

Telecommunications Management

Date: 8 JAN 1969

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TEL 6

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From: John J. O'Malley, Jr.

IS-COM

HANDLING INDICATOR

To:

Initials, Date

	Initials, Date
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> O'Connell, J. D.	<i>JOC</i>
Clark, R. L.	
Cole, J. E.	
Cooke, A. R.	
Culpepper, C. H.	
Dinkle, E. K.	
Evans, V. F.	
Filipski, B. W.	
Fishkin, L. J.	
Anderson, E.	
Hailey, L. G.	
Hall, D. B.	
Dean, W. Jr.	
Jansky, D. M.	
Jones, H.	
Kirkevold, C. R.	
Lathey, C. E.	
Buss, L.	
Miles, P. D.	
Mullen, J. T.	
O'Connell, J. R.	
Plummer, W. E.	
Rogers, N. L.	
Siling, P. F.	
Stelzenmuller, G. V.	
Olsson, W. T.	
Urbany, F. S.	
Ward, D. C.	
Raish, L. R.	
Gambie, W.	
Hoxie, L.	

- As requested
- Approval
- Appropriate Action
- Concurrence
- Per Conversation
- For Comment
- For your info
- Signature
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- by COB _____

Remarks:

It looks as if you were right once again!

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DATE: December 22, 1968

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that the real reason he was having the conversation with Minister of Communications. ly certain that Petrov assumed de available to the U. S. Govern-

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Classification Approved by:

DECLASSIFIED UNDER AUTHORITY OF THE INTERAGENCY SECURITY CLASSIFICATION APPEALS PANEL, E.O. 13526, SECTION 5.3(b)(3)

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DECLASSIFICATION DATE: November 13, 2014

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AIRGRAM

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HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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DEC 27 8 49 AM '68

FROM : U. S. Mission GENEVA

DATE: December 22, 1968

SUBJECT : Possible Soviet Interest in Intelsat

REF :

Mr. Jack Herbstreit, a U. S. citizen who is presently Chairman of the International Radio Consultative Committee (CCIR) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), called on the DCM to report on his visit to Moscow during the week of December 9, 1968.

Mr. Herbstreit was invited, as an official of the ITU, to attend the Popov Society meeting in Moscow. It is understood that the Society has a membership of some 150,000 Soviet scientists and engineers, and the meeting was well attended by its members as well as representatives of many Eastern European countries.

What Mr. Herbstreit reported upon was not the meeting, however, but the private luncheon session he had at the invitation of Mr. Ivan Y. Petrov, who, the Department will recall, was a member of the ITU's International Frequency Registration Board (IFRB) from January 1965 until he was declared "persona non grata" by the Swiss Government on February 23, 1967.

Mr. Herbstreit had the distinct impression that the real reason he was invited to Moscow was for the purpose of having the conversation with Petrov who presently is an Adviser to the Minister of Communications. Mr. Herbstreit added that he was reasonably certain that Petrov assumed that a report on their meeting would be made available to the U. S. Government.

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Directed by:

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A- 999 from Geneva

Petrov made a strong "personal" pitch for USSR participation, as observer, in the forthcoming Intelsat meeting in February, concerning which meeting Herbstreit found Petrov fully informed. There was a free exchange of thoughts about possible USSR interest and participation in Intelsat, during which the following emerged:

A. Petrov advocates the establishment of one international organization and one system, --Intelsat.

B. Soviets are genuinely interested in joining Intelsat provided certain prior conditions are met, especially that the "one-man one-vote" concept is maintained. On this point Herbstreit pointed out the infeasibility of U. S. acceptance with Petrov responding that "certain areas" might be excepted from the concept and that the Soviet position was "negotiable." Petrov indicated that he understood that financial matters were excludable but that possibly in the policy decision field as well as in such matters as the election of the Board Chairman, the "one-man one-vote" concept could be agreed upon.

Mr. Herbstreit concluded from this discussion that the Soviets are truly interested in participating in Intelsat otherwise this matter would not have been raised. He feels that Petrov accurately reflects the attitude of the Ministry of Communications. Mr. Herbstreit believes that, in these circumstances, the time is now opportune to explore the matter further, assuming our policy interests are to do so, which Herbstreit feels strongly should be the case. He went on to state his conviction that the Soviets would not participate in official discussions on the matter unless a specific agenda outlining the area of discussion was agreed upon in advance.

Since the Mission has not received all the traffic regarding Intelsat, the foregoing may be of little value. Nevertheless, the report is submitted for whatever interest it may merit and the Mission stands ready to pursue the matter further should the Department so desire.

TUBBY *RWT*

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