in the Near an Middle East.... American politicians compare the Arabs with children who should be given a tank or a gun to make them stop shouting.... Behind the bragging over this electronic miracle (the AWACS) ... lies the hope pinned by the American Administration on the ignorance and the naivete of the Arabs who, it is claimed, are incapable of grasping the real intentions of American imperialism.” (September 28, 1981)

“The U.S. Congress has approved the sale of five espionage AWACS planes to Saudi Arabia. This act ends a long theatrical play of information put on to conceal Riyadh’s involvement in implementing the designs of the United States and Israel against the Arabs.” (October 30, 1981)

“... Soviet Communists, whom Arab reaction is trying to villify, are busy honestly helping the Arab countries to liquidate the consequences of the Israeli aggression and to preserve their heritage and religion. The position of Soviet Communists is synonymous with the interests of the struggle against the obscurantist forces of imperialism.” (September 25, 1981)

“...The enemies of the establishment of economic and political relations between the peoples of the Arabian Gulf and the Socialist countries ... allege that the establishment of diplomatic relations with Moscow poses a threat to Islam. Naturally, all this is utterly false. The Soviet Communists who safeguard the freedom of religious belief in their own country have never violated this principle in the international arena either.” (October 2, 1981)

#### Hebrew to Israel

“The Israeli Government, which is now dispatching armored vehicles and tanks to destroy the houses and transfer the settlers into Israel’s territory, claims that the Sinai settlements had been established arbitrarily-so to speak-and that the settlers moved there of their own free will.... Those people ultimately understood the extent of cynicism and cruelty employed by the government in leading them by the nose: As long as they lived in the foreign territories, they were hostages to the policy of violence. Now Begin and his associates use the fate of the settlers as though it was small change to pay for their new move-converting the Israeli conquest of the Sinai into a U.S. conquest ... perhaps it would be wiser to say “no” already today to the political adventurism of the government which has turned Israel into the hostage of the coolheaded calculations of those people across the ocean who want to control both the Jews, the Arabs, and the entire human race.” (March 9, 1982)

“... Secretary of State Alexander Haig, announces even now that despite the shipment of arms to Arab countries, the United States will find a way to guarantee Israel’s military superiority in the Middle East. Arms for mass killing, including chemical arms, on Israeli soil is the U.S. solution. In other words, U.S. attempts to expand its military ties with a number of Arab regimes are not at all in conflict with the strategic cooperation between the United States and Israel as Washington perceives it-the kind of cooperation where one partner becomes the other partner’s hostage and victim. Clearly, if another flareup erupts in the Middle East when arms for massive killing are stationed there, even if they are not intended to be activated, catastrophe cannot be avoided. Israel and other countries will turn into barren deserts.” (February 21, 1982)

#### English to Asia

“In violation of all diplomatic norms, the United States Embassy in India is actively taking part in carrying out the CIA-planned so-called smuggling of Afghan counterrevolutionaries through India and other countries. According to the (Indian) weekly (Blitz) in the recent past alone, about 500 Afghan ringleaders flew from Delhi by plane on international airlines to Seattle and other American cities to go through courses in spying and sabotage operations. In special American schools, instructors also teach them methods of conducting mass terrorism against the civilian population — how to blow up factories and plants, schools,

hospitals, and bridges and how to poison drinking wells.” (November 2, 1981)

“The people of India express serious concern and anxiety over the mounting intrigues of the Central Intelligence Agency against their country. According to sources of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of India, the CIA is financing the separatist movement in the State of Punjab. This is being done through secret channels by way of Pakistan. The Chief Minister of the State of Punjab, Darbara Singh, points out that it is the United States that is behind the slogan of creating a so-called independent state for the Sikhs. The American magazine, *Counterspy*, presents evidence of the intensified intrigues by the CIA against India.” (May 22, 1982)

“Should special circumstances arise, the test of the first Pakistan atomic bomb may take place in China since Beijing, being Islamabad’s ally, was kind enough to offer all sorts of assistance, certainly not disinterested. And at present, the U.S. Administration, demonstrating verbally its displeasure with the nuclear work being carried on in Pakistan, is in fact encouraging the Pakistani militaristic plan ... Pakistan, will be very pleased with the new American planes. However, it is not clear where these planes will be heading for, starting off from the aerodromes which are speedily being built on the territory of Pakistan, and for quite understandable reasons this question worries many people. Pakistan’s atomic bomb poses a real threat to the security of all the neighboring states. The public of these countries cannot be satisfied with Pakistan’s recent allegations about its adherence to peace.” (January 5, 1982)

“The Beijing upper crust favors (the) wild ambitions of Washington and has voiced its readiness to sacrifice the sovereign rights of China for the sake of the interest of American imperialism ... the United States and China have reaffirmed their intention to knock together an aggressive military political alliance despite all the existing tactical disagreements. This alliance threatens considerably the course of peace in Asia.” (January 13, 1982)

### Spanish to Latin America

“Many countries throughout the world are closely following the investigation into the death of the famous Panamanian politician and member of the military, General Omar Torrijos. Everything that is known, up to the present time, indicates that the Yankee CIA, corporation of murderers, is implicated in the death of Torrijos. The CIA began this hunt approximately 10 years ago. His bold and consistent interventions regarding Panama’s sovereignty and its undeniable right of the Panama Canal Zone led to Torrijos and many other Latin American progressive personalities being placed on the list of persons that the CIA has planned to retire from the political scene at any cost.” (August 10, 1981)

“CIA terrorist agents are acting in Latin America. Important personalities have been their victims during the past few years, such as Peruvian leader General Luis Andres Rublos, Ecuadorean President Jaime Roldos, and Panamanian leader Omar Torrijos. On CIA orders, former

Bolivian President Juan Jose Torres was murdered in Buenos Aires 5 years ago.” (December 5, 1981)

“. . . The CIA used to carry out its criminal operations against certain statesmen and politicians under cover, but now it has been given a green light to carry them out against peoples. This operation involves a wide range of biological and chemical warfare. Suspicious lethal epidemics have appeared affecting the population, including epizootic cattle disease and several diseases affecting agriculture. According to a new order given by the U.S. President, all restrictions on CIA secret operations abroad have been lifted, including the barbaric extermination of peoples.” (November 3, 1981)

“The CIA kidnaps children of Salvadoran refugees in Honduras. These operations are carried out under the disguise of the World Mission religious organization, which officially is carrying out charity activities in the refugee camps. These shepherds of souls, who in reality are CIA agents, promise the mothers of the children that they will be well-fed and will receive an education in the United States. The poor peasants are obliged to accept because their children are threatened with starvation ... the Salvadoran children are sent to special CIA centers in the United States. They are subject to all kinds of research and tests. Once their abilities have been determined, the children are divided into groups. Some are sent to special schools for brainwashing and then trained for espionage and the organization of terrorist actions. Others, because they are inept for these activities, are sent to CIA research centers. Here they are used as guinea pigs. They are used for testing medicine and chemical products capable of changing the human conscience; brain operations and other experiments are also carried out.” (February 4, 1982)

“Repression against Latin American workers has long been part of the activities of many U.S. multinational companies. Thus, the hoodlums hired by the Panamerican Railroad Company in Honduras became notorious for their repression of Honduran workers.... The Coca-Cola Corporation has organized its own minipolice in Guatemala. Once, the Italian newspaper, *Paese Sera*, reported on the way these gangsters operate. It described how a union leader had been murdered at a bus stop by a motorcyclist who had approached him, stuck a knife in his throat, and ran away. However, many persons identified the murderer as a Coca-Cola employee.” (January 25, 1982)

“U.S. military advisers participate in torturing Salvadoran rebels and prisoners.... Many executioners of the Stroessner, Pinochet, Duvalier, Salvadoran, and Guatemalan tyrannies, and also of the late dictator Somoza, were trained in the art of torture at the notorious School of the Americas. Here they attended a special course and were lectured on how to set up prisons and concentration camps. These topics are part of a training program for several dozen specially chosen persons out of the 1,500 Salvadorans whom the Pentagon and the CIA decided urgently to train. The first group of this contingent has already arrived in the United States. Thus, gringo imperialism continues to improve its gigantic system of tortures and harassment in Latin America.” (January 12, 1982)

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