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SYSTEM 11
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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 20, 1985

TOP SECRET

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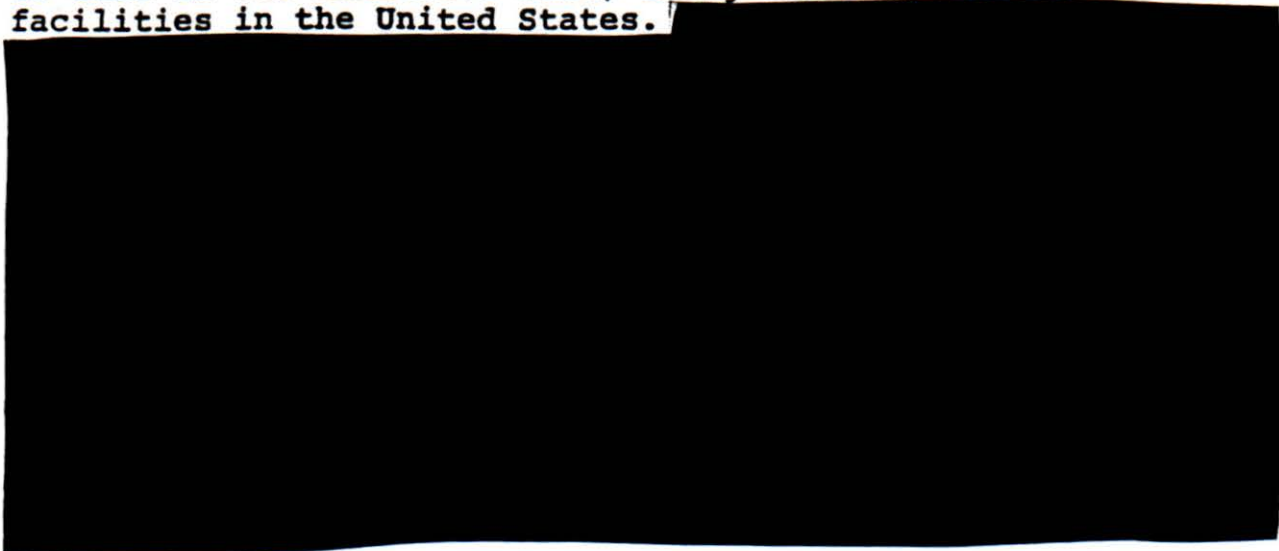
NATIONAL SECURITY DECISION
DIRECTIVE 170

RADIO MARTI (U)

It is the policy of the United States to support the right of the people of Cuba to seek and receive information and ideas through any media and, regardless of frontiers, in accordance with Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Consistent with this policy, this Administration has supported the development of Radio Marti under the aegis of the Voice of America. Broadcasting to Cuba will be operated in a manner consistent with the broad foreign policy of the United States and in accordance with the high professional standards which exist in the Voice of America. A balanced and comprehensive programming package, including news, commentary, and other information about events in Cuba, is authorized. ~~TOP~~

On the basis of a review of VOA planning preparations for Radio Marti and consistent with the authorizing legislation passed by Congress in 1983, USIA is hereby authorized to commence full Radio Marti broadcasting on May 20, 1985. ~~TOP~~

USIA is authorized to utilize the 1180 AM frequency band. USIA is further authorized to broadcast an additional signal to Cuba on the shortwave band, using existing VOA transmitter facilities in the United States.



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Partially Declassified/Released on 12/20/91
under provisions of E.O. 12356-
by S. Tilley, National Security Council
(F89-1035)

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-- Alert Cuba of the U.S. plans to proceed with Radio Marti broadcasting on May 20 underscoring our commitment to undertaking this legal means of communications between our people.

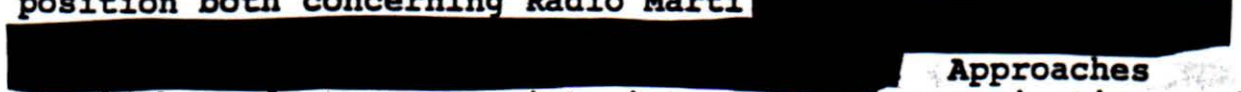


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A special paper on the bilateral relationship should be forwarded to the NSC by May 20.

-- Establish a firm and supportable legal and political position both concerning Radio Marti

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Approaches should be made to appropriate international organizations and Third Countries.

-- Key Congressional representatives should be alerted in advance of the commencement of Radio Marti broadcasting. Selected domestic organizations, including appropriate authorities in the communication industry, should also be notified in advance.

-- A press strategy and press control point should be developed. The Department of State should take the lead in responding to policy-related questions; USIA should be prepared to deal with technically-related items.



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