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CubaINFO

Volume 8, Number 14, November 5, 1996

A Publication of The Johns Hopkins University Cuba Exchange Program
Washington, DC USA

Sophia Lynn, Editor

U.S. - CUBA RELATIONS

U.S. Sends Hurricane Relief to Cuba

November 2, 1996 — The Clinton Administration waived the current ban on direct charter flights to Cuba to allow one plane load of post-Hurricane Lili aid. Catholic Relief Services, a charitable organization based in Baltimore, Maryland applied to the U.S. Treasury Department for permission to send at least one flight full of donated aid. The single approved flight, which flew to Havana on October 27 amidst tight security, carried approximately 32 tons of material aid, including food, clothing, medicine, water purification tablets, blankets, and roofing material, among other items. Caritas, the Catholic Church's charity, distributed the aid in Cuba.

Once the President approved the emergency aid flight, the State Department immediately began receiving inquiries about when regular scheduled charter flights would begin again, a State official at the Office of Cuban Affairs said. The official explained that the executive branch only allowed the sole flight and did not plan resumption of regular service anytime soon.

Intensely emotional debate over whether or not to send material relief to hurricane victims in Cuba sharply divided the Miami Cuban-American community. Local Miami radio stations provided the main forum for the often heated debate. WCMQ (1210 AM) urged listeners to withhold donations and alleged that President Castro exaggerated reports of damage with the goal of receiving aid. WQBA (1140 AM), in league with the Archdiocese of Miami, encouraged listeners to support the relief effort and to cast aside political differences in the face of natural calamity. The news of the approved charter flight to transport the aid provoked several anonymous bomb threats aimed at Catholic charities and the relief flight.

Cuba warned that it would not accept donations with

epithets written on them. And indeed, after making an inventory of aid received from the U.S., the Communist Party newspaper *Granma* stated that Cuba intended to return to Caritas some seven tons of aid defiled with "provocative and counter-revolutionary slogans."

Cuba appealed to the United Nations (UN) for humanitarian aid in the wake of the disaster, and the UN has collected about \$2 million worth of food and medicine; the International Red Cross donated most of the UN aid. Caritas made an international plea for assistance. Mexico was the first country to send relief with two plane loads of food and roofing materials. Spain promised aid worth \$200,000; Canada has sent plane loads of material aid, and Japan offered relief goods valued at 11.56 million yen. The Vatican's representative visiting Havana last week also contributed financial aid to relief efforts. (*CubaINFO*; Reuters, 11/2/96; News from Cuba, CUBINT, 10/30/96, No. 201; Reuters, 10/30/96; Kyodo News Service, 10/26/96; *Austin-American Statesman*, 10/24/96, p. A2; BR, 10/24/96, p. A5; *Daily News*, 10/24/96, p. 31; *Dallas Morning News*, 10/24/96, p. 7A; FT, 10/24/96, p. 4; Reuters, 10/24/96; AFP, 10/23/96; State Department Press Release, 10/22/96; MH, 10/20/96)

International Outcry

Against Helms-Burton Continues

October 30, 1996 — Every which way the U.S. Special Envoy on Cuba, Stuart Eizenstat, moves in his mission to convince U.S. allies to support Helms-Burton, he meets furious resistance. Eizenstat's latest assignment took him to Paris, Amsterdam, Rome, The Hague, Copenhagen and Brussels, during a tumultuous time for the European Union (EU) as it struggled to maintain a united front against the Helms-Burton Act. The EU prevailed in its effort to enact counter-legislation, and Europe's eyes once again turned to how the World Trade Organization (WTO) will assess Helms-Burton's legality under international trade rules.

In the past several weeks, *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post* ran front-page stories on Cuba to draw attention to both how Eizenstat has failed to make Helms-Burton any more popular abroad, indeed, has even affronted



THE PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY BOARD FOR CUBA BROADCASTING
OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

October 23, 1996

Mr. David Burke
Chairman
Broadcasting Board of Governors
330 Independence Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20547

Dear Mr. Burke:

Last night I met with President Clinton and I was very pleased that the President reaffirmed his commitment to the relocation of Radio Marti and TV Marti to South Florida and to make all efforts necessary to increase the reach of all audiences in Cuba for Radio and TV Marti. Now that the President has clearly spoken again on this subject, and you have gone public in opposing his policy, let me set the record straight.

As soon as you were appointed by the White House to the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) I wrote you a letter congratulating you and requesting a meeting as Chairman of the President's Advisory Board (PAB) to discuss the future of Radio and TV Marti. In spite of various attempts through USIA's International Broadcasting Bureau (IBB) directorate and others, you refused to meet with me or anyone in charge, including Acting Director of the Office of Cuba Broadcasting (OCB), Dr. Rolando E. Bonachea. You also declined two formal invitations from the PAB to meet with us.

We did not realize at the time the extent of your hostility. Nor did we realize that you already made a decision that TV Marti should be terminated, as well as your intention to create all kinds of problems for Radio Marti.

As of today, contrary to the President's policy, which you are supposed to represent, you are doing everything possible to undermine Radio and TV Marti's mission to promote freedom and democracy in Cuba.

On two national television broadcasts, you offended the Cuban American community by stating that the relocation of Radio and TV Marti to South Florida would jeopardize their credibility due to "undue influence" by Cuban Americans. As has been expressed to the PAB, this resulted in another demoralizing blow to the writers and

journalists of Radio and TV Marti, particularly when you have never raised any similar concerns regarding Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty when they were recently relocated to Prague, Czechoslovakia. I hope you are willing to publicly retract your insulting comments against our community.

You state in your letter that you support Radio and TV Marti's mission. Although you have found time to travel thousands of miles to Prague to meet with the Director of Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty, you have never found time to walk a few blocks and meet with the directors of Radio Marti and TV Marti. During the recent CBS interview you stated TV Marti should "go away". This is an example of just how you have demonstrated your hostility, as well as your antagonism against Radio and TV Marti and its managers. So where do you stand, do you or do you not support the Martis?

There are several other examples of your hostility. You have spoken of the need to build congressional constituencies for VOA and RFE-RL, but you attack the Cuban American community for working within the American political system, which is our right, to build congressional support and constituencies for the Martis. Instead of holding this double standard, why not follow the lead of the Cuban American community and the Martis in building similar constituencies? I assure you that your recent comments will not deter Cuban Americans from seeking to have their voices heard and their views reflected in legislation and policy. This is the American way.

I want you to know that I had the opportunity to discuss with the President the excellent performance of USIA Director Dr. Joseph Duffey and the dedicated career officers of the agency. I also mentioned to the President your senseless and continuous efforts to disrupt and takeover many of the duties intended by the Congress to be performed by the team of managers and staffers at the agency, who have carried out the mission of public diplomacy with much success. You capriciously dismissed Mr. Joe Bruns, a career employee who received a White House Senior Executive Service award for outstanding performance, because Mr. Bruns truly understood and supported Radio and TV Marti's mission and, while USIA was facing enormous budget cuts, opposed your empire building at the BBG at taxpayer expense. You also hired a Program Review Officer at the BBG who has been at the center of every Marti controversy and whose programming judgements will be suspect at best.

You state in your letter the USIA Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) has an oversight responsibility to ensure propriety at Radio and TV Marti. Why then have you refused to approve the confirmation of members of Radio and TV Marti's external review panels in accordance with IBB and OCB commitments to the GAO? BBG member Alberto Mora suggested a constructive process to assess Marti programming issues, but you attempted to politicize this process. As public officials, I always assumed we should seek cooperative and constructive engagement to resolve any issues arising within the agency rather than engage in confrontational behavior.

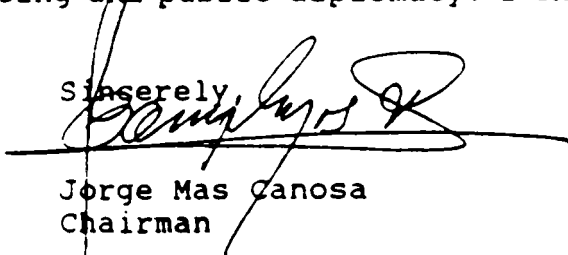
My conclusion therefore is no, Mr. Burke, you have never supported Radio and TV Marti. Hopefully, the other members of the BBG will see your biased opinions of Radio and TV Marti for what they are. In fact, I challenge you to provide just one example of the so-called "undue influence" by me or other members of the Cuban American community to which you have emphatically referred. You cite Radio Marti's identifier in your letter, and yet you have never made an effort to listen to Radio Marti's broadcasts or even meet with their staff and management. As has been stated repeatedly, and as you have finally acknowledged, the journalists and writers of Radio and TV Marti "are dedicated to maintaining the highest standards of journalistic integrity".

Mr. Burke, the Marti's have survived in spite of you. Because of strong bipartisan support from such distinguished House and Senate members as Ernest Hollings, Jesse Helms, Judd Gregg, Bob Graham, Connie Mack, Ben Gilman, Bob Menendez, Dan Burton, Robert Torricelli, Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, Carrie Meek and Lincoln Diaz-Balart, just to name a few. The Martis will continue to carry out their mission of promoting democracy in Cuba. Particularly when three United States presidents, including President Clinton, who on several occasions has called for 24 hour broadcasts of TV Marti, have been strong supporters of these projects.

As Chairman of the PAB, I can assure you that I have always been willing to work constructively with you. In your letter you cite President Clinton's statements promoting the use of dialogue in resolving conflict. However, your constant refusal to even meet with members of the PAB, and now your recent actions and use of discriminatory language, in no way match President Clinton's call for constructive discussion of issues. On the contrary, on several occasions you have attempted to diminish, isolate and usurp the role of the PAB.

These are the facts. We are now faced with a situation where the person appointed to oversee U.S. international broadcasting is undermining the operations of some of those very broadcast elements. I look forward to having this situation resolved and to continue working with USIA to advance the goals of U.S. international broadcasting and public diplomacy. I encourage you to do the same.

Sincerely,


Jorge Mas Canosa
Chairman

cc: President William J. Clinton
Broadcasting Board of Governors members
President's Advisory Board

attachments

Clinton Presidential Records

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Foreign Language Marker

Collection: Clinton Presidential Records

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Document Title re: Destructive commentary on Cuba

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Folder Title [Cuba Info - November 05, 1996] [loose]

OA/ID: 9296

TRIBUNA DEL LECTOR

Carta abierta a David Burke

Por JORGE MAS CANOSA

Inmediatamente que usted fue nombrado por la Casa Blanca a la junta de Gobernadores de Transmisiones (BBG), yo le envié una carta felicitándolo y pidiéndole una reunión en mi calidad de Presidente de la Junta de Asesores Presidenciales (PAB) para discutir el futuro de Radio y Televisión Martí. A pesar de los intentos del Directorado del Buró de Transmisiones Internacionales de la USIA y de otros, usted rehusó reunirse conmigo o con alguien a cargo de Radio y Televisión Martí, incluyendo al director interino de la Oficina de Transmisiones para Cuba (OCB), doctor Rolando E. Bonachea. Usted también declinó aceptar dos invitaciones formales del PAB para reunirse con nosotros.

Nosotros no nos percatamos en ese instante de su hostilidad. Ni tampoco nos dimos cuenta de que usted ya había tomado una decisión de cerrar las operaciones de Televisión Martí, así como su intención de crear todo tipo de problemas para Radio Martí.

Socavar la misión

En estos momentos, en contra de la política del Presidente, la cual usted se supone representa, usted está haciendo todo lo posible para socavar la misión de Radio y Televisión Martí de promover la libertad y la democracia en Cuba.

En dos transmisiones de televisión a nivel nacional, usted ofendió a la comunidad cubanoamericana diciendo que la relocalización de Radio y Televisión Martí al sur de la Florida perjudicaría su credibilidad debido a la "influencia indebida" que ejercería la comunidad cubanoamericana. Como ha sido presentado a la Junta de Asesores Presidenciales, esto ha resultado otro golpe desmoralizador para los escritores y periodistas de Radio y Televisión Martí, particularmente cuando usted nunca ha puesto de relieve preocupaciones similares acerca de Radio Europa Libre y Radio Libertad cuando fueron recientemente trasladadas a Praga, Checoslovaquia. Yo espero que usted esté dispuesto a retractarse públicamente de sus comentarios insultantes para nuestra comunidad.

Usted indicó que apoya la misión de Radio y Televisión Martí. A pesar de que usted ha tenido tiempo de viajar miles de millas a Praga para reunirse con el director de Radio Europa Libre y Radio Libertad, nunca ha tenido tiempo de caminar unas cuerdas para reunirse con los directores de Radio Martí y Televisión Martí. Durante su reciente entrevista con la cadena CBS usted dijo que Televisión Martí "debía desaparecer". Este es un ejemplo tanto de su hostilidad como de su antagonismo hacia Radio y Televisión Martí y su directiva. En qué quedamos: ¿Apoya o no usted a Radio y Televisión Martí?

Hay otros ejemplos de su hostilidad. Usted habla de la necesidad de lograr grupos de apoyo comunitarios para la Voz de las Américas, Radio Europa Libre y Radio Libertad, pero ataca a la comunidad cubanoamericana cuando ejerce el derecho de crear

grupos de apoyo dentro del Congreso y la comunidad para apoyar a ambas emisoras. En vez de mostrar ese doble estándar, ¿por qué no seguir el ejemplo de la comunidad cubanoamericana y Radio y Televisión Martí de formar grupos de apoyo? Yo le garantizo que sus comentarios no van a detener a los cubanoamericanos en su lucha para que sus voces sean escuchadas y sus ideas reflejadas en la política y la legislación. Este es el sistema americano.

Usted establece en su carta que la responsabilidad de la Junta de Gobernadores es garantizar la integridad de Radio y Televisión Martí. ¿Por qué entonces rehúsa aprobar la confirmación de miembros de los grupos externos de revisión de Radio y Televisión Martí de acuerdo con los compromisos establecidos entre el IBB, OCB y el GAO? Como funcionario público siempre he considerado que debemos buscar acercamientos constructivos y de cooperación para resolver diferencias conflictivas.

Por lo tanto señor Burke, he llegado a la conclusión de que usted nunca ha apoyado a Radio y Televisión Martí. Es mi esperanza que los demás miembros de la Junta de Gobernadores se percaten de sus opiniones discriminatorias sobre Radio y Televisión Martí. Es más, lo reto a que presente una prueba de la llamada "influencia perniciosa" de la que usted tan enfáticamente me acusa de ejercer a mí o a cualquier otro miembro de la comunidad cubanoamericana. Usted cita en su carta la identificación de Radio Martí y sin embargo nunca ha hecho un esfuerzo por escuchar las transmisiones de Radio Martí. Sin embargo ha reconocido que los periodistas y escritores de Radio y Televisión Martí "están dedicados a mantener los más altos niveles de integridad periodística".

Negativa constante

Como Presidente del PAB, yo le puedo asegurar que siempre he estado dispuesto a trabajar constructivamente con usted. En su carta usted cita al presidente Clinton promoviendo el uso del diálogo para resolver conflictos. Sin embargo, su negativa constante hacia una reunión con miembros del PAB, y ahora sus acciones recientes y el uso de un lenguaje discriminatorio, en nada se aproximan al llamado del presidente Clinton de discusión constructiva. Al contrario, en varias ocasiones usted ha intentado menospreciar, aislar y usurpar la labor del PAB.

Estos son los hechos. Nos enfrentamos ahora a una situación donde un individuo designado para supervisar las transmisiones internacionales de Estados Unidos está socavando las operaciones de las mismas. Espero que esta situación se resuelva y poder continuar trabajando con la USIA para lograr los objetivos de las transmisiones internacionales de Estados Unidos y su diplomacia pública. Lo animo a que haga lo propio.

Jorge Mas Canosa es presidente de la Junta de Asesores Presidenciales de Radio y Televisión Martí.



Radio y T.V. Martí mantiene en alto la integridad periodística

Por Jorge Mas Canosa



Nota de la Redacción: Con motivo de algunas entrevistas hechas por la televisión norteamericana a nivel nacional con el Presidente de la Junta de Gobernadores de Transmisiones, el señor David Burke, donde el objeto el traslado de T.V. y Radio Martí a Miami, el señor Jorge Mas Canosa le escribe una carta en función de ser Presidente de la Junta de Asesores Presidenciales de TV y Radio Martí. El texto completo de la carta dice lo siguiente:

Estimado señor Burke:

Anoche me reuñí con el Presidente Clinton y me sentí muy satisfecho que el Presidente reafirmara su compromiso con la relocalización de Radio y Televisión Martí al sur de la Florida y de realizar todos los esfuerzos necesarios para aumentar el alcance de la audiencia de Radio y Televisión Martí en Cuba. Ahora que el Presidente se ha expresado de nuevo, claramente, con respecto a este tema, y que usted se ha opuesto públicamente a su política, quiero dejar las cosas en claro.

Inmediatamente que usted fue nombrado por la Casa Blanca a la Junta de Gobernadores de Transmisiones (BBG) yo le envié una carta felicitándolo y pidiéndole una reunión en mi calidad de Presidente de la Junta de Asesores Presidenciales (PAB) para discutir el futuro de Radio y Televisión Martí. A pesar de los intentos del Directorado del Buró de Transmisiones Internacionales de la USIA y de otros, usted rehusó reunirse conmigo o con alguien a cargo de Radio y Televisión Martí, incluyendo al Director Interino de la Oficina de Transmisiones para Cuba (OCB), Dr. Rolando E. Bonachea. Usted también declinó aceptar dos invitaciones formales del PAB para reunirse con nosotros.

Nosotros no nos percatamos en ese instante de su hostilidad. Ni tampoco nos dimos cuenta de que usted ya había tomado una decisión de cerrar las operaciones de Televisión Martí, así como su intención de crear todo tipo de problemas para Radio Martí.

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a retractarse públicamente de sus comentarios insultantes para nuestra comunidad.

Usted indicó en su carta que apoya la misión de Radio y Televisión Martí. A pesar de que usted ha tenido tiempo de viajar miles de millas a Praga para reunirse con el Director de Radio Europa Libre y Radio Libertad, nunca ha tenido tiempo de caminar unas cuantas para reunirse con los directores de Radio Martí y Televisión Martí. Durante su reciente entrevista con la cadena CBS usted dijo que Televisión Martí "debía desaparecer". Este es un ejemplo tanto de su hostilidad como de su antagonismo hacia Radio y Televisión Martí y su directiva. En que quedamos: ¿apoya o no usted a Radio y Televisión Martí?

Hay otros ejemplos de su hostilidad. Usted habla de la necesidad de lograr grupos de apoyo comunitarios para la Voz de las Américas, Radio Europa Libre y Radio Libertad, pero ataca a la comunidad cubanoamericana cuando ejerce el derecho de crear grupos de apoyo dentro del Congreso y la comunidad para apoyar a ambas emisoras. En vez de mostrar ese doble standard, ¿por qué no seguir el ejemplo de la comunidad cubanoamericana y Radio y Televisión Martí de formar grupos de apoyo? Yo le garantizo que sus comentarios no van a detener a los cubanoamericanos en su lucha para que sus voces sean escuchadas y sus ideas reflejadas en la política y la legislación. Este es el sistema americano.

Quiero que sepa que tuve la oportunidad de comunicarle al Presidente la excelente labor que lleva a cabo el Director de la USIA Dr. Joseph Duffey y la dedicación de los oficiales de carrera de la agencia. También le comenté al Presidente los esfuerzos incesantes e irrazonables de usted para interrumpir y apoderarse de muchas de las responsabilidades que el Congreso impartió para ser llevadas a cabo por funcionarios de la agencia, quienes han efectuado sus funciones de diplomacia pública a cabalidad. Usted caprichosamente despidió al Señor Joe Bruns, un funcionario de carrera que fue honrado por la Casa Blanca por su extraordinaria labor, ya que el Señor Bruns comprendía y apoyaba la misión de Radio y Televisión Martí, y cuando la USIA enfrentaba grandes cortes presupuestarios se opuso a la creación de su imperio en el BBG a expensas de los contribuyentes. Usted también contrató un funcionario a cargo de la revisión de programas que ha estado involucrado en todas las controversias de los Martí y cuyo juicio siempre será cuestionado.

Usted establece en su carta que la responsabilidad de la Junta de Gobernadores es de garantizar la integridad de Radio y Televisión Martí. ¿Por qué entonces rehusa aprobar la confirmación de miembros de los grupos externos de revisión de Radio y Televisión Martí de acuerdo con los compromisos establecidos entre el IBB, OCB y el GAO? El Dr. Alberto Mora, miembro del BBG recomendó un proceso constructivo de evaluar la programación de los Martí pero usted

no público siempre he considerado que debemos buscar acercamientos constructivos y de cooperación para resolver diferencias conflictivas.

Por lo tanto Señor Burke, he llegado a la conclusión de que usted nunca ha apoyado a Radio y Televisión Martí. Es mi esperanza que los demás miembros de la Junta de Gobernadores se percaten de sus opiniones discriminatorias sobre Radio y Televisión Martí. Es más, lo reto a que presente una prueba de la llamada "influencia perniciosa" de la que usted tan enfáticamente me acusa a mí o a cualquier otro miembro de la comunidad cubanoamericana de ejercer. Usted cita en su carta la identificación de Radio Martí y sin embargo nunca ha hecho un esfuerzo por escuchar las transmisiones de Radio Martí o siquiera reunirse con los empleados y la administración y según se ha indicado repetidamente y usted finalmente ha reconocido que los periodistas y escritores de Radio y Televisión Martí "están dedicados a mantener los más altos niveles de integridad periodística".

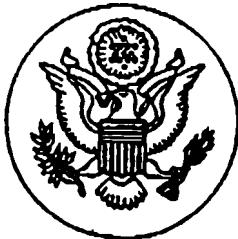
Señor Burke, los Martí sobreviven a pesar suyo. El fuerte apoyo bipartidista que reciben de miembros distinguidos de la Cámara y el Senado tales como Ernest Hollings, Jesse Helms, Judd Gregg, Bob Torricelli, Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, Carrie Meek y Lincoln Díaz Balart, por nombrar sólo algunos permitirá a los Martí continuar su misión de promover la democracia en Cuba. Particularmente, porque tres Presidentes estadounidenses, incluyendo al Presidente Clinton, son quienes en más de una ocasión han abogado para que Televisión Martí transmita 24 horas, y han respaldado ambos proyectos con entusiasmo.

Como Presidente del PAB, yo le puedo asegurar que siempre he estado dispuesto a trabajar constructivamente con usted. En su carta usted cita al Presidente Clinton promoviendo el uso del diálogo para resolver conflictos. Sin embargo, su negativa constante hacia una reunión con miembros del PAB, y ahora sus acciones recientes y el uso de lenguaje discriminatorio, en nada se aproximan al llamado del Presidente Clinton de discusión constructiva. Al contrario, en varias ocasiones usted ha intentado menospreciar, aislar y usurpar la labor del PAB.

Estos son los hechos. Nos enfrentamos ahora a una situación donde un individuo designado para supervisar las transmisiones internacionales de los Estados Unidos está socavando las operaciones de las mismas. Espero que esta situación se resuelva y podamos continuar trabajando con la USIA para lograr los objetivos de las transmisiones internacionales de Estados Unidos y su diplomacia pública. Lo animo a que haga lo propio.

Sinceramente,

Jorge Mas Canosa
Presidente
Junta de Asesores Presidenciales

**BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

330 INDEPENDENCE AVENUE, S.W.
ROOM 3360
WASHINGTON, DC 20547
202-401-3736

October 24, 1996

VIA FAX - 305/376-8950

Letters to the Editor
The Miami Herald

To the Editor:

As a member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG), which oversees Radio and TV Marti and other broadcast entities, I write in response to the recent remarks by David Burke, the BBG Chairman, critical of Radio and TV Marti, the White House, Congress, and the Cuban-American community.

Mr. Burke claims (Letter to the Editor, Oct. 22) that he supports "the mission of promoting freedom and democracy in Cuba." Tellingly, nowhere does he also state that he supports Radio and TV Marti and, in my experience, little in his words and actions during his tenure as BBG Chairman inspires confidence that he regards such support as forming part of his duties. Under Burke's leadership, the BBG has not only failed to consider -- much less adopt -- measures to resolve the controversies swirling around the Marti Service, it has now fueled new controversies and made life more difficult for the dedicated men and women of the Marti Service.

When the BBG came into existence in August of 1995, many hoped that this entity would bring new leadership to U.S. international broadcasting. Nowhere was this leadership more needed than with the Marti Service, which managed to acquire the respect of and credibility with a wide listenership in Cuba despite the debilitating effects of tiresome and never-ending controversies in the United States.

What Mr. Burke apparently fails to grasp is that the solution to the Marti problems lies not in more political controversy -- the Burke approach -- but less. This is accomplished not by political posturing (Burke, again), but by ensuring in a transparent and even-handed manner that Marti scrupulously adheres to the applicable journalistic and management standards. Where reform of the Marti Service is required, reform there must be. By the same token, when the Marti

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Service is unfairly attacked, there must be a vigorous defense of the Service. So far, there has been neither reform nor defense.

Like most Cuban-Americans, who tend to know more about the Marti Service because many learn about it from family and friends in Cuba, I am one of those who has confidence in the management and staff of the Marti Service. But I also recognize that public confidence in the Service has been shaken by an unanswered barrage of allegations over a period of years. As public servants, those of us who serve on the BBG have an equal responsibility to the supporters of, as well as those who would question, the Marti Service. It is a responsibility that we are not discharging adequately.

And now whether the BBG can discharge that responsibility at all is an open question. By his irresponsible and unfair criticisms of the Marti Service and the Cuban-American community, David Burke -- who, to the best of my information, has never met with the director of the Marti Service, with any Marti journalist, or with a cross-section of the Cuban-American leadership and who has never set foot on the premises of Radio and TV Marti -- has disqualified himself and possibly disabled the BBG from playing any credible leadership role on Marti issues. Both the U.S. taxpayers and the cause of Cuban democracy deserve better.

Very truly yours,



Alberto J. Mora
202/457-5932

**Translation of a letter to the editor which appeared
in The Miami Herald on Monday, October 28, 1996**

Regarding Radio and TV Marti

By Roberto Rodriguez de Aragon

The Cuban Patriotic Council wishes to express its total rejection of the opinions expressed by Mr. David Burke, Chairman of the Broadcasting Board of Governors, who has made statements against the relocation of Radio and TV Marti to Miami and against their funding. His statements are insidious and false.

First: If TV Marti is not seen in Cuba due to Castro's jamming, it is Mr. Burke's responsibility, because he has not done anything to make the transmissions more successful in breaking Cuban jamming, unlike efforts made during the Haiti crisis.

Second: From the beginning, the ideal location for Radio and Television Marti's offices and studios was Miami. This is the city that generates the news the stations need to cover, due to its proximity to Cuba and the constant arrival of people from the island and those who travel to visit family.

Third: It is defamatory for Mr. Burke to state that "Cuban exile groups exert undue influence over the broadcasts." Does Mr. Burke understand that, although we may not like it, the Director of Radio and TV Marti, just as all of their journalists, provide equal opportunity to all opinions, without preference toward anyone.

Fourth: Is shows a lack of respect, as the federal government official that Mr. Burke is, toward President Bill Clinton and the U.S. Congress, when he attacks the approval of the relocation. An approval which was conducted under every parliamentary rule of the Congress and sanctioned by the President of this nation. If Mr. Burke disagrees with this decision, the appropriate thing to do is resign his appointment as Chairman of the Broadcasting Board of Governors.

Fifth: The Cuban Patriotic Council reaffirms its support of Radio and TV Marti's relocation to Miami, and asks all the exile organizations and leaders to join us, just as they did when hearings were held to discuss whether or not to relocate the operations to this city.

el Nuevo Herald

62 PAGINAS

MIAMI, FL. DOMINGO 27 DE OCTUBRE DE 1986 •

Sobre Radio y TV Martí

Por ROBERTO RODRIGUEZ DE ARAGON

La Junta Patriótica Cubana desea expresar su total rechazo a la opinión expresada por el señor David Burke, presidente del Consejo de Gobernadores de Emisoras Federales, quien ha formulado declaraciones en contra de la mudada de Radio Martí y TV Martí a la ciudad de Miami y del presupuesto asignado a ellas. Sus declaraciones son insidiosas y falsas.

Primero: si TV Martí no se ve en Cuba por la interferencia del castrato, es responsabilidad del propio señor Burke, por no pedir y propiciar que se haga la transmisión en la forma que es factible para que penetre la imagen en territorio cubano, como se realizó en Haití cuando la crisis de esa nación.

Segundo: El lugar ideal para la instalación de las oficinas y estudios de Televisión y Radio Martí, desde su inicio, era Miami. En esta ciudad es donde se producen las noticias que deben divulgar ambos medios de comunicación, por su proximidad a Cuba y por ser el lugar adonde arriban constantemente nuevos refugiados procedentes de la isla y las personas que viajan a ella para visitar familiares.

Tercero: Es calumnioso, cuando el señor Burke afirma que "un grupo de exiliados cubanos ejercen influencia

en sus transmisiones". Sepa, señor Burke, que el director de TV y Radio Martí, así como todos sus periodistas, muy a nuestro pesar, le dan igual oportunidad a todas las opiniones en ambos centros noticiosos, sin privilegios de ningún tipo.

Cuarto: Falta al respeto el señor Burke, como funcionario federal que es, al presidente Clinton y al Congreso de Estados Unidos cuando censura la aprobación del proyecto de la mudada, realizada por el Congreso y sancionada por el Presidente de esta nación, de acuerdo con todas las reglas parlamentarias. Se supone que si el señor Burke discrepa de esta decisión, debe renunciar a su cargo de Presidente del Consejo de Gobernadores de Emisoras Federales.

Quinto: La Junta Patriótica Cubana ratifica su apoyo al traslado a Miami de TV y Radio Martí y conmina a todas las organizaciones y personalidades del exilio a que procedan en la misma forma en que lo hicieron durante las audiencias celebradas para decidir si era necesario o no el traslado de ambas oficinas para esta ciudad.

Roberto Rodríguez de Aragón es presidente de la dirección nacional de la Junta Patriótica Cubana



October 21, 1996

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

RE: Destructive and Irresponsible Comments by Mr. David Burke.

Dear Mr. President:

We are very pleased with your support of Radio and TV Marti. However, we must register the Democratic League of Dade County's protest of statements made recently by the Chairman of the U.S. Information Agency's Broadcasting Board of Governors, Mr. David Burke, regarding the relocation of Radio and TV Marti to South Florida.

On the October 13, 1996 broadcast of CBS' 60 minutes, Mr. Burke implies that White House Chief of Staff Leon Panetta and members of the National Security Council are engaging in a cover-up related to this relocation. Specifically, Mr. Burke states. "I wrote to various members of Congress and the committees that would have oversight on such matters, and asked for hearings. Didn't say I was opposed to it, simply asked for hearings. Silence. Dead silence. I wrote to the administration, to everyone in the administration, from the National Security Council, Leon Panetta, everybody."

Considering the fact that Congress has already passed Radio and TV Marti's relocation and you have signed it into law, Mr. Burke's comments are irresponsible at best, and purposeful insubordination, at worse. In either case, to question the integrity of the White House Chief of Staff on national television is unacceptable to Democratic Party organizations such as ours, and we respectfully request that you ask for Mr. Burke's immediate resignation.

Mr. President, it is important to point out that Mr. Burke also lied to the American people when he stated there was "silence, dead silence" from the National Security Council regarding the relocation. I'm attaching a May 13, 1996 USIA memorandum which cites Ambassador Dobbins from the National Security Council as stating: "It is the sense of all concerned that the administration wants us to carry out the move as quickly, expeditiously, and cost-effectively as possible, without any excuses or delays." Why in the world would Mr. Burke, a political appointee of yours, risk embarrassing your administration by lying to the

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577-8989 / FAX

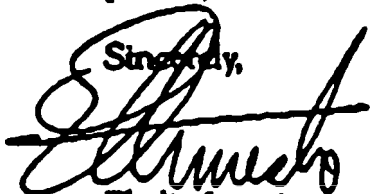
President William J. Clinton
October 21, 1996
Page Two

entire country on this matter.

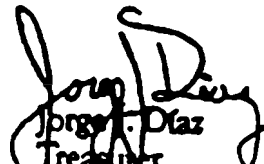
Finally, Mr. Burke's insidious comments regarding Mr. Panetta, and his other recent offensive comments about Radio and TV Marti's credibility being jeopardized should they be located in the Cuban-American community's midst, make it difficult for organizations such as ours to attract Cuban-Americans to the Democratic Party, and convince Cuban-Americans to vote Democratic this November. We believe there is extraordinary potential for support in the Cuban-American community, Mr. President. Unfortunately, Mr. Burke is ruining much of what we have accomplished.

We hope you will disavow Mr. Burke's defamatory comments regarding Chief of Staff Panetta and his discriminatory statements against the Cuban American community. If Mr. Burke does not realize the embarrassment he has brought on your Administration and immediately resign, then we hope you will ask him to resign. We await your response as we proudly continue to work for a tremendous Clinton-Gore victory in Dade County.

Sincerely,


Eladio Jose Arnesto
President


Nina Ruiz
Director


Jorge Diaz
Treasurer

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DIARIO LAS AMÉRICAS



Por la Libertad, la Cultura y la Solidaridad Hemisférica

AÑO XLIX

NÚMERO 95

Miami, Florida Jueves 24 de Octubre de 1996

EDICIÓN DE 32 PAGINAS 2 SECCIONES

15 CENTAVOS EN MIAMI

Periodistas independientes contra declaraciones de Burke

V. de la R. Con motivo de la controversia surgida en relación con las declaraciones emitidas por el señor David Burke sobre el traslado de Radio y TV Martí a Miami, DIARIO LAS AMÉRICAS reproduce la carta enviada al Presidente Clinton por periodistas cubanos independientes de dentro y fuera de Cuba:

Estimado Señor Presidente Clinton

Muy respetuosamente hacemos llegar nuestra protesta formal a los comentarios hechos por el señor David Burke en las cadenas ABC Noticias y CBS-60 Minutos acerca de la relocalización de Radio y TV Martí a Miami. Los comentarios del señor Burke han ofendido gravemente a la comunidad cubanoamericana alegando que la relocalización "pondría en gran peligro la credibilidad" de Radio y TV Martí.

El señor Burke alega que las transmisiones serían manipuladas e influenciadas por miembros de la comunidad Cubano-Americana. Esto constituye un insulto irresponsable e imperdonable a todos los Cubano-Americanos. También indica su irrespetuosidad hacia el Congreso, que aprobó la ley de relocalización y a Ud. señor Presidente, que la firmó.

El señor Burke tiene derecho a expresar su opinión personal acerca de la relocalización. Sin embargo, dado el alto nivel del cargo para el que usted lo designó, tiene también el deber de renunciar antes de expresar una opinión que contradice su autoridad ejecutiva. Esto representa una insubordinación para con sus decisiones, y demuestra que el señor Burke carece de disciplina para cumplir las normas elementales de conducta de un designado político en su administración.

Finalmente, los comentarios insidiosos del señor Burke constituyen un insulto inaceptable para el profesionalismo y honestidad de los reporteros de Radio y TV Martí. Sin mencionar el origen étnico o localización geográfica, los empleados de Radio y TV Martí están tan capacitados como cualquiera para adherirse a las regulaciones que gobiernan todas las transmisiones gubernamentales de los Estados Unidos. Somos testigos de su aptitud ya que por años, nosotros, al igual que muchos otros periodistas independientes dentro de Cuba, hemos colaborado con sus periodistas y siempre hemos hallado en ellos honestidad y profesionalismo.

Por todas estas razones, y porque sabemos que la actitud irresponsable e insultante del señor Burke no representa su modo de pensar en este caso, le rogamos respetuosamente le pida su renuncia inmediata al señor Burke, que ha ofendido a toda la comunidad Cubano-Americana.

Respetuosamente,

Indamiro Restano
Representante Internacional
Buró Cubano de Periodistas Independientes

Roxana Valdivia
Fundadora, Agencia Prensa Patria

Jesus Santoyo
Camagüey-Ciego de Avila,
Cuba, Frente Unido

Los periodistas independientes que subscriben se adhieren totalmente al contenido de esta carta:

Bernardo Fuentes, Magaly Pino, Jorge Riva, Ramón Cruz, Oscar Ayala Muñoz, y Joel Díaz Hernández.

**The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500**

October 21, 1996

Dear Mr. President:

We respectfully submit our formal protest for statements by Mr. David Burke on ABC News and CBS's 60 Minutes regarding the relocation of Radio and TV Marti to Miami. Mr. Burke's statements have gravely offended the Cuban American community by alleging that the relocation "will greatly jeopardize the credibility" of Radio and TV Marti.

Mr. Burke alleges that the broadcasts will be manipulated and unduly influenced by members of the Cuban American community. This constitutes an unexcusable and irresponsible insult to all Cuban Americans. This also shows a lack of respect for the Congress, which passed the relocation law, and for you, Mr. President, who signed it.

Mr. Burke has the right to express his personal opinion on the relocation. However, due to the high level position to which you appointed him, he also has a duty to resign before expressing an opinion which directly contradicts your position. This represents blatant insubordination toward your decisions and illustrates Mr. Burke's lack of discipline in adhering to elemental norms of conduct for an appointee in your administration.

Finally, Mr. Burke's insidious remarks are also an unacceptable insult to the professionalism and ability of the journalists at Radio and TV Marti. Regardless of their ethnic background or geographic location, the employees of Radio and TV Marti are just as capable as anyone in adhering to the rules and regulations which govern all U.S. government broadcasting. We can testify to this fact because for years, we, along with many other independent journalists inside Cuba, have collaborated with their journalists and we have always found them to be honorable and professional.

For all these reasons, and because we are sure Mr. Burke's irresponsible and insulting behavior does not represent your thinking on these matters, we respectfully request that you ask for immediate resignation of Mr. Burke, who has offended the entire Hispanic American community.

Respectfully,



**Indemiro Restano
International Representative,
Cuban Bureau of Independent Journalists**



**Rosanna Vidivia
Founder,
Homeland Press Agency**



**Jesus Sotoyo
Camaguey-Ciego de Avila, Cuba, United Front**

The undersigned also concur with the statements in this letter:

Bernardo Fuentes, Magaly Pino, Jorge Riva, Ramon Cruz, Oscar Ayala Munoz, Joel Diaz Hernandez

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Translation of a letter to the editor which appeared
in Diario Las Americas on Wednesday, October 23, 1996

Patriotic Council Supports TV and Radio Marti in Miami

Dear Director:

The Cuban Patriotic Council wishes to express its total rejection of the opinions expressed by Mr. David Burke, Chairman of the Broadcasting Board of Governors, who has made statements against the relocation of Radio and TV Marti to Miami and against their funding.

His statements are insidious and false.

First: If TV Marti is not seen in Cuba due to Castro's jamming, it is Mr. Burke's responsibility, because he has not done anything to make the transmissions more successful in breaking Cuban jamming, unlike effort made during the Haiti crisis.

Second: From the beginning, the ideal location for Radio and Television Marti's offices and studios was Miami. This is the city that generates the news the stations need to cover, due to its proximity to Cuba and the constant arrival of people from the island and those who travel to visit family.

Third: It is defamatory for Mr. Burke to state that "Cuban exile groups exert undue influence over the broadcasts." Does Mr. Burke understand that the Director of Radio and TV Marti, just as all of their journalists, provide equal opportunity to all opinions, without preference toward anyone.

Fourth: It shows a lack of respect, as the federal government official that Mr. Burke is, toward President Bill Clinton and the U.S. Congress, when he attacks the approval of the relocation. An approval which was conducted under every parliamentary rule of the Congress and sanctioned by the President of this nation. If Mr. Burke disagrees with this decision, the appropriate thing to do is resign his appointment as Chairman of the Broadcasting Board of Governors.

Fifth: The Cuban Patriotic Council reaffirms its support of Radio and TV Marti's relocation to Miami, and asks all the exile organizations and leaders to join us, just as they did when hearings were held to discuss whether or not to relocate the operations to this city.

Sincerely,

Dr. Roberto Rodriguez de Aragon
President, National Board of Directors

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D. Roberto Rodriguez de Aragon,
Presidente de la Direccion Nacional
Miami, Fla.

USIA

NEWS RELEASE

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Martha Cowart (202) 619-6196

EMBARGOED UNTIL 8:00 p.m. October 13, 1996

STATEMENT BY DIRECTOR JOSEPH DUFFEY, Director of the USIA in response to comments made by David Burke, Chairman of the Broadcasting Board of Governors on "60 Minutes" Broadcast which aired October 13, 1996:

Mr. Burke neglected to make clear that his views are personal and not those of the Administration.

Congress mandated the move of Radio/TV Marti to south Florida as a provision of the FY 1996 Omnibus Continuing Appropriations Act. Since signing the continuing resolution into law, the Administration has consistently sought to ensure that the move be carried out in accordance with Congressional intent. USIA is moving in an expeditious, efficient and cost-effective manner to ensure a smooth transition.

The Administration strongly believes Radio Marti to be an extremely invaluable conduit of objective information to the Cuban people. It has provided Cuban citizens with information deprived them by the Castro government.

We remain confident that the integrity, objectivity and professionalism of our broadcasting effort will be maintained. The Martis are mandated to adhere to the same high standards as the Voice of America.

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OA/ID: 9296

The Washington Times FIN

Monday, October 14, 1996

Radio Marti and David Burke

Should it happen that President Clinton loses Florida in the presidential election, he will now know whom to thank. In an act that appears to be rooted in suicidal desperation and pathological antipathy against Cuban-American leader Jorge Mas Canosa, the president's appointed head of the Broadcasting Board of Governors, David Burke, yesterday on "60 Minutes" launched into a tirade denouncing the Clinton administration's own policy on Radio and TV Marti.

No doubt it will only be a matter of time before Mr. Burke will be told to pack his bags, and the fact is he will not be missed. Under Mr. Burke's leadership, the Board has injected itself far into the daily decisions of the U.S. international broadcasters where it does not belong and always with the purpose of pulling them towards the left. Mr. Burke is said to be an ardent admirer of Public Broadcasting and sees PBS as the model for Voice of America. Americans may well wonder whether the PBS's mushy, smarmy liberalism corresponds to the kind of image they want this country to project to the world at large. One thinks not.

Not only did Mr. Burke choose to register his disagreement on "60 Minutes," he also charged that Mr. Canosa, who heads the Cuban American National Foundation, has been allowed to run radio and television Marti as political organizations. And he further complained bitterly that he had received no cooperation from the White House in his efforts to block the move to Florida, which was funded with \$7 million by Congress in April and signed into law by President Clinton. "I wrote to members of Congress," Mr. Burke told "60 Minutes," "to everyone in the administration from the National Security Council, Leon Panetta, everybody — there should be hearings about this. There are not going to be hearings."

Earlier this month, Mr. Burke told ABC news that "I am convinced the credibility of Radio Marti is put in great jeopardy if it is moved to Miami." Well, actually, Radio and TV Marti would have been in far greater jeopardy had they remained here in Washington, given Mr. Burke's unrelenting hostility towards the stations and the cause of freedom in Cuba that they serve.

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Translation of an article which appeared in
Diario Las Americas on Thursday, October 17, 1996

The Times Criticizes Burke's Statements Regarding Radio and TV Marti

**The Director of USIA says Burke spoke his personal
views, not in the name of the Administration**

By Ariel Remos

The Washington Times published an editorial titled, "Radio Marti and David Burke," in which they criticized statements by Mr. Burke against Radio and TV Marti, openly contradicting the will of the United States Congress and President Clinton regarding those Cuba broadcast services. "Should it happen that President Clinton loses Florida in the presidential election, he will now know whom to thank," opens the Times editorial.

Burke's statements forced a response from the Director of the U.S. Information Agency, Dr. Joseph Duffey, stating that Mr. Burke neglected to make clear that his views are personal and not those of the Administration. Duffey also stated that the Administration has consistently sought to ensure that the move be carried out in accordance with Congressional intent. "We remain confident that the integrity, objectivity and professionalism of our broadcasting effort will be maintained. The Martis are mandated to adhere to the same high standards as the Voice of America," he stated.

This past September 30, in an ABC News program, David Burke attacked the relocation of Radio and TV Marti to Miami, stating, among other things, that the relocation jeopardized Radio Marti's credibility. And last Sunday on *60 Minutes*, he again made comments against the relocation and the Chairman of the Cuban American National Foundation, Jorge Mas Canosa, restating his opinion against Cuban exile organizations, which he accused of having "undue influence" in TV Marti.

Burke's statements provoked a strong response from organizations like the Latin Chamber of Commerce and the Spanish American League Against Discrimination, which wrote letters to President Clinton denouncing Mr. Burke's insubordination in criticizing the President regarding the Cuba broadcasts, and protesting the insult against the Hispanic American community in Miami.

For his part, Jorge Mas Canosa told the France Press Agency

that "since his arrival to his post, Burke has tried to destroy TV Marti," and that Burke has never met with "anyone" at TV Marti, but "only with the project's enemies."

The following is excerpted from a Washington Times editorial, "Radio Marti and David Burke":

Should it happen that President Clinton loses Florida in the presidential election, he will now know whom to thank. In an act that appears to be rooted in suicidal desperation and pathological antipathy against Cuban American leader Jorge Mas Canosa, the President's appointed head of the Broadcasting Board of Governors, David Burke, yesterday on "60 Minutes" launched into a tirade denouncing the Clinton administration's own policy on Radio and TV Marti.

No doubt it will only be a matter of time before Mr. Burke will be told to pack his bags, and the fact is he will not be missed. Under Mr. Burke's leadership, the Board has injected itself far into the daily decisions of the U.S. international broadcasters where it does not belong and always with the purpose of pulling them towards the left.

Not only did Mr. Burke choose to register his disagreement on "60 Minutes", he also charged that Mr. Canosa, who heads the Cuban American National Foundation, has been allowed to run Radio and Television Marti as political organizations. And he further complained bitterly that he had received no cooperation from the White House in his efforts to block the move to Florida, which was funded with \$7 million by Congress in April and signed into law by President Clinton. "I wrote to members of Congress," Mr. Burke told 60 Minutes, "to everyone in the administration from the National Security Council, Leon Panetta, everybody - there should be hearings about this. There are not going to be hearings"

Earlier this month, Mr. Burke told ABC News that "I am convinced the credibility of Radio Marti is put in great jeopardy if it is moved to Miami." Well, actually, Radio and TV Marti would have been in far greater jeopardy had they remained here in Washington, given Mr. Burke's unrelenting hostility towards the stations and the cause of freedom in Cuba that they serve.

DIARIO LAS AMÉRICAS

Publicado por la Sociedad Americana de la Solidaridad Hispanoamericana

Miércoles 17 de Octubre de 1996

PRECIO DE CUBANAS 25 CENTAVOS

Critica el Times afirmaciones de Burke sobre Radio y TV Martí

Por ARIEL REMOS

El diario capitalino *The Washington Times* publicó un editorial titulado "Radio Martí y David Burke", en que critica las declaraciones del señor Burke contra Radio y TV Martí, en abierta contradicción con la disposición del Congreso y del Presidente Clinton sobre las transmisiones de esas emisoras hacia Cuba. "Si el Presidente Clinton perdiera las elecciones presidenciales en la Florida, el sabrá a quien darle las gracias", comienza diciendo el editorial del *Times*.

Las declaraciones de Burke motivaron asimismo una respuesta del director de la Agencia de Información de EE.UU. (USIA), doctor Joseph Duffey, precisando que el señor Burke omitió aclarar que sus puntos de vista eran personales y no los de la Administración. Duffey declaró también que la Administración ha sido consistente en cuidar que el traslado de Radio y TV Martí a Miami, se lleve a cabo de acuerdo con la intención del Congreso. "Seguimos confiados en que la integridad, objetividad y profesionalismo de nuestras

Dice el Presidente de la USIA que Burke habló a título personal, no a nombre de la Administración

transmisiones, serán mantenidas. Las Martí están obligadas a atenerse a los mismos estándares de La Voz de EE.UU.", expresó.

El pasado 30 de septiembre, en un programa de la ABC transmitido por el Canal 10 de TV, David Burke atacó el traslado en proceso de las oficinas de Radio y TV Martí a Miami, afirmando, entre otras cosas, que ponía en peligro la credibilidad de Radio Martí. Y el pasado domingo 13 de octubre en el programa "60 Minutos", volvió a la carga con el traslado y contra el presidente de la Fundación Nacional Cubano Americana, Jorge Mas Canosa, reiterando su criterio contra grupos del exilio cubano, a los que acusó de tener "una in-

(Pasa a la Pág. 15-A Col. 3)

Critica el Times afirmaciones de Burke sobre Radio y TV Martí

(Viene de la pág. 1-A)

encia que no le corresponde"
TV Martí.

Las declaraciones de Burke provocaron una airada respuesta de instituciones como la Cámara de comercio Latina (CAMACOL) y la Liga Hispanoamericana Contra la Difamación (SALAD), que se dirigieron por carta al Presidente Clinton lamentando la insubordinación del señor Burke al criticar a su Presidente en relación con las transmisiones hacia Cuba, y protestando por la ofensa cometida contra la

comunidad hispanoamericana de Miami.

Por su parte, Jorge Mas Canosa declaró a la AFP que "desde su llegada al cargo, (Burke) tiene el propósito de destruir a TV Martí", y que jamás se ha entrevistado "con nadie" vinculado con TV Martí, sino "solamente con los enemigos del proyecto".

Extractos del Editorial de The Washington Times "Radio Martí y David Burke"

Si el Presidente Clinton perdiera las elecciones presidenciales en la Florida, él sabrá a quien darle las gracias. En un acto enraizado con una desesperación suicida y odio patológico contra el líder cubano-americano Jorge Mas Canosa, el Presidente de la Junta de gobernadores de Transmisiones, David Burke, nombrado por el propio Presidente Clinton, lanzó una diatriba ayer en el programa dominical "60 Minutos", denunciando la propia política de la Administración Clinton sobre Radio y TV Martí.

Sin duda, será cuestión de tiempo para que el señor Burke comience a hacer sus maletas, y, por supuesto, que no se le extrañará. Bajo el liderazgo del señor Burke, la junta se ha inmiscuido en las decisiones diarias de las transmisiones internacionales de EE.UU., autoridad que no le corresponde, y siempre con el propósito de influir hacia

la izquierda...

No solamente el señor Burke escogió la ocasión de expresar su desacuerdo en el programa 60 Minutos, sino que acusó al señor Mas Canosa... de haberse permitido manejar Radio y Televisión Martí como a organizaciones políticas. Y es más, se quejó amargamente de no haber recibido cooperación alguna de la Casa Blanca en sus esfuerzos para impedir la mudanza de las emisoras de la Florida, la cual recibió \$ 7 millones del Congreso el pasado abril, convirtiéndola en ley el propio Presidente Clinton. "Yo le escribí a miembros del Congreso", dijo el señor Burke a 60 Minutos, "a todo el mundo en la Administración desde el Consejo Nacional de Seguridad, León Panetta, a todos, de que debía haber audiencias sobre este tema. Pero no habrá audiencias".

**Translation of an article which appeared in
Diario Las Americas on Friday, October 18, 1996**

Letter to Clinton

Free Cuba Medical Association Responds to Burke

Dr. Enrique Huertas, President of the Free Cuba Medical Association, sent the following letter to Bill Clinton, President of the United States, regarding the relocation of Radio and TV Marti to Miami.

**The Honorable Bill Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C.**

Dear Mr. President:

As you surely know, recently Mr. David Burke, Chairman of the U.S. Information Agency's Broadcasting Board of Governors, in an interview with ABC News, used incorrect, inappropriate, and unjust statements regarding the relocation of Radio and TV Marti to Miami.

Mr. Burke's assertion that Radio and TV Marti's credibility was in jeopardy if it moved to Miami has profoundly offended the Cuban American community in Florida and the entire exile community in general, and he deserves the most severe condemnation and repudiation.

Mr. Burke should know that the relocation has been approved by Congress and signed into law by the President, and that it is not his place, with the appointed position he holds, to place obstacles in front of the success of this relocation which has been studied for some time.

Mr. President, you are aware of Radio Marti's important work. Just this past October 10, on the anniversary of Cuba's patriotic Call of Yara, you delivered a statement to the Cuban people highlighting the positive work and credibility of Radio and TV Marti's information service.

Mr. Burke knows perfectly well the high level of professionalism, ability, and experience of Radio and TV Marti's employees, and it is not appropriate for him to create problems,

raise doubts, or speak falsehoods when it comes to the employees. His duty should be to maintain, and whenever possible, increase the prestige and credibility that Radio and TV Marti have achieved; particularly when these stations have done so much to maintain the Cuban people well informed about the situation in Cuba and the destruction of the Cuban nation by Castro's communist tyranny. Radio and TV Marti's broadcasts contribute daily to promoting the cause of freedom in Cuba and we cannot allow Mr. Burke, due to incompetence, ignorance, or any other improper motive, to jeopardize these stations.

Mr. President, the Free Cuban Medical Association is in solidarity with all of the Cuban American organizations and institutions, and the entire Cuban American community, in raising its voice to protest Mr. Burke's unjustified comments and errors. With all respect, we ask for your personal intervention in this matter so that such an unfortunate situation does not repeat itself.

Respectfully

Dr. Enrique Huertas
President
Free Cuba Medical Association

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Document Title re: Destructive commentary on Cuba

Language: Spanish

Folder Title [Cuba Info - November 05, 1996] [loose]

OA/ID: 9296

DIARIO LAS AMÉRICAS

Fundado el
4 de Julio de 1953

Por la Libertad, la Cultura y la Solidaridad Hemisférica

ARO 5477

MANEJO DE

Miami, Florida Viernes 18 de Octubre de 1990

EDICIÓN DE PRIMERA 7:30 A.M.

11 CENTS - \$0.01

Carta a Clinton

Responde a Burke el Colegio Médico Cubano Libre

"El doctor Enrique Huertas, Presidente del Colegio Médico Cubano Libre en el exilio, le envió la siguiente carta al presidente de Estados Unidos, Bill Clinton, en relación con la relocalización de Radio y TV Martí en la ciudad de Miami."

Honorable Bill Clinton
Presidente de los Estados
Unidos de América
La Casa Blanca
Washington, DC 20547

Estimado Señor Presidente:

Como seguramente Usted conoce, en fecha reciente, el señor David Burke, Presidente de la Junta de Gobernadores de la Oficina de Transmisiones de la Agencia de Información de los Estados Unidos, en entrevista por la Cadena NBC News, se expresó en términos incorrectos, indebidos e injustos en relación con la relocalización de Radio y TV Martí a la Ciudad de Miami.

La declaración del Señor Burke de que estaba convencido que la Credibilidad de Radio Martí estaba en peligro si se mudaba para Mia-



Enrique
Huertas

mi, ha disgustado profundamente a la Comunidad Cubana de la Florida y en general al exilio cubano y carece la más severa condenación y rechazo.

El señor Burke debió tener bien presente, que la relocalización ha sido aprobada por el Congreso y firmada por Usted como Presidente y que no le corresponde a

(Pasa a la Pág. 11-A Col. 3)

Responde a Burke el Colegio Médico Cubano Libre

(Viene de la pág. 1-A)

él, con el cargo que tiene, entorpecer ni obstaculizar la culminación exitosa de ese traslado por largo tiempo estudiado.

Usted conoce Señor Presidente, la gran labor realizada por Radio Martí, a la cual, en el Aniversario Patriótico del Grito de Yara, el pasado 10 de octubre, Usted hubo de referirse en declaraciones al pueblo de Cuba, resaltando el trabajo positivo y la credibilidad en la información de Radio TV Martí.

El Señor Burke sabe perfectamente del alto grado de profesionalismo, capacitación y experiencia de la empleomanía de Radio y TV Martí y de sus directores y jefes del departamento y no le corresponde, en modo alguno, alentar problemas, crear dudas o faltar a la verdad. Su misión tiene que ser contribuir a mantener y en lo posible ampliar el prestigio y credibilidad conquistado por Radio y TV Martí y que tanto ayuda al pueblo cubano a mantenerse bien informado de la situación cubana y de la destrucción en todos los

órdenes a la nación cubana, creada por la tiranía Castro comunista. Las transiciones de Radio y TV Martí contribuyen diariamente a mantener y estimular las causas de la libertad de Cuba y eso no se puede permitir que el señor Burke por incapacidad, ignorancia y otro motivo censurable, lo perjudique ostensiblemente.

Señor Presidente Clinton, el Colegio Médico Cubano Libre se solidariza con todas las organizaciones e instituciones cubanas y con la comunidad cubano americana, que ha levantado su voz de justificada protesta por los errores e injustos comentarios del señor Burke y con todo respeto le rogamos su intervención personal para evitar que se repita tan infortunada situación.

De Usted respetuosamente,
Dr. Enrique Huertas
Presidente

Municipios de Cuba en el Exilio

P. O. Box 95-0869 • Miami, FL 33195-0869



9

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As President of the Cuban Municipalities in Exile, a civic association comprised of 104 municipal organizations and representing hundreds of thousands of members, I respectfully ask that you request the immediate resignation of Mr. David Burke, appointed by you as Chairman of the U.S. Information Agency's Broadcasting Board of Governors, for discriminatory statements made against the Cuban American community.

Mr. Burke's first public derogatory statements against Cuban Americans came during a September 30 interview with ABC News during which he stated, "I am convinced the credibility of Radio and TV Marti is put in great jeopardy if it is moved to Miami." Mr. Burke again insulted the Cuban American community during an October 13 interview on CBS's 60 Minutes during which he stated, "I think that they (Cuban Americans) have undue influence (over Radio and TV Marti).

Mr. President, it is absolutely unacceptable to our community that one of your highest ranking appointees insult the integrity of Cuban Americans in this bigoted manner. It is my understanding that the relocation of Radio and TV Marti was passed by Congress and signed by you earlier this year. Why then is your highest representative in international broadcasting matters now impugning the integrity of our community by insinuating that we are somehow incapable of respecting the laws of this nation with respect to a government operation like Radio and TV Marti?

Not only has Mr. Burke insulted the entire Cuban American community, his comments attempt to degrade the professionalism and ability of the journalists who work at Radio and TV Marti. We believe that these employees, most of which are Hispanic Americans, are quite capable of continuing their balanced and objective journalistic work regardless of their geographic location; just as Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty's journalists did for decades while headquartered in eastern Europe.

I now write to you seeking your clarification. If, as one of your top political appointees, Mr. Burke's comments do indeed reflect your thinking on this matter, then I will simply be saddened. However, if Mr. Burke's comments were unauthorized and do not reflect your position, then he should be fired for misrepresenting your administration's policies and acting against the will of the United States Congress and President. At the very least, I ask that you demand his immediate resignation for his irresponsible, discriminatory and insulting comments against the entire Cuban American community.

I hope you will reassure our community that Mr. Burke's comments were irresponsible and unauthorized and you will then ask for his immediate resignation. I await your response.

Respectfully,

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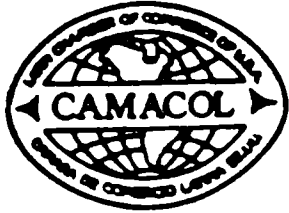
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CAMARA DE COMERCIO LATINA DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS
Latin Chamber of Commerce of U.S.A.

October 4, 1996

6

JUNTA DE GOBIERNO
1995 - 1997

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Hon. William J. Clinton
President of the United States of America
The White House
Washington, DC 20547

Mr. President:

Mr. David Burke, President of the Board of Governors of USIA, said in our interview to ABC News on 9/30/96 that "he is convinced that the move of Radio & TV Martí to Miami could jeopardize its credibility". Did he produce any evidence? None. His declaration is based only in his well-known dislike of our community.

It is evident that Mr. Burke is not concerned with the undermining of the prestige and authority of the Congress and yours, Mr. President, since both approved and put into effect the law governing this move. Besides, such an statement is offensive to the reporters of Radio Martí, since it insinuates that they can be manipulated by political interests, when their well-deserved prestige in Cuba and outside Cuba is good proof of their professional dignity.

Not taking into consideration these unconsiderate statements, the relocation that Congress approved and you ratified, is taking place. Soon Radio & TV Martí will be among us. In the meantime, this Latin Chamber of Commerce of USA (CAMACOL), that as organization promotes and solidifies the economic well being of South Florida and serves as a link to a profitable relationship between Latin America and this area of the United States, asks why this officer offends, without reasons the Hispanic community of this area and disregards your decisions, Mr. President.

Respectfully,


Luis Sabines
President

cc: The Miami Herald
Diario Las Américas
The New York Times
Washington Post

MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 350824, MIAMI, FL 33135

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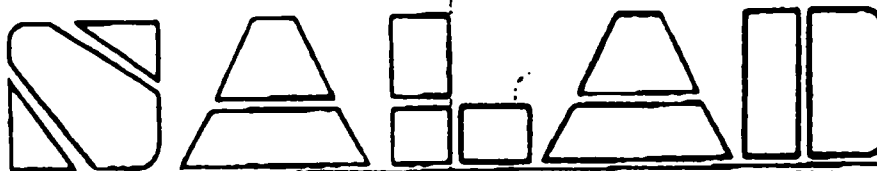
Critica CAMACOL afirmación sobre Radio y TV Martí

En carta dirigida al Presidente Clinton, el presidente de la CAMACOL, Luis Sabines, acusó a David Burke, presidente de la Junta de Gobernadores de la U.S.A. de desdeñar a la comunidad hispana de Miami.

Dice Sabines en su carta al Presidente, que el Sr. Burke expresó: "Estoy convencido de que el traslado de Radio y TV Martí para Miami, pondría en peligro su credibilidad", sin aportar una prueba de ello, sino basado "solamente en su bien conocido desden por nuestra comunidad".

Y añade: "s evidente que el Sr. Burke no le preocupa en lo más mínimo socavar el prestigio y la autoridad del Congreso y de usted...ya que el Congreso aprobó y usted sancionó la ley que dispuso ese traslado. Además, esa afirmación es ofensiva para los periodistas de Radio Martí, teniendo en cuenta que en ella insinúa que pueden ser manipulados por intereses políticos, desconociendo su bien ganado prestigio dentro y fuera de Cuba, por su demostrada dignidad profesional".

Dice también Sabines a Clinton que "Pronto Radio y TV Martí estarán donde deben estar: con nosotros", para terminar con esta afirmación: "Mientras tanto, esta Cámara de Comercio Latina de Estados Unidos, que como organización promueve y solidifica el bienestar económico del Sur de la Florida y sirve de enlace para una provechosa relación entre América Latina y esta región de Estados Unidos, pregunta por qué este funcionario ofende sin razón a la comunidad hispanoamericana de esta área y demuestra tan poco respeto por sus decisiones, señor Presidente".



SPANISH AMERICAN LEAGUE AGAINST DISCRIMINATION

Miami, Florida, "Capital of the Americas, a Bilingual Community".

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October 8, 1996

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

As President of the Spanish American League Against Discrimination (SALAD), I wish to respectfully communicate the profound distress that has been caused in our community by statements made by Mr. David Burke, Chairman of the USIA Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG), during an October 1, 1996, interview with ABC News regarding the relocation of Radio and TV Marti to Miami.

Perhaps if Mr. Burke truly realized the responsibility related to being appointed as the President's representative on the BBG, then he probably would not have made the disrespectful and discriminatory statement: "I am convinced that Radio Marti's credibility is in great jeopardy if it is moved to Miami."

In the first place, Mr. Burke should have remembered that this relocation has been passed by Congress and signed by you. Mr. Burke should know that as a presidential appointee he should be disciplined enough to accept the decisions of the President and Congress.

But above all, Mr. Burke should educate himself more about the Cuban-American community before making such insulting comments. These comments only serve to ratify the discriminatory attitudes which have been demonstrated by Mr. Burke. The Cuban-American community has always distinguished itself for its dedication to American values of hard work and honesty.



SPANISH AMERICAN LEAGUE AGAINST DISCRIMINATION

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(Mr. Clinton. cont.)

The Cuban-American community is also well aware of the high level of integrity and professionalism with which Radio and TV Marti's employees carry-out their journalistic functions. It is exactly this fact which makes it impossible for Radio and TV Marti's credibility to be manipulated or jeopardized by being based in Miami.

Mr. President, I want you to know that is saddens me to have to write this letter. But this is simply the expression of a community which feels it has been discriminated against by one of your high ranking political appointees. I hope you will reassure us the Mr. Burke's disrespectful comments were unauthorized and did not represent your thinking on this matter. I await your response.

Respectfully,



Oswaldo Soto
President

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DIARIO LAS AMÉRICAS

Por la Libertad, la Cultura y la Solidaridad Hemisférica

Miami, Florida Domingo 13 de Octubre de 1990

TELÉFONO: (305) 371-1111

Reacciona SALAD a declaraciones contra Radio y TV Martí

Texto completo de la carta enviada al presidente Clinton en relación con la postura de David Burke

Por LUIS MARIO

³⁰⁷⁰
Oswaldo Pico, presidente de la Liga Hispánica Contra la Discriminación conocida por las siglas de SALAD, le ha enviado una carta al presidente de Estados Unidos, Bill Clinton, en respuesta a las declaraciones de David Burke, en relación con el supuesto "peligro" de la credibilidad de Radio Martí, si se muda para Miami. Esta declaración fue he-

cha en un programa de la ABC, transmitida por el Canal 10 de televisión el pasado 30 de septiembre.

Burke, que preside la Junta de Gobernadores de la Oficina de Transmisiones de la Agencia de Información de Estados Unidos, también dijo ante la cadena de televisión CBS, en un programa

(Pasa a la Pág. 15-A Col. 1)

Reacciona SALAD a declaraciones contra Radio y TV Martí

(Viene de la pág. 1-A)

que se transmitirá este domingo, que los cubanos exiliados "tienen en TV Martí una influencia que no les corresponde". Burke siempre ha estado opuesto al traslado de Radio y TV a la ciudad de Miami.

Soto explica que la relocalización en Miami de Radio y TV Martí fue aprobada por el Congreso y firmada por Clinton, y David Burke no es más que un funcionario nombrado por el propio Presidente.

Debido a su gran importancia, DIARIO LAS AMÉRICAS reproduce completa la carta que a nombre de SALAD, su presidente Oswaldo Soto le envió a Bill Clinton:

Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
Presidente de los Estados Unidos de América
La Casa Blanca
Washington, D.C. 20547

Estimado Señor Presidente:

Como presidente de la Liga Hispano-Americana Contra la Discriminación, deseo, respetuosamente, comunicarle el profundo pesar que han causado a nuestra comunidad las declaraciones hechas por el Señor David Burke, presidente de la Junta de Gobernadores de la Oficina de Transmisiones de la Agencia de Información de los Estados Unidos, durante una entrevista hecha el 30 de septiembre de 1990, por la cadena ABC News, concerniente a la relocalización de Radio y TV Martí a Miami.

Quizás, si el Señor Burke hubiese comprendido verdaderamente su responsabilidad al ser elegido como representante del Presidente de E.E.UU. a la Junta de Gobernadores de la Oficina de Transmisiones, a lo mejor no hubiese hecho tan irreflexivos

gran peligro si se mudan a Miami".

En primer lugar, el señor Burke debió haber recordado que la relocalización ha sido aprobada por el Congreso y firmada por Ud. El señor Burke debería saber que, como designado presidencial, tiene que ser lo suficientemente disciplinado para aceptar las decisiones de su Presidente o renunciar a su posición para no criticar libremente las decisiones del Presidente y del Congreso.

Pero sobre todo, el señor Burke debería educarse más respecto a nuestra comunidad Cubano-Americana antes de hacer comentarios insultantes. Estos comentarios sólo sirven para ratificar sus actitudes discriminatorias que han sido demostradas por el señor Burke. La comunidad Cubano-Americana siempre se ha distinguido por su dedicación a los valores Americanos de trabajar fuerte y ser honestos.

La comunidad Cubano-Americana también sabe del alto nivel de capacidad, integridad y profesionalismo con las que los empleados de Radio y TV Martí llevan a cabo sus funciones periodísticas. Es exactamente este factor lo que hace imposible que la credibilidad de Radio Martí sea manipulada o peligro al ser basada en Miami.

Señor Presidenta, sepa Ud. que me entristece tener que escribir esta carta. Pero es simplemente la expresión de una comunidad que reciente haber sido discriminada por uno de sus más altos funcionarios políticos. Confío que nos asegure que los irrespetuosos comentarios hechos por el señor Burke no fueron autorizados ni representan su manera de pensar en este asunto. Espero su respuesta.

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20547

Dear Mr. President:

We are greatly offended by the posture taken by Mr. David Burke, Chairman of the USIA Broadcasting Board of Governors, with respect to the relocation of Radio and TV Marti to South Florida.

This relocation, which is in progress, was approved by Congress and signed by you. However, in an interview with ABC News broadcast to the entire nation on September 30, Mr. Burke stated "I am convinced the credibility of Radio Marti is in great jeopardy if it is moved to Miami."

We feel this statement by Mr. Burke undermines the authority of both the President and the Congress. It also greatly offends our community and the dignity of the journalists that work in Radio Marti.

The National Association of Cuban Lawyers in Exile, which I am honored to preside, reject this insult and feel strongly that Mr. Burke deserves a strong reprimand for his disrespectful and offensive attitude.

Respectfully,

Dr. Luis Rodriguez Cepero
President

cc: The Miami Herald
The Washington Post
The New York Times
The Washington Times
Diario Las Americas

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Protestan abogados por alegada ofensa de funcionario

El Colegio Nacional de Abogados de Cuba en el Exilio, a través de su presidente, Dr. Luis Rodríguez Cepero, dirigió una carta al Presidente Clinton, expresándole su disgusto por la actitud del señor David Burke, presidente de la Junta de Gobernadores de la Oficina de Transmisiones Internacionales de EE.UU. respecto al traslado a la Florida de Radio y TV Martí.

Dicho traslado —dice la carta— "está ya en proceso y fue aprobado por el Congreso y sancionado por usted". Sin embargo, el señor Burke, en entrevista a la cadena televisita ABC, transmitida a toda la nación (1/1/96), afirmó: "Estoy convencido de que la credibilidad de Radio Martí será comprometida si se relocaliza en Miami".

"Estimamos que estas declaraciones del señor Burke desafía la autoridad de usted y la del Congreso y, al mismo tiempo, ofende a nuestra comunidad y a la dignidad de los periodistas que laboran en Radio Martí", sigue diciendo el Colegio de Abogados, que termina rechazando "esa afrenta del señor Burke, quien merece "una fuerte reprimenda por su actitud irrespetuosa y ofensiva".

Publicado en
el periódico "El
Punto" el 1/1/96

Por la libertad

la Cultura y la Solidaridad Hemisférica

EDICION DE 4 PAGINAS - 4 SECCIONES

NO SE ENTREGA EN MIAMI

DIARIO LAS AMÉRICAS

Memorandum de la Secretaría
de la Presidencia de la República

Broadcast board will make Marti move succeed

The Broadcasting Board of Governors, which I chair, strongly supports the mission of promoting freedom and democracy in Cuba. We believe that Radio Marti has demonstrated its ability to fulfill this mandate and are ~~committed to~~ ^{committed to} safeguard its credibility.

On March 12, the board passed a

resolution stating our concern that relocating Radio and TV Marti to Miami would significantly hinder the necessary and appropriate oversight of the Cuba-broadcasting operation. The board also advised that the cost and timing of the move and its possible impact on Radio Marti's program-

ming had not been reviewed by appropriate congressional committees.

Our position on the location of Radio and TV Marti is consistent with the stations' founding rationale and legislative history. In 1982 a senior Reagan administration official testified to Congress against the relocation to Florida from Washington. The Cuban American National Foundation shared this view at the time.

The success of Radio Marti has confirmed the wisdom of this position. The very station identification, "You are listening to Radio Marti, broadcasting from Washington, capital of the United States of America," lent a seriousness of purpose that symbolized our commitment to freeing Cuba from Castro's totalitarianism.

Regrettably, a legitimate policy discussion over the future of Radio and TV Marti has been senselessly degraded by charges that "racism" is involved. As a grandson of immigrants, I am sensitive to any form of ethnic discrimination. It is reprehensible that some would resort to race-baiting to obfuscate the real issues that concern the national interest.

This April, Congress passed and the president signed legislation mandating the relocation of Radio and TV Marti to South Florida. My colleagues and I are committed to carrying out the move in an efficient and cost-effective manner. As always our first priority will be to ensure the accomplishment of the mission of promoting freedom and democracy in Cuba.

DAVID BURKE
Chairman,

U.S. Broadcasting Board
of Governors
Washington, D.C.

Unfair labels for exiles

For 37 years, Cuban Americans have been painfully aware of being derided and discriminated against by the media. Usually, labels attack our credibility — unfair labels such as "right-wing," "conservative," "vociferous," "zealous," "reactionaries," "upper-class" (we come from all walks of life), "Batista supporters," etc.

As an artist I have suffered discrimination as a Cuban exile. When U.S. art critics or reporters find out where I am from, they immediately lose interest in my nonpolitical art. As a filmmaker I found rejection from colleges, universities, and the U.S. media of my documentary *Covering Cuba*.

I guess that our sin has been to tell the truth about the hero of the well-entrenched, diehard pro-Castroites.

AGUSTIN BLAZQUEZ
Silver Spring, Md.

Plane danger at stadium

Am I alone, or does anyone else notice the danger caused by the banner-towing airplanes that fly over Pro Player Stadium? At one Dolphins game, as many as seven planes could be seen jostling for position just above the stadium's rim. Besides the obnoxious noise and distraction, what is to keep them from crashing into the crowd should mechanical failure occur?

Let's hope that it doesn't take a major loss of life to force some action on this.

GERALD FUSEO
Miami

THE MIAMI HERALD

THE READERS FORUM

TUESDAY - OCTOBER 22-1996

PAGE 18A

el Nuevo Herald

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CORREO

Nuestra preocupación por Radio y TV Martí

En relación con el artículo publicado en El Nuevo Herald el 15 de octubre, *Mas Canosa desmiente al programa 60 Minutos*, así como la reacción de ciertas figuras públicas de la comunidad cubanoamericana, quisiera aclarar algunos hechos con relación a mis recientes declaraciones sobre Radio y TV Martí.

La Junta de Gobernadores para Transmisiones de Estados Unidos, la cual dirijo, apoya decididamente la misión de promover la libertad y la democracia en Cuba. Creemos que Radio Martí ha demostrado su capacidad para llevar a cabo este mandato, y por lo tanto mantenemos una atención especial en velar por su credibilidad. El Congreso le ha otorgado a la Junta la responsabilidad de fiscalizar todas las transmisiones internacionales del gobierno norteamericano para garantizar su efectividad y su integridad periodística.

El 12 de marzo de 1996, la Junta aprobó una resolución expresando su preocupación porque la relocalización de Radio y TV Martí a Miami "podría impedir significativamente la supervisión necesaria y apropiada de las operaciones de transmisiones a Cuba". La Junta además expresó que el costo y el momento oportuno del traslado así como el posible impacto en la programación de Radio Martí no habían sido reexaminados por los debidos comités congresionales.

Nuestra postura en cuanto a la ubicación de Radio y TV Martí es totalmente congruente con la idea inicial y el historial de ambas estaciones. La Comisión Presidencial para Transmisiones a Cuba concluyó en 1982 que Radio Martí "no puede ser, ni aparentar ser, identificada como un proyecto de emigrados, como tampoco reflejar una visión o perspectiva partidista". Ese mismo año, un funcionario de la administración del Presidente Reagan declaró ante el Congreso: "No creemos que las operaciones principales deban residir en (Florida), debido a que allá existen presiones que son distintas a las que operan a nivel nacional. Creemos que hay mayor posibilidad de obtener transmisiones balanceadas y controladas a nivel nacional (Washington, D.C.)". La Fundación Nacional Cubano Americana compartía este criterio en aquel momento.

Los logros de Radio Martí han confirmado lo acertado de esta postura. La propia señal de identificación de la emisora: "Estás escuchando a Radio Martí, transmitiendo desde Washington, capital de los Estados Unidos de América", revistió a la ope-

ración de una seriedad que indicaba el compromiso de toda nuestra nación de liberar a Cuba del totalitarismo de Castro. Los estudios de audiencia realizados por Radio Martí confirmaron desde aquel momento que esta idea encontraba resonancia en nuestros oyentes cubanos. Ellos sabían que tanto la sustancia como el tono de Radio Martí eran diferentes a las de otras emisoras que transmitían también hacia la isla.

Lamentablemente, una legítima discusión política acerca del futuro de Radio y TV Martí ha sido rebajada a niveles absurdos mediante acusaciones de "racismo". Como nieto de inmigrantes, tengo una especial sensibilidad para percibir cualquier forma de discriminación étnica. Sugiero que tengamos en cuenta las palabras del presidente Clinton durante el reciente debate: "Nadie se favorece al atacarnos personalmente los unos a los otros... Ello no soluciona ningún problema. Necesitamos estar en desacuerdo y conversar acerca del futuro en una forma honesta". Por lo tanto es reprochable que alguien recurra a acusaciones de racismo como forma de provocación con el propósito de ofuscar los verdaderos asuntos que atañen al interés nacional.

Todos nosotros en la Junta admiramos el gran talento y la energía de los cubanoamericanos. Respetamos y apoyamos a los periodistas de Radio y TV Martí que están dedicados a mantener los más altos niveles del periodismo. También reconocemos la importancia del sur de la Florida como fuente de información acerca de Cuba. Radio Martí siempre ha tenido una gran presencia en Miami con numerosos empleados antes de la reubicación.

En abril de este año, el Congreso aprobó y el Presidente firmó proyectos de leyes autorizando la relocalización de Radio y TV Martí al sur de la Florida. Tanto yo como mis colegas en la Junta estamos comprometidos a llevar a cabo el traslado de una manera eficaz y con gastos mínimos y razonables. Como siempre, nuestra principal prioridad será asegurar el cumplimiento de la misión de promover la democracia y libertad en Cuba.

David Burke

Presidente de la Junta de Gobernadores de
Transmisiones de Estados Unidos
Washington, D.C.

Official Assails Marti Broadcast Operations

Cuban Exiles Have 'Undue Influences,' Board Chairman Says

Keight-Kiddler

The federal official ultimately responsible for overseeing U.S. government broadcasts to Cuba charged the Cuban exile community exerts "undue influences" over Radio and TV Marti, but he has been stymied from fixing the problem, "60 Minutes" has reported.

David Burke, chairman of the Broadcasting Board of Governors, said exile leaders such as Jorge Mas Canosa have been allowed to run the stations like political organizations and to preempt debate over their relocation to Miami, according to the CBS program, scheduled to be broadcast tonight.

Burke, a Clinton appointee and former network news executive, said he had been "very ineffective"

in exercising control over the taxpayer-funded stations, and was particularly distressed when Congress approved the \$7 million move from Washington to Miami without consulting him or holding a hearing.

"I wrote to various members of Congress . . . to everyone in the administration from the National Security Council, Leon Panetta, everybody—there should be hearings about this. There are not going to be any hearings," Burke said.

"Ninety miles off our shore there is a society . . . that has absolutely no freedom of speech," Burke said. "And yet a major decision about the location of Marti, costing millions of dollars—you

can't have hearings about it here either."

Burke's criticism, the most explicit by an official with oversight responsibility, comes in the context of a "60 Minutes" report that focuses on TV Marti.

The State Department's inspector general is investigating charges of political interference and retaliation at stations whose charter mandates balance and objectivity.

According to a transcript of the segment, Rep. David E. Bonior (D-Colo.), a longtime critic of the broadcasts, said U.S. taxpayers have poured more than \$100 million into TV Marti despite the fact the Castro government jams the programs and "virtually nobody sees it."

2

DIARIO LAS AMÉRICAS

Por la Libertad, la Cultura y la Solidaridad Hemisférica

SEMISEMANAL

Miami, Florida, Miércoles 2 de Octubre de 1996

CON FUENTES ORIGINALES Y SECCIONES

Funcionario desafía al Presidente Clinton y al Congreso en relación con Radio y TV Martí

Por ARIEL REMOS

El presidente de la Junta de gobernadores de la Oficina de Transmisiones Internacionales de EE.UU., David Burke, desafió al Presidente Bill Clinton y al Congreso, al oponerse al traslado de Radio y TV Martí para Miami en entrevista de la cadena ABC, que se transmitió a toda la nación el lunes por la tarde.

"Estoy convencido de que la credibilidad de Radio Martí será comprometida si se relocaliza en Miami", dijo Burke al entrevistador de la ABC, John Martin, en un segmento del noticiero de esa cadena televisiva.

Fuentes de Washington han calificado esta expresión de ofensiva para la comunidad cubano-americana, de la cual, dicen, tiene Burke pésima opinión.

En abril de este año el Congreso de EE.UU. aprobó y el Presidente Clinton firmó la Ley que autoriza el traslado de ambas emisoras para Miami. El traslado ya se está efectuando por etapas. La primera fase de este proceso se cumplió con el traslado del personal necesario para que Radio Martí pueda transmitir desde las 5 de la madrugada hasta la 1 de la tarde, de lunes a viernes, desde Miami.

El Presidente Clinton y la mayoría del Congreso han manifestado su apoyo a Radio y TV Martí. Las oficinas y estudios de la emisora ya están instaladas en el área de Miami, y a mediados del próximo año, estará también en esta zona TV Martí, en cumplimiento de la voluntad bipartidista del Congreso y del Presidente Clinton.

Cartas al Director

En defensa de David Burke: Carta de un miembro de la Junta de Gobernadores de Radiodifusión de los Estados Unidos

Estimado Sr. Aguirre::

Como el miembro republicano más antiguo de la Junta de Gobernadores de Radiodifusión bipartidista nombrada por el Presidente, le escribo para aclarar puntos publicados en una serie de artículos recientes en DIARIO LAS AMERICAS, respondiendo a las declaraciones públicas de nuestro Presidente David Burke en relación con Radio y TV Martí. (Funcionario Gubernamental Desafía al Presidente Clinton y al Congreso en Relación con Radio y TV Martí, 10/2/96; Abogados protestan contra alegaciones ofensivas de funcionario - 10/6/96; Camacol critica declaraciones sobre Radio y TV Martí, 10/11/96; SALAD reacciona a declaraciones contra Radio y TV Martí, 10/13/96)

-- David Burke no es ni "racista", ni un "maniaco de poder", ni tiene "una opinión muy baja de la comunidad cubanoamericana". Estas son acusaciones difama-

torias, escandalosas y ofensivas para las que no hay cabida en una discusión de política pública.

-- David Burke y la Junta de Gobernadores no, repito no, han causado la multitud de controversias, alegaciones o mala conducta administrativa, investigaciones del Inspector General, informes de la Oficina General de Contabilidad GAO, y quejas laborales que rodean a la Oficina de Transmisiones a Cuba de la USIA.

-- David Burke y la Junta de Gobernadores total y entusiastamente apoyan el propósito y la misión de Radio y Televisión Martí: promover la libertad y la democracia en Cuba.

-- David Burke y la Junta, sin embargo, también tienen una responsabilidad fiduciaria ante el Congreso de los EE.UU. y los contribuyentes estadounidenses de asegurarse que las transmisiones del gobierno de los EE.UU. a Cuba "se llevan a cabo de acuerdo con las más altas normas profesionales de periodismo radial", de acuerdo con la Ley de Radiodifusión Radial de 1994 (P.L. 103-236).

Sinceramente,

Tom Korologos
Junta de Gobernadores de Radiodifusión
Washington, D.C.

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

CONGRESS APPROVES FINAL ACTION FOR RADIO MARTI RELOCATION

The United States Congress yesterday concluded administrative action on the reprogramming of funds for the relocation of Radio and TV Marti from Washington, D.C. to South Florida.

With the concurrence of the House of Representatives Subcommittee on Commerce, State, Justice, (CJS) every pertinent congressional committee has now approved funding for the relocation to proceed. In accordance with the U.S. Information Agency's Office of Cuba Broadcasting (OCB) reprogramming request, \$3.6 million is now immediately available to begin implementation of phases two, three and four of the relocation.

Radio and TV Marti's relocation is expected to save more than \$3 million in taxpayer funds per year. In effect, the relocation will pay for itself by the second year of operation in South Florida.

Furthermore, the relocation will allow an assessment of staffing requirements and promote a downsizing in obsolete and non-essential staffing so as to eliminate any possible waste of taxpayer funds. As stated in the House of Representatives CJS reprogramming approval, "The Committee requests that OCB take another look at its staffing needs and provide the Committee with a further assessment of its requirements to determine whether all of these positions are required."

Congressman Lincoln Diaz-Balart stated, "I wish to salute the wisdom of my congressional colleagues in providing final approval for funding to proceed with Radio and TV Marti's relocation to South Florida. Not only will this relocation enhance Radio and TV Marti's programming, it will also promote a reduction in costs and non-essential staffing, thus saving taxpayer money. The entire South Florida community welcomes Radio and TV Marti to its new home."

Congresswoman Ilene Ros-Lehtinen stated, "Today the Cuban people on the island and in exile can rejoice that Radio and TV Marti have taken a giant step toward its natural and appropriate location, closer than ever to its Cuban audience. With the abundance of Cuba-related news and information resources in South Florida, Radio and TV Marti's programming will be greatly enhanced. Yesterday's congressional approval gives the green light to the important and much-needed relocation of Radio and TV Marti to South Florida."

Both congresspersons reiterated their full support for Radio and TV Marti's mission to provide the Cuban people with objective, balanced and comprehensive news and information while promoting the cause of freedom in Cuba. "We are confident the professional and able employees of Radio and TV Marti will continue as always to carry out this mission with distinction and honor in their new South Florida headquarters."

Contact: Yanik Fenton (305) 470-8555, Beeper: (305) 999-4344

el Nuevo Herald

28 PAGINAS

MIAMI, FL. MARTES 13 DE OCTUBRE DE 1998

Mas Canosa desmiente al programa 60 Minutes

Afirma que 'fue un hachazo contra TV y Radio Martí'

de CYNTHIA CORZO
redactora de El Nuevo Herald

El líder de la Junta Presidencial sobre transmisiones a Cuba, Jorge Mas Canosa, negó el segmento del programa *60 Minutes* en el cual se criticaron las operaciones de TV Martí como un gasto excesivo de fondos.

"Se sabía que ese programa era un hachazo contra TV y Radio Martí", dijo Mas. "Era una cosa totalmente sin balance. Presentaron tres versiones contra TV Martí y no a [Rolando] Bonachea".

En un segmento de *60 Minutes*, transmitido domingo por la cadena CBS, se puso en tela de juicio el empleo de sumas millonarias en las transmisiones de TV Martí, bloqueadas en su totalidad por el gobierno de los Estados Unidos, y se analizaron las posibles consecuencias adversas del traslado de la estación a

Durante el programa, el funcionario federal responsable de supervisar las transmisiones de los Estados Unidos a Cuba alegó que la comunidad cubana ejerce "influencia impropia" sobre las transmisiones de Radio y TV Martí, pero que se le ha impedido solucionar el problema.

David Burke, nombrado por el presidente Bill Clinton y ex ejecutivo de las cadenas de televisión ABC y CBS, dijo que él ha sido muy ineficiente en ejercer control sobre las transmisiones y que quedó seriamente preocupado cuando el Congreso aprobó el traslado de las transmisiones a Miami, a un costo de \$7 millones, sin consultarle y sin realizar audiencias congresionales.

"Le escribí a varios miembros del Congreso para que me permitieran

60 MINUTES, DE SA

Parte de las instalaciones y de los empleados de Radio Martí ya se trasladaron a Miami, y la emisora comenzó el mes pasado a transmitir parte de su programación desde el sur de la Florida. El traslado debe completarse para finales de año, y en 1997 debe comenzar la mudanza de TV Martí.

"Nunca se me consultó", dijo Burke. "Todo fue organizado tras bastidores".

Mas sostiene que no fue así. La Junta de Asesoramiento Presidencial realizó audiencias públicas en Washington y Miami, a las cuales asistieron personas que favorecían el traslado y algunos que se oponían.

La decisión de trasladar Radio y TV Martí a Miami fue aprobada por el Congreso y ratificada por el presidente Clinton.

"El se opone", dijo Mas, sobre Burke. "Es un maniaco del poder y un racista".

Asegura que los periodistas que trabajan en Radio y TV Martí no son influenciados indebidamente por el simple hecho de trabajar en el sur de la Florida, una zona predominantemente cubana.

Washington, que el *Washington Post* lo editen en San Diego y que el *New York Times* lo editen en Tel Aviv. Es absurdo", dijo Mas. "Es menospreciar a los periodistas cubanoamericanos porque no importa la ubicación geográfica, van a continuar haciendo una labor imparcial".

El congresista demócrata David Skaggs, de Colorado, crítico de las transmisiones a Cuba, dijo que los contribuyentes estadounidenses han empleado más de \$100 millones en TV Martí a pesar de que "casi nadie lo ve". "Es un clásico gasto de dinero", dijo Skaggs en el programa. "Probablemente nadie nunca ha visto una transmisión completa".

Según Mas, los culpables son Burke y los detractores de TV Martí que han estancado la orden del Congreso y del presidente Clinton de cambiar las transmisiones de la emisora a UHF, lo que les permitiría transmitir en distintos canales y evitaría que Cuba bloqueara la señal.

"No lo ve la cantidad de gente que quisiéramos. Lo ven las minorías", dijo Mas. "Es que no tienen el compromiso para hacer



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It's Your Money
Costs of moving TV and Radio Marti
September 30, 1996
WPLG - TV Channel Ten
6:30 PM
ABC World News Tonight

Peter Jennings(Anchor): Now, here is regular Monday piece about your money.

A woman in Massachusetts told us yesterday, she was glad that we didn't say, "your money, your choice" anymore. She thought that she didn't have a choice in how the government spends it. Certainly, not in this case. The government has decided that it is going to move the headquarters of Radio and Television Marti from Washington to Miami. In this report tonight, ABC's John Martin raises the question of value, for dollars.

John Martin(reporting): They work for Radio and TV Marti, which spends 25 million tax dollars a year to bombard Fidel Castro's Cuba, with news, sports, talk, and music.

As a government operation, it has been based here in Washington since 1984. But last April, Congress quietly ordered it moved to Miami by next year. Relocating up to 220 employees at a cost of eight million dollars. Alberto Mora sits on its governing board. Is this worth spending eight million dollars for?

Alberto Mora(International Broadcasting Bureau): Why not concentrate the operation in Miami and get it all closer to the action.

Martin: Some fear it may be too close to the action, further damaging the operations credibility. TV Marti is jammed and never seen in Cuba. And moving to Miami will not change that. Taxpayers will simply continue paying 11.6 million dollars a year to beam signals from this blimp into thin air. Radio Marti is different. Cubans do listen. But staff members who oppose the move, say that Cubans will be more suspicious if it is based in Miami.

Richard Planas(Radio Marti): Marti, right now, is politicized and then once in Miami, it will be politicized even more.

Martin: Some staff members worry that Fidel Castro will claim that Radio Marti is too much under the thumb of Jorge Mas Canosa, Miami's most powerful Cuban exile politician and head of a foundation dedicated to Castro's overthrow.

Miami's Video Professionals

Martin: Mas Canosa did not respond to our request for an interview. Neither did Texas senator. Phil Graham, who wrote the amendment ordering the move. But David Burke, a former ABC News executive, who chairs Marti's governing board said he wishes Congress had left the operation in Washington.

David Burke(International Broadcasting Bureau): I'm convinced that its credibility is put in great jeopardy if it moves to Miami.

Martin: What seems clear is that by relocating to Miami, Radio/TV Marti sets itself up to lose a propaganda fight with Castro.

If so, it will not only cost the agency its credibility, but eight million dollars to move it hear. It's your money.

John Martin, ABC News, Miami.

RATVMART.I
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VOICE OF AMERICA

INTERVIEW WITH ROLANDO BONACHEA
OFFICE OF CUBA BROADCASTING
CBS 60 MINUTES

Tuesday, July 16, 1996

Tape Transcription

Diversified Reporting Services, Inc.
1025 VERMONT AVENUE, N.W. SUITE 1250
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005
(202) 296-2929

P R O C E E D I N G S

INTERVIEWER: (Inaudible) broadcast
(inaudible).

MR. BONACHEA: Well, in the Congress of the United States (inaudible) Television Marti, it was stated that the mission of Radio and, later, TV Marti was to promote freedom and democracy in Cuba and to do so by providing the people of Cuba with news information that is (inaudible), objective, (inaudible) and that provides the people of Cuba with the information that the Castro government has denied to them since 1959.

This is a phenomenal service to the people of Cuba and to the cause of democracy and freedom in the island.

If you consider that, since 1959, Castro took over all of the media outfits, where the radio, television, newspapers, and magazines were taken over by the Castro government, subsequently, after he had done that, during the decade of the 1960s, by the 1970s, he moved toward prohibiting the distribution of Latin American publications inside the island and, in

the 1980s, as perestroika and (inaudible) began to take root (inaudible) the former Soviet Union, Castro then began prohibiting the distribution of publications from the former Soviet Union and the Eastern European countries, and a newspaper as popular as Nostra (phonetic) News, which had enjoyed great popularity with the people of Cuba and the 1980s was forbidden from being distributed.

So, in 1985, Radio Marti broke the monopoly of information of the Castro government and, since then, and through Radio Marti and, to a lesser degree, through Television Marti, the people of Cuba have access to all kinds of information.

INTERVIEWER: How many people listen to Radio Marti?

MR. BONACHEA: The studies that we have done estimate that the audience of Radio Marti ranges between 65 to 70 percent of the audience inside Cuba. I think that these audiences are very large. It has certainly set a standard within Cuba for what radio broadcasting journalism should be all about.

We have no doubt that Radio Marti is the most

listened to radio station inside Cuba.

INTERVIEWER: It's the most what?

MR. BONACHEA: The most listened to radio station inside the island, and that the Castro government tries to compete with Radio Marti by even trying to improve their own radio programs which I would say is, most of the time, is rather boring, since what they do is to produce the propaganda machinery of the Castro government.

In Radio Marti, the people of Cuba find a great diversity of opinions, a great diversity of approaches to many complex issues.

This, I think, is the value of Radio Marti (inaudible) that it prepares the people of Cuba for the democratic transition that will come, and prepares them by showing, in diversity of opinions, that democracy is a complex process and that any given issue is going to have different shades of interpretation, different opinions, and that, therefore, it is important that they be exposed to the spectrum of political-economic opinions that is (inaudible).

INTERVIEWER: What is the audience of

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Television Marti?

MR. BONACHEA: It is believed that -- the most recent studies that we have done estimate maybe 3 percent of the audience being able to tune in Television Marti, without any doubt that the Castro government has been able to jam, more or less effectively, the signal of Television Marti by pouring into this effort probably literally millions of dollars.

I think the people of Cuba know of this. They know of the lengths that the Castro government will go to to prevent them from receiving objective news information about what is going on outside Cuba and inside the island.

I think that the jamming of Television Marti is one of the greatest examples of the type of dictatorship that we are dealing with, obsessed with disallowing the people of Cuba from gaining news information, simply because they want to have a total control and a total monopoly of the information that reaches Cuba.

INTERVIEWER: We've been told by people in

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Washington that virtually nobody sees TV Marti.

MR. BONACHEA: You know, we have -- we know that the jamming, like I said, has been fairly effective but, at the same time, we have reports that, sporadically, the signal of Television Marti enters (inaudible) parts of the island. That brings the Castro government immediately to mobilize the jammers from one place to another in order to block the signal again.

So yes, we do not contest that, whereas it has been very difficult for him to jam Radio Marti, he has been fairly successful in depriving the people of Cuba from gaining access to the TV signal.

INTERVIEWER: How much does Castro spend to jam Radio Marti?

MR. BONACHEA: It is --

INTERVIEWER: I'm sorry. Let me add, how much money does it cost Castro to jam Television Marti?

MR. BONACHEA: It is -- I think it would be difficult for me to say, you know. I have heard that it ranges from \$100 million all the way to maybe 5, 6 hundred million dollars per year, in building the

jammers, maintaining the technological equipments that are required.

But this is the type of information that maybe technicians would be more (inaudible) to be able to say exactly what is the cost in energy, petroleum, that that is costing the Castro government to maintain these things.

INTERVIEWER: \$100 million?

MR. BONACHEA: I wouldn't be surprised that it costs him that much. You know, we hear that he has many Russian-made helicopters, equipped with jammers, that fly continuously, with the cost of fuel, trying to look for the signal of TV Marti in order to jam the signal.

INTERVIEWER: This comes as no surprise to you. There is some criticism in Washington, and there have been criticisms by some advisory boards about the amount of money that's being spent on TV Marti. And the question is, why spend millions and millions of dollars every year broadcasting a program that nobody in Cuba can see?

(Interruption to the proceedings.)

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INTERVIEWER: Hold it just a second.

(A recess was taken.)

INTERVIEWER: Okay. Are we rolling?

A PARTICIPANT: Yeah, we're on.

INTERVIEWER: Now, first of all, let me ask you, how much money does it cost for the government to fund Radio and TV Marti?

MR. BONACHEA: You are talking about \$22 million per year, about \$11 million for Radio, \$11 million for Television Marti.

INTERVIEWER: Why spend \$11 million broadcasting TV Marti when nobody in Cuba, or virtually no one in Cuba, can see it?

MR. BONACHEA: Let me say, first of all, that Radio and Television Marti have had very strong support from the American public, the American people, from the United States Congress, and from three consecutive Presidents.

The support of Radio and Television Marti within Congress, as you know, is a bipartisan support from both the Democratic and the Republican parties, and it has been a support that has been given to us

each year by very large margins of supports in both the House and the Senate.

Those of us who work in Radio and Television Marti are grateful for that type of support. We believe that Radio and Television Marti are essential to the promotion of freedom and democracy in Cuba.

I realize that, when we (inaudible) ourselves with the question that Television Marti does not reach as large an audience as we would like for it to reach -

INTERVIEWER: But the critics say it doesn't reach anybody.

MR. BONACHEA: Like I said, it's a small percentage that we feel that we are reaching, not large enough. We continuously try to reach more people, to fulfill our congressional mandate of delivering the information to the people of Cuba.

But I always say that, through the 40 years that the Communist Party in the Soviet Union and the Eastern European countries oppressed the peoples of those countries, the United States Congress, the American public, and the Presidents of the United

States had the great wisdom for supporting Voice of America, Radio Free Europe, and Radio Liberty, in spite of the jamming of those communist countries against those three major networks.

Today we know, in the retrospect of history, that Voice of America, Radio Free Europe, and Radio Liberty played a very important role in promoting freedom and democracy in all of those former communist countries, even though the Soviets never gave up their efforts at jamming their operations.

(Inaudible) faced with the same situation in Cuba, when it comes to Television Marti. It may be that Castro can be successful here and there and jamming the signal, but the truth of the matter remains that the people of Cuba are entitled to receive the information, that the United Nations Charter of Human Rights mandates that no government should prevent their people from obtaining free, objective, and (inaudible) information.

And, as we know, in light of the recent crises that we have had with Castro, the Castro government, that continues to be highly unpredictable, everything

that we can do to deliver information to the people of Cuba, even if it's very small, is going to serve a useful purpose to serve the national interest of the United States of America.

INTERVIEWER: I would agree, Dr. Bonachea, I would agree that the people of Cuba are entitled to the information. But they can't get the information, because Castro is jamming the signal.

MR. BONACHEA: But I say to you, Voice of America's audience, in many of the services, reaches 7 or 8 percent. According to our studies, we reach about 3 to 4 percent. The difference, I think, between the regular services of VOA in terms of audience and what Television Marti does is, in my opinion, not that -- not that great a difference.

And, mind you, I am not saying that -- I continuously, with all of the people who work with Television Marti, we are constantly trying to see how we can reach a wider amount of people.

But I do believe that the important thing for us to remember is that both Radio and Television Marti, including Television Marti, we serve the cause of

freedom and democracy by trying to deliver the information to the people of Cuba.

And again, like in the former Soviet Union, the American people, the President, and the United States Congress did not give up their support of Voice of America just because, at one point or another, the dictators of those countries were being more or less successful in jamming those signals.

INTERVIEWER: What would happen, what would happen if the United States Congress shut off funding for TV Marti?

MR. BONACHEA: Well, I believe that, you know, like everything else, we live in a great democracy, Television and Radio Marti, like many other issues of importance, have been part of a continuing debate inside the Congress, in the media, in other areas. The debate continues, as you know.

But I would say that, if the funding for Television Marti was taken away, I do believe that will relieve Castro of a certain amount of pressure that we exercise by trying to deliver that information to the people of Cuba, and will give something to Castro

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while, on the other hand, it sort of would be like rewarding Castro's efforts at trying to prevent the people of Cuba from receiving the information.

INTERVIEWER: Propaganda victory?

MR. BONACHEA: It would be, to a certain degree, yes, a propaganda victory for Castro, though I think that that should not drive our argument, because I really think that, when you look at the operation of Radio and Television Marti, I am more concerned -- I am less concerned about what Castro may or may not think is a propaganda victory, and I am more concerned about serving the national interests of the United States in our cause of promoting freedom and democracy in the island, and television, I think can play, will play as important a role as Radio Marti.

INTERVIEWER: You could make the argument that Castro doesn't even need to jam the signal of Radio Marti because of the problems, the technological problems, with the blimps. We're told that it's nonoperational.

A PARTICIPANT: You might want to re-ask that. You said Radio Marti. You mean Television Marti.

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INTERVIEWER: Okay. I'm sorry. We're told that you could make the argument that Castro doesn't even need to -- you could make the argument that Castro doesn't even have to jam the signal of TV Marti. We're told that the blimp is nonoperational about 45 percent of the time.

MR. BONACHEA: No, that is a false allegation completely. The aerostat (phonetic) that was developed by American scientists for this particular project is, in my opinion, a tribute to American science, American technology. We have no doubt that the quality of the signal that enters the coast of Cuba is an A-quality type of television signal.

Now, once it gets inside, that's where the jammers are in, in order to block the signal. What is true is that there is maybe about 15, 20 percent of times that we are not able to complete the entire broadcast because of weather conditions. It has nothing to do with technological reasons, but with weather conditions.

As you know, in the part that the aerostat is located at, the (inaudible) north of Key west, during

certain times of the year, there are heavy rains and, therefore, we have to be very careful and, when we are told that we should lower the aerostat to protect the integrity of the aerostat, we, of course, immediately do so.

INTERVIEWER: So it's not out of commission 45 percent of the time?

MR. BONACHEA: No, absolutely not.

INTERVIEWER: What do your listenership surveys for Radio Marti tell you?

MR. BONACHEA: That we are in an audience that is around 70 percent. Sixty-five, 70 percent of the people of Cuba tunes in regularly to Radio Marti. This is -- this type of audience places Radio Marti as the most successful service of international broadcasting of the United States government.

But, in addition to that, it places Radio Marti as the most listened to radio station inside Cuba.

INTERVIEWER: More listened to than the radio stations in Miami?

MR. BONACHEA: More listened to, in my

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opinion, than their own radio stations, like Radio Travelte (phonetic) and Radio Congress (phonetic).

Let me say that, for whatever the reasons, the Castro government does not make an effort, a sustained effort, at jamming the radio broadcasts that come from the city of Miami. They do make a great effort at jamming the broadcasts of Radio Marti.

INTERVIEWER: How do you explain this Gallup poll that was done -- and many people think it's the most accurate survey of listenership in Cuba -- that puts the audience for Radio Marti at about 16 percent of the population?

MR. BONACHEA: No, I believe that that (inaudible) poll was completely flawed, and the main reason why it was flawed, as I am sure --

INTERVIEWER: Flawed?

MR. BONACHEA: Deeply flawed. -- the main reason why it was flawed, in my opinion, as I am sure the people who conducted the poll will acknowledge, is that, within hours after they began to interview people in Cuba as to what radio stations they were tuning in, the Secret Police of Castro began to arrest the same

people that the Gallup poll was interviewing.

In my opinion, that plays a complete (inaudible), as you can imagine, as to the responses that the Cuban people were going to give to these interviewers.

I do want to say that we of Radio Marti would very much like to be able to bring into Cuba professional, scientific polling organizations that could receive all the guarantees necessary for them to undertake that type of polling, but I assure you that the Castro government will never allow that, because the government knows that Radio Marti is the most listened to radio station inside the island of Cuba.

INTERVIEWER: Even more popular than the commercial stations from Miami?

MR. BONACHEA: Well, you know, I truly cannot say. I would say that, yes, that we are more popular, that we are more listened to. And, for whatever the reason, like I have said, the Castro government tries to continuously jam but, on the other hand, the jamming of the radio station in Miami are not as sustained as it is against Radio Marti.

INTERVIEWER: You know Dr. Christian
(phonetic) (inaudible)?

MR. BONACHEA: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Your former director of
audience research?

MR. BONACHEA: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: She said in -- she swore, in two
affidavits, that virtually no one listened to
Television Marti, that studies were conducted and that
virtually no one listened to TV Marti, and that the
audience for Radio Marti was falling off sharply. What
is your reaction to that?

MR. BONACHEA: Well, I believe that first of
all, the allegations are completely false. I think
that something like that would have to be placed in its
proper context. I have already provided to several of
the people who have been investigating the information
that is available to me as the acting director of the
Office of Cuba Broadcasting.

I think the main thing to keep always in mind
is that audience studies always have to be placed in
the context. If you have a declining audience, what

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may be the causes for the declining audience?

Is it poor programming? Well, in my opinion, the programming of Radio Marti is excellent, which is the reason why the Castro government continuously tries to jam us. If the programming of Radio Marti was not any good, Castro would not even have to bother because, you know, in radio, all the listener has to do is to tune us in or tune us out.

As a result, I believe that, when it comes to, you know, people say, well, "The audience of Radio Marti declines," well, yes, maybe it did; maybe it had to do because of the electrical blackouts that the people of Cuba are experiencing, the intense jamming in certain months of the year. It could be related to many different things.

One of our audience studies done by Dr. Jeffers (phonetic) (inaudible), as I arrived to Radio and Television Marti, indicated that the audience of Radio Marti was about 95 percent inside the island of Cuba.

Well, myself, even though I always distribute whatever information is given to me, I did tell Dr.

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Jeffers that I did not believe that Radio Marti had an audience of 95 percent, because I do not believe that the BBC of London has an audience, a 95 percent audience, in London; so I found it difficult to believe that Radio Marti has a 95 percent listenership.

But I say this also with the (inaudible) that the important thing, in my opinion, was always to enhance our methodology for these types of studies, so that we who are involved in radio and television can have a poll for the audience, because that is the best way that we can compete with the radio stations inside Cuba.

INTERVIEWER: Dr. Jeffers says, when she came to you with the two reports, that you killed the messenger, that you relieved her of her duties. True?

MR. BONACHEA: False.

INTERVIEWER: Not true?

MR. BONACHEA: Well, you have to place that in the proper context. Dr. Jeffers and the Office of Audience Research was transferred to the Office of Audience Research at the United States Information Agency. That transfer has absolutely nothing to do

with whatever audience study Dr. Jeffers may have produced.

In fact, I remember that when I and Director Navarro (inaudible) discussed this particular issue, one of the things that we discussed was, in the type of operation that we run, if we say that the audience of Television Marti or Radio Marti is X, there is always going to be somebody who says, "No, it is not X, it is B." And, if we say that it is B, they're going to say that it's A.

So, what we thought that made sense was, well, in large -- to a degree, the fact that Dr. Jeffers produces those studies inside the operation, inside Radio and TV Marti, that also opens up for critics to say, "Yeah, but you're producing the audience research inside the house."

So what we decided that would make sense was to transfer Dr. Jeffers and the function of audience research to the Office of Audience Research of the United States Information Agency, completely independent from Radio and Television Marti, so that she and the people of USIA could undertake whatever

audience research they did, and that at least it would have the (inaudible) of being completely independent from Radio and Television Marti. I think that that was a good decision.

INTERVIEWER: I don't think that -- I don't think that Dr. Jeffers sees it that way. She says that you told her personally -- she says this in a sworn affidavit -- that you told her not to release the reports and that you personally delayed the releasing of the audience survey studies for two-and-a-half years.

MR. BONACHEA: That is completely false allegations. A lot of information that I have provided the people who have been looking into those allegations, I am convinced that, at the end, Radio and Television Marti will be completely exonerated from those false allegations.

I think that it is in the best interests of Radio and Television Marti to know exactly what is the type of audience that we have.

And, just as I have said that we acknowledge that the audience of Radio Marti is fairly large, that

the audience of Television Marti suffers from jamming of the Castro dictatorship, I believe that it is always in the best interests of what we're trying to do to know accurately what is the audience.

And I am very pleased, by the way, by the work that the Office of Audience Research of the USIA has been doing.

INTERVIEWER: What about the Inspector General's Office of USIA, that's been conducting an investigation, for several years? Have they interviewed you?

MR. BONACHEA: First of all, I'm very glad that the Congress decided to close down the Office of Inspector General of the USIA and to transfer all of the personnel to the Office of Inspector General at the State Department.

INTERVIEWER: Why are you glad?

MR. BONACHEA: Because I believe that the investigation that the inspector general of USIA was conducting became politicized, was out of control.

And, when you have an office of an inspector general out of control, that can be very threatening to

the civil rights of many different employees, considering that the inspector general operates in an autonomous and an independent manner from the director of the agency.

INTERVIEWER: You think it was politically motivated?

MR. BONACHEA: I believe that, in fact, that the investigation, in large measure, had become politicized, and that's why I was delighted when I heard that the Office of Inspector General had been closed down and that everyone had been mandated to transfer immediately to the Office of the IG of the State Department.

I have been --

INTERVIEWER: So you were happy that they closed them down?

MR. BONACHEA: That's right. I was very pleased to hear about (inaudible) --

INTERVIEWER: Did away with the office?

MR. BONACHEA: Yes. I was very pleased to hear that the Congress had decided and that the President had approved to close down that particular

operation and place it under the jurisdiction of the IG of the State Department.

I want to say (inaudible) that I have found very professional the people of the -- the employees, the colleagues that work in the Office of Inspector General at the State Department. They seem to be top professionals, very objective, and certainly I believe people who are (inaudible) by (inaudible).

INTERVIEWER: Let's change tapes.

(Interruption to the proceedings, for a tape change.)

INTERVIEWER: You said that you were glad to see the Inspector General's Office eliminated. We spoke yesterday with David (inaudible). You know David Burgess (phonetic)?

MR. BONACHEA: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: He said that the whole purpose of Radio Marti is to try and counteract freedom of speech, the lack of freedom of speech in Cuba and, yet, there is almost no freedom of speech at Radio Marti.

Here you have a situation where an inspector general conducts an investigation and the Inspector

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General's Office that's conducting it is eliminated in the budget. Some people say that's just another example of the political clout and the lengths that the exile community and Radio Marti will go to --

MR. BONACHEA: Please, let's be fair. You know, in Radio Marti and Television Marti, any employee can express whatever opinions they would like to express. And the fact of the matter is that, by judging by the proliferation of opinions that the employees express to the media continuously, it's an indication that we support whatever opinions they want to express.

Obviously, the opinions that they express, in the case of three or four employees, will have to be substantiated. And, like I have said on different occasions, depending on what the allegations are, if the allegations happen to be true, I, for one, will (inaudible). Well, if this allegation be true, then let's see what we have to do to correct it. But so far, I have to see allegations that are true.

And, as far as them expressing personal opinions, of course, they can express whatever opinions

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they want. And, as far as what you have said about the (inaudible) in the Cuban-American community and lack of freedom of expression, I think that that's an unfair characterization of the Cuban-American community.

We have come to this country, since 1959, because we are firm supporters of freedom of expression and democracy, which is what Castro took away from all Cubans in the island in 1959.

And I believe that the large majorities of Cuban-Americans have those principles very much engraved in their hearts, because (inaudible) they continue to do is precisely for freedom of expression, and certainly, those of us who work in Radio and Television Marti have had foremost in our mind, and we try to be an example, by (inaudible) behaviors that we have daily in our own operation.

INTERVIEWER: You say that everyone has the -- that everyone is free to speak their mind. But four of your research (inaudible) claim that their positions were done away with after they criticized the content and objectivity of some of the Radio Marti broadcasts.

MR. BONACHEA: And that's a false allegation again. This -- and this is very difficult, very difficult, because when President Clinton was elected in November of 1992, it was very clear to many of us that the federal government was going to do a considerable effort at downsizing.

By 1994, it was very clear that Vice President Gore and President Clinton were mandating all of the United States government to do whatever we could to downsize the operation.

Let me indicate to you that, in terms of downsizing, between November of 1992 and September of 1995, Radio and Television Marti reduced their budgets by 33 percent. Since September, '95, we have reduced it by an additional 9 percent, for a total of 44 percent in reductions in our budget.

When it comes to this particular group of analysts, it's unfortunate that the appointee of President Clinton, Richard Loeb (phonetic), when he assessed the entire operation, and when he began to develop his plan for downsizing, he concluded that the analytical section was not essential to the operation

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of Radio and Television Marti.

And let me say that I, as his deputy, agreed with Director Loeb at the time, and continue to agree, that is not essential. In fact, I believe that we are wasting half of a million dollars per year of taxpayers' monies, as long as we do not proceed with our downsizing of Radio and Television Marti.

INTERVIEWER: After reading -- excuse me -- after reading the inspector general's report and reading some of these studies that have been done, it seems like the people that always get eliminated in bureaucratic economies, or downsized, are people who tend to be critical of Television and Radio Marti and of Jorge Mas Canosa.

MR. BONACHEA: That's a false allegation, absolutely. Let me say that Mr. Mas Canosa received the same treatment in Radio and Television Marti as any other person that is generating news in Radio and Television Marti.

The administration of Radio and Television Marti acts as a firewall concerning our job duties and (inaudible), so that they can do their job, apply their

own journalistic criteria, using the most high standards of journalism, and provide coverage to whoever is generating news. That can be Mr. Mas Canosa, it can be Carlo Alberto Montaner (phonetic), Gutierrez Minoyu (phonetic).

The entire spectrum, from left to right, as long as they are generating news, they are going to receive coverage from our journalists.

INTERVIEWER: Where does this perception come from, that TV Marti and Radio Marti are very vindictive when people come out and express opinions that are contrary to some of the people running it? Where does that perception come from?

MR. BONACHEA: You know, some of these people are ideological enemies of Mr. Mas Canosa, (inaudible) ideological enemies of Gutierrez Minoyu. So that when (inaudible) are talking on the vast spectrum of ethnic positions and political factions, one group or another, outside or inside of Radio Marti and Television Marti, may use one particular argument or another against a particular individual that has problems.

I think that I have said that (inaudible) of

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what I have to deal with as the director of Radio Marti. But, to me, the important thing is that the journalists are protected, that they continue to do the work, to service the people of Cuba, following the highest standards of Voice of America.

INTERVIEWER: You talked about a half a million dollars that you would like to cut from the budget. You talked about all the economies that have been made. How much is it going to cost to move Radio and Television Marti to Miami?

MR. BONACHEA: Yes. Let me say first that the "reinventing" plan that Director Loeb, the appointee of President Clinton, the plan that he developed involved the downsizing of about \$4 million, involved about 20 different employees. It was the beginning of the downsizing because, as he anticipated, these first 20 were going to be followed by even more reductions and more cuts in personnel.

And, out of those \$4 million, about half of a million dollars had to do with the analytical (inaudible) that I mentioned.

Now, when it comes to the relocation of Radio

and Television Marti to southern Florida, we estimate, or the GSA, who did the study, the General Services Administration, estimated that there will be expenditures of about \$7-1/2 million for relocating and that they also projected that there would be savings around \$4-1/2 million per year, annually.

So we do believe that the relocation of the operation to southern Florida will result again in substantial savings to the American taxpayers, and I think that that, in our judgment, would be a good thing, as we continue to downsize and try to tighten our belt as much as possible.

INTERVIEWER: So you're saying the move is -- you're saying the move is being made because of budgetary consideration? It's cheaper to operate out of Miami than out of Washington?

MR. BONACHEA: Yes, (inaudible) that it will be cheaper operating from southern Florida than from Washington.

And I think the budget consideration, yes, certainly was a factor, because whenever we can move in the direction of saving, like in this case we project

around \$4-1/2 million annually on taxpayers' contributions, I do believe that we have the obligation to do everything that we can to make true those budget reductions.

But I also believe that there will be programmatic benefits to being -- to having the entire operation located in southern Florida. Southern Florida, without doubt, contains probably the largest (inaudible) of human resources concerning Cuba anywhere in the United States, and we hope to be able to utilize that type of (inaudible).

We have many universities in this area that specialize in the Cuban situation, and we might be calling upon some of those, especially every now and then, to participate in our programming.

And, in addition to that, and maybe most important, as far as benefitting the programming of Radio and Television Marti, there is a constant flow of (inaudible) from (inaudible) that travel to Cuba, that come through Miami, that provide those new insights and new vision, new information to our journalists, as well as the daily access to recent arrivals from Cuba.

I think that all of that will be important to Radio and Television Marti since, as you know, we are (inaudible) broadcasting. We are supposed to be immersed in what is going on in Cuba, so that we can provide the people of Cuba not only information about the outside, but also information about inside Cuba that is denied to them by the Castro government.

INTERVIEWER: You know, the perception is that -- the perception is that it's being done to -- the perception is it's being done as a political favor to the Cuban exile community, and that Radio Marti, David Burke (phonetic) told us the other day that -- David Burke told us the other day that this is a case where you've got local, very powerful, being the Cuban exile community, which has sort of hijacked a public, government institution for its own purposes.

How do you respond to that?

MR. BONACHEA: That is totally false. Radio and Television Marti abides by the highest standards of Voice of America.

And, like I always say, have you listen to Radio Marti lately? Have you tuned Radio Marti, so

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then you can make your own independent judgment about the high standards of journalism that our journalists produce about the diversity of opinion, about the great amount of objective, balanced, and comprehensive information that we provide to the people of Cuba.

If you tune Radio Marti, I am sure that you will come out impressed by the quality of our broadcasts and by the dedication and the professional integrity of all of our writers and all of our journalists.

Has Radio Marti been hijacked by the Cuban group? That's absolutely nonsense. All of us who work for Radio and Television Marti work for the United States government, and we feel greatly honored to be able to work for the federal government.

As federal employees, whether it's a writer, a journalist, or the director of the operation, we have the obligation to see that the regulations are implemented and that all of the journalistic standards of Voice of America are followed to the letter. And, as I sit here today, I am completely satisfied that that is the case.

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Has the decision to relocate Radio and Television Marti to southern Florida, has that decision been done for political consideration? I personally do not believe that.

The considerations for relocating Radio and Television Marti to southern Florida began five-and-a-half years ago under the administration of President Bush. At that time, there was discussion into it. We began to generate studies to determine whether it would be good, whether it could be feasible to relocate Television and Radio Marti to southern Florida.

Already, under the Administration of Bush, I think that the consensus was that, yes, it was going to be beneficial to both the operation over here and, over the past three-and-a-half years, I think that that consensus has increased substantially, which is the reason why I think that, finally, the Congress and the President approved the move of this operation to southern Florida.

INTERVIEWER: There have been people -- I mean, there are leaders in the exile community who

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think it's a bad decision, who say that -- and some of them, former political prisoners -- who say, "Look, you're going to destroy the credibility of Radio Marti if you move it to Miami and it is perceived in Havana and the rest of the island as being a mouthpiece for the exile community (inaudible)."

MR. BONACHEA: Let me say that keep in mind that Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty broadcast for many, many years from Munich, Germany. Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty also became the subject of similar accusations: "If you locate the operation there, the ethnic European groups are going to come and take over the radio station. You should not do it."

(Inaudible) Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty, as it was expected, had to abide by the regulations, by the editorial guidelines that (inaudible).

The same applies to Radio and Television Marti. Whether we're in Washington, D.C. or Union City, New Jersey, or Miami, Florida, we will continue to abide, as we always have, by high journalistic standards established by Voice of America and by the

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Office of (inaudible) Broadcasting, and I have no doubt that the journalists of Radio and Television Marti will continue to do their work here with the same journalistic integrity as they always have done (inaudible).

INTERVIEWER: But why would these former political prisoners say that it's going to destroy the credibility of Radio Marti if you move it to Miami? They're certainly not pro-Castro. They spent decades in his jails.

MR. BONACHEA: Absolutely. And certainly, in the democratic process, we all have our own differing opinions. We have our own vision. I myself have discussed the pros and the cons of the relocation with many of these.

I do not know whether we have spoken to the same people. But I have spoken to some, not many, but some who, in fact, have raised some honest, legitimate questions concerning the relocation.

But I think that those concerns have been substantially diminished, as I have explained to them, and they participate over here continuously in Radio

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and Television Marti, the fact that, regardless of whether Radio and Television Marti would continue to implement the editorial guidelines, like we always have.

INTERVIEWER: Well, some people would say that you haven't always. And there are -- and I'm sure you are aware of some of the statements that have come out, some of the sworn statements that have been made.

MR. BONACHEA: I still have to see one of those allegations that I can agree that they are true because, as far as I'm concerned, all of those type of allegations about broadcasts that may not have followed high journalistic standards, the ones I have seen, I have had to provide information that would show that those allegations are completely false.

Mind you, this is not to say that we who broadcast 24 hours a day, Monday through Sunday, do not make mistakes every now and then. 60 Minutes makes mistakes. So do we.

INTERVIEWER: Oh, we never make mistakes.

MR. BONACHEA: Well, I would like to say sometimes that, but I have to admit that we make

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mistakes and, when we do, we try then to correct them.

INTERVIEWER: I want to ask you about Jorge Mas Canosa. How much influence does Jorge Mas Canosa have with Radio Marti and TV Marti?

MR. BONACHEA: I would prefer that you would not ask me about Mr. Mas Canosa but, since you have asked me, let me say that the influence that Mas Canosa exercises in Radio and Television Marti is zero -- none -- in terms of our daily operations, in terms of our editorial lines, in terms of what we put on the news or what we don't put on the news.

I have always told the administrators and the journalistic in the Department of News and Programs that what we expect from them is to apply, across-the-board, to everybody, the editorial guidelines, the criteria as to who is generating news, who is not generating news.

If you are, regardless or whether a Mas Canosa, Montaner (phonetic), Ricardo Ofin (phonetic), who is another prominent Cuban American, you will receive coverage. Other than that, I can assure you that Mr. Mas Canosa is treated by our people in Radio

and Television Marti like they treat everybody else.

To that, let me also add that, whatever you could say that would come under the (inaudible) of recommendations, that has to come through the Presidential Advisory Board and, of course, the Presidential Advisory Board that Mr. Mas Canosa chairs, they meet several times a year. They record their deliberations and they put in writing whatever recommendations they make to Radio and TV Marti.

Once we receive the recommendations, we channel them to Voice of America and to the United States Information Agency and, after discussion of those recommendations, if we decide that they are good, they are implemented and, if we decide that they are not appropriate, then they are not implemented.

And let me add, in that regard, that the service that the members of the Presidential Advisory Board for (inaudible) Broadcasting, the service that they have given Radio and Television Marti has been important and it is well appreciated by all of us who work in Radio and TV Marti.

INTERVIEWER: So you're saying he has zero

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influence?

MR. BONACHEA: Yes, absolutely.

INTERVIEWER: That's not what Bruce Sherman (phonetic) said, your former deputy director.

MR. BONACHEA: Mr. Sherman is possibly an ideological enemy of Mr. Mas Canosa --

INTERVIEWER: He says that Jorge Mas Canosa used to call and complain about the programs, want to put more conservative commentators on.

MR. BONACHEA: (Inaudible).

INTERVIEWER: Exercised veto power over --

MR. BONACHEA: False allegation.

INTERVIEWER: -- certain employees being hired.

MR. BONACHEA: Absolutely false allegations. And let me say that I have provided whatever appropriate information I needed to provide to the appropriate persons in the federal government. That is completely untrue.

INTERVIEWER: I want to tell you -- I want to just run Mr. Sherman's sworn testimony by you on the hiring of a news director.

He says, a few years back, you rejected a couple of qualified candidates and said that you -- you said that you had to run all of the candidates past Miami --

MR. BONACHEA: (Inaudible).

INTERVIEWER: -- the people in Miami.

MR. BONACHEA: Totally false. That's a lie.

INTERVIEWER: You never said that?

MR. BONACHEA: Absolutely not. Whatever we do in terms of hiring at Radio and Television Marti is handled by the Office of Personnel and following federal regulations. That is absolutely untrue.

INTERVIEWER: He said that Miami threw out a couple of the best candidates.

MR. BONACHEA: That is absolutely false.

INTERVIEWER: He said the exile community in Miami threw out a couple of the best candidates and recommended that, instead, someone be hired who didn't even speak English.

MR. BONACHEA: Well, first, I do not know who are the candidates that he is talking about (inaudible) I do believe that several people applied for the

position when it was appropriately advertised and (inaudible) announced. But, at the end, you let the chips fall where they may.

Regardless of who the candidates are, they are measured against the qualifications, the criteria for hiring, and that's the way that we have operated at all times in Radio and Television Marti.

INTERVIEWER: Why did you --

MR. BONACHEA: Now, when it comes to the director of (inaudible) that doesn't speak English, who allegedly doesn't speak English, let me say that that was one of the conclusions of the inspector general of USIA though, on the other hand, no one ever came to talk to that person to determine whether he spoke English or didn't speak English, or how fluent he was in the language.

That indicates, to me at least, the accuracy by which those type of investigations were being conducted. To reach a conclusion that you do not speak Spanish but, on the other hand, I never come to ask you whether you speak Spanish is not a very fair type of approach.

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INTERVIEWER: I believe there was testimony about somebody having to help this gentleman fill out his application and answer questions, because he didn't speak English, during the interviewing process.

MR. BONACHEA: Well, I don't know. I don't recollect that.

INTERVIEWER: And the job says -- I mean, I think it stipulates in the description for the job that the person has to speak English.

MR. BONACHEA: Well, there was a -- there is also this under scrutiny right now because, according to the person, the director of news, the application that he was given required only Spanish fluency.

Obviously, when you have an operation, as we do, in which everything is 100 percent Spanish, I, too, believe that what we're looking for is someone that is totally and completely fluent in the Spanish language. So, if you were to ask this gentleman, he would tell you, well, at no time he was told that English was required for the position.

And, in fact, let me also say, to be very fair to this gentleman, who is a very distinguished Cuban-

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American journalist who has had many years of service in the journalistic profession in Cuba and in the United States, when he came to Radio Marti to be interviewed by different people, he never hid the fact that he was not completely fluent in the English language. That was never hidden from anybody, including the director of the Office of Cuba Broadcasting, the Office of Personnel, or no one else.

But the truth remains that, at the time when the decision was made, he was the best qualified candidate for the job, and that was what drove that particular decision.

INTERVIEWER: Even though he couldn't speak English?

MR. BONACHEA: Absolutely. In terms of the actual broadcast, you know, we need someone who is 100 percent fluent in the Spanish language.

Now, like I did discuss on one occasion with the director of Voice of America, I did indicate to him, "I want you to be aware that this man is not completely fluent in the English language so that, if you are expecting him to participate in executive

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conversations on a daily basis," I said, "he will have a difficult time right now."

At the end, the director, along with the other administrators, decided that he was the best qualified and the best candidate that Radio Marti could have for that position.

So, when there is some type of attempt at trying to say that someone was blindsided, that's absolutely false. Everyone knew about the credentials of this man and, at the time, he was best qualified candidate for the position.

INTERVIEWER: How often do you see Mr. Mas Canosa?

MR. BONACHEA: I see him about, I would say, maybe six, seven times a year.

INTERVIEWER: That's all?

MR. BONACHEA: Whenever we have Presidential Advisory Board meetings, I meet him here. Maybe on occasion, when I happen to have come to work here, I have visited with him. And, since you have not asked, but I tell you, I speak to him on the phone maybe at the (inaudible) about once every two months.

INTERVIEWER: Once every two months, that's all?

MR. BONACHEA: He is very difficult to get hold of, because he is a very busy man. But then there are times at which I feel that the chairman of the Presidential Advisory Board needs to have some information. So, he is difficult to get hold of. That's a problem, you know.

INTERVIEWER: You don't clear your decisions with him, personnel decisions?

MR. BONACHEA: Never, absolutely never.

INTERVIEWER: Does he call to give you advice, call to complain about the programs?

MR. BONACHEA: (Inaudible) in a way, but, you know, maybe a couple of disagreements over the last seven years.

But, certainly, the statements that he has made in the news, that my editor felt that some of his statements were a little bit too strong, that needed to be edited out of the program before it was broadcast, as usual, no one likes to be edited.

I would say on both of these occasions, I felt

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that the journalists in the newsroom were right. They were supported. Mr. Mas Canosa was edited.

But, to be fair to Mr. Mas Canosa, we have to edit, as you can imagine, many, many other prominent Cuban-American (inaudible) and others who, at times, make statements that, in our opinion, do not comply by the editorial guidelines.

And, when that happens, I have never hesitated in informing the position in the News Department. In fact, I can assure you that there has not been even one occasion in which --

INTERVIEWER: Okay.

(End of Tape 1, Side A.)

MR. BONACHEA: -- about the influence of one person or another concerning news, I categorically say that, not even in one instance, has the position of the News Department been overruled. They always have done their job to the best of their abilities, and the support of the administration of Radio and Television Marti.

INTERVIEWER: There have been -- there are employees in your own Research Department which have

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said there have been errors and mistakes and violations, that say that there have been violations of the rules of broadcast, that misinformation has been broadcast, things have been broadcast that are in direct contradiction of U.S. policy. Has that ever happened?

MR. BONACHEA: Those are false. That particular group of employees, three or four of them, are very politicized employees. I still have to see one of those allegations that I can accept that it is true. They are completely false.

And the truth of the matter is that, when the Office of Cuba Broadcasting has looked into the allegations, and I have looked into those allegations, I have concluded that they were false. When the Bureau of Broadcasting and Voice of America have looked into the same allegations, they have concluded that they were false.

And, most recently, when the United States Government General Accounting Office completed their own investigation, they have also concluded that they were false and that these allegations simply keep

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coming back again and again and again but that, in fact, they lack substance.

INTERVIEWER: There was some question -- my understanding is that, when certain people went back into the files to look for the broadcasts in question, to see if they violated U.S. policy, that were told that the tapes in question had been damaged -- accurate? -- that they were some broadcasts that there were not tape recordings available. Does that ring a bell?

MR. BONACHEA: Like in the case of all of these, some of these allegations, the people who put the allegation there always gives it a spin, to try to damage the credibility of Radio Marti.

The truth of the matter is that there was one instance in which there was a request for a particular three-minute broadcast that Radio Marti had given, concerning migration quotas, and the first report that came to my attention and the attention of Director Loeb, who was President Clinton's appointee, was that those three minutes, two-and-a-half minutes which seemed to be missing from the (inaudible) the

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computers.

Well, we immediately ordered for some of our key administrators to look into it. I personally gave orders that I wanted to know exactly what had happened.

I wanted to make sure that we were in control of the tapes because, to me, it has always been very important that we keep intact all of the computer tapes and all of the archives so that, whenever someone has a question, that they can come and get the information and (inaudible) that I can be able to respond to what always turns out to be false allegations.

As it developed, the tapes were sent to the corporation that manufactures these tapes and, with the help of them, we were able to extract exactly all of that information in those two-and-a-half minutes, so that we then had the complete record.

Well, it turned out that, in that two-and-a-half minutes, again, it was a false allegation, because nothing had been broadcast that these people were (inaudible) there had been in those two-and-a-half minutes.

So we were pleased to, first of all, to be

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able to refuse the false allegation. But then, secondly, the question became, well, how did that happen?

And the report that I received was that the Department of Technical Operations and (inaudible), in an effort at reducing costs, had begun to buy a cheaper quality of tapes for those computers, and that (inaudible) that missing gap. Since there was a possibility that that would occur again, we then have come back to the tapes that we had always utilized.

But the point that I want to emphasize here is that the critics say, "Well, in those two-and-a-half minutes, they have broadcast the following." Well, the following was not broadcast, it was again another false allegation.

INTERVIEWER: Did TV Marti ever air a report in which Jorge Mas Canosa made the statement urging the people of Cuba to prevent Fidel Castro from returning to the island from an international conference?

MR. BONACHEA: I do not recollect, you know, I do not recollect right now whether such a statement was made.

INTERVIEWER: Would that be a violation of U.S. policy?

MR. BONACHEA: I would have said that, in terms of a (inaudible) judgment, I would have ruled against it. Probably, I would have ruled against any statement (inaudible) --

INTERVIEWER: Against using it?

MR. BONACHEA: (Inaudible).

INTERVIEWER: So you think it was a violation of policy?

MR. BONACHEA: It may have been, if that was the case, but one would have to determine what was the context, how that statement, if it was said, how it was said.

INTERVIEWER: Do you have any knowledge or any recollection that maybe Mr. Mas Canosa might have broadcast such a statement on Radio Marti?

MR. BONACHEA: No, I do not recollect.

INTERVIEWER: But, if he did, that would be a violation of U.S. policy?

MR. BONACHEA: Well, it would have been something that I would have discussed, yes.

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A PARTICIPANT: TV Marti.

INTERVIEWER: Oh, I'm sorry, TV Marti.

MR. BONACHEA: TV Marti.

A PARTICIPANT: Sir, there's one little wisp of hair falling on your forehead (inaudible).

INTERVIEWER: You've got it. You've got it. Thank you.

A PARTICIPANT: Re-ask, please.

INTERVIEWER: Re-ask what?

A PARTICIPANT: Whether he broadcast that on TV Marti. You said Radio Marti.

INTERVIEWER: Okay. Do you have any -- do you have any recollection as to whether Mr. Mas Canosa made such a broadcast on Television Marti?

MR. BONACHEA: I do not recollect now whether that statement was made.

INTERVIEWER: Okay.

A PARTICIPANT: Fine.

INTERVIEWER: That's just about it, but hold on one second. I want to re-ask one question.

In a sworn affidavit, Bruce Sherman said that, after turning down a couple of very qualified

candidates for news directors in Miami, you told him that they had been rejected by the people in Miami, who didn't like them.

MR. BONACHEA: That is absolutely false. I do not know who are the people that Bruce Sherman is talking about. Certainly, at the time that those positions were announced, like always, there were many different people who applied to the position.

I may or I may not have interviewed the people that he's talking about. I did interview several people. I was trying to develop as large of a pool of applicants as we possibly could for the position.

What I can assure you is, at the end, when it comes to hiring, we follow the rules of the Personnel Department, and the position goes always -- and I want to emphasize that -- the position goes always to the best-qualified candidate that we have available for us.

We do not allow anyone -- from the outside or the inside or the Congress or the Administration -- to influence decisions as to who come to work in Radio and Television Marti. We simply follow the regulations of the Office of Personnel and the best-qualified

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candidate is the person that (inaudible).

INTERVIEWER: There's certainly a big stack of affidavits and sworn statements and reports filled out by people who think otherwise, who have worked here.

MR. BONACHEA: Yes. And I think I can tell you that I have seen a stack of allegations this thick that I have reviewed, that the Office of -- the General Accounting Office or the Congress have reviewed, and that they have found absolutely no substance to those allegations.

I have seen stacks of allegations against Radio Marti that have been sent to the director of Voice of America, to the director of the Bureau of Broadcasting of USIA, and they have concluded that there is no substance to the allegations.

I have no doubt that, as some of these inquiries come to an end that, once again, the truth will prevail and that those allegations will be seen for what they are -- totally and completely false allegations.

INTERVIEWER: Congressman Skaggs of Colorado -- you're familiar with him?

MR. BONACHEA: I have heard of them.

INTERVIEWER: -- has managed to get \$11 million cut from the appropriations bill for Television Marti. You've heard about that?

MR. BONACHEA: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: What is your reaction to it?

MR. BONACHEA: Well, first, that this is, as you know, the first step of a long process of debate within the United States Congress. We all take part in that debate. And I can appreciate that, among honest people, there has to be always room for difference, for differing opinions.

So, in that sense, the debate will continue over the next several months, until the United States Congress makes a decision, again, in their wisdom, as to whether they believe that Television Marti should be supported or not be supported.

I believe that, at the end, it becomes a matter of which -- Congressman Skaggs obviously has his own vision. The Congress, in its totality, the Administration, obviously have their own vision of what constitutes a worthwhile project for the United States

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government.

And I still sincerely believe that, even though we are having an expenditure of \$11 million a year for a television broadcast that we continuously struggle to take to the people of Cuba, I believe, like the Congress has believed and like different Administrations have believed, that it is a worthwhile project, that it is information that is being denied to the people of Cuba.

And, as we persevere and try to deliver that information that Radio and Television Marti tries to take to the people of Cuba, I am convinced, I know that someday the people of Cuba will tell the people of the United States, "Thank you, thank you for the support that you gave Radio and Television Marti in spite of the critics, in spite of the false allegations. Thank you for the support that you gave them because, by giving the support that you gave, Radio and Television Marti was the window to the world that the people of Cuba have had for the last 11 years, now."

INTERVIEWER: You think that there are going to be people -- you honestly think that, when -- if and

when Mr. Castro finally falls -- that there are going to be people who say, "It was all because of TV Marti"?

MR. BONACHEA: No, I think that they will say, "We are very grateful to the American people for having supported Radio and Television Marti because it was through them that we knew about the (inaudible) human rights activities against Cuba (inaudible) Cuba; it was through Radio and Television Marti that we knew the independent journalists were being incarcerated" -- and that are being incarcerated right now as you and I speak and as Radio Marti broadcasts the violation of human rights of those people.

They are also going to say to the American people, "Thank you for letting us know about the humanitarian missions of the United States government in Bosnia Herzegovina, about the mission to Haiti, and about the many missions of multilateral diplomacy that you undertook throughout all of those years," because, obviously, what they hear from Cuban radio, the radio controlled by Castro, is a totally complete version than what is the truth of what America is all about and what America is trying to do to help other peoples

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around the world.

INTERVIEWER: Where do you get your figures? I mean, you say that 75 percent of the -- Radio Marti reaches 75 percent of the Cuban population, that 3 percent of the population sees TV Marti. Where do you get those figures?

MR. BONACHEA: About 70 percent for Radio Marti, maybe 3 to 4 in TV Marti.

And what we do -- and we acknowledge that this is not the -- it has its own limitations -- is that we continuously have been interviewing Cubans who arrive continuously from the island, so we interview them about their listening patterns of radio broadcast: "Have you tuned Radio Marti" or "Who was your favorite radio station" or, "If you have turned Radio Marti, what are the programs that you were tuning the most," and "How many times a day" or "How many times a week do you tune us in?"

So, as a result of this consistent type of audience research, we conclude that we have fairly large audience for Radio Marti and a very, very small audience for Television Marti.

But, as I have said, we always would like for the Castro government to let us in to, as the Cuban Democracy Act of Radio Marti and Television Marti, to have a news bureau inside Cuba, right in Havana, providing information to the people of Cuba. As you know, Castro is completely opposed to allowing us to come to the island.

But, at the same time, I think it would be very, very good if Castro will allow reputable and respectable polling organizations to come into Cuba and, of course, to provide to them the guarantees that they can conduct an unfettered and completely free type of audience research.

I believe that, if they are allowed to do that, the conclusion will be that Radio Marti is the number one radio station inside Cuba. The people of Cuba are well served by our broadcasts.

INTERVIEWER: You say that 3 to 4 percent watch TV Marti?

MR. BONACHEA: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Three to 4 percent of the population?

MR. BONACHEA: I would say yes, as a whole, and sporadically because, like I have said, sometimes we go through a certain part of the coast and we know that they are seeing the signal fairly clear but, as soon as the helicopters are mobilized, then the jamming comes back (inaudible).

INTERVIEWER: What hours does it broadcast?

MR. BONACHEA: It broadcasts between 3:00 to 8:30 in the morning, and we continuously assess what other hours we might be able to expand our broadcasts.

INTERVIEWER: So you're reaching 3 to 4 percent of the Cuban audience between 3:00 in the morning and 8 O'clock in the morning, in spite of the signals being jammed?

MR. BONACHEA: Yes, that's what I would predict.

And bear in mind, though, when it comes to Cuba society, a highly totalitarian society who has deprived its people of information for a period of 37 years, the people of Cuba, like the people of the former Soviet Union and other Eastern European countries hunger for information. They want

information.

And the only source of objective, balanced, and comprehensive information that they have is Radio and Television Marti.

So you ask me, are they willing to get up at 3 O'clock in the morning? And my answer is categorically, yes, they get up at 3 O'clock in the morning and so would you and so would I.

INTERVIEWER: Sit there with their television set?

MR. BONACHEA: They will --

INTERVIEWER: -- watching the snow, waiting for the signal to be jammed?

MR. BONACHEA: (Inaudible) that we interview them consistently and, even three years after the initiation of the project of TV Marti, they still try to tune in to the image of Television Marti.

Mind you that the people of Cuba have never seen on television the landing of the Americans on the Moon. The Cuba people have never been allowed to see on television the collapse of the former Soviet Union, of the former Eastern European communist countries, the

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massacre in Tienanmen Square.

Castro knows that the moment that we are able to break through that jamming, the people of Cuba will be able to see what Radio Marti tells them through radio that has happened in the world.

And that is why I am saying that someday the people of Cuba will tell the people of the United States, "Thank you for the support that you gave us, because it was through that effort that we kept our hope, our beacon of hope that someday Cuba was going to be free and democratic and that, first and foremost, the American people, like they always have been, generous as they are, have been supportive of a project that is the only beacon of hope that the people of Cuba have."

INTERVIEWER: What is the most recent surveys that you have?

A PARTICIPANT: (Inaudible) we don't need that (inaudible).

A PARTICIPANT: We don't need that on tape.

INTERVIEWER: Right. I just want to ask, is there anything that we need -- we should ask you, do

you believe, that we haven't asked you or, Joe, is there anything that you think that we need to bring out or anything you would like to say?

MR. BONACHEA: (Inaudible), anything?

A PARTICIPANT: Your call.

A PARTICIPANT: I think you covered the waterfront pretty well.

A PARTICIPANT: I think he covered it pretty well.

MR. BONACHEA: I think we covered it pretty good.

A PARTICIPANT: I think that's it.

A PARTICIPANT: Okay. I'm fine.

(Simultaneous conversation.)

A PARTICIPANT: Just two shots.

(Simultaneous conversation.)

A PARTICIPANT: You talking, Steve, Dr. Bonachea listening. I want a push and a pull (inaudible).

(Simultaneous conversation.)

(The interview was concluded.)

* * * * *

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