



2001 ANNUAL REPORT



Voice of America
Office of Cuba Broadcasting
WORLDNET Television
Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty
Radio Free Asia



TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES:

As required by Section 305 (a) of Public Law 103-236, the U.S. International Broadcasting Act of 1994, the Broadcasting Board of Governors respectfully submits its sixth annual report. It summarizes the activities of the U.S.-funded international broadcasting services of the Voice of America, Radio and TV Martí, WORLDNET Television, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty and Radio Free Asia.

On October 1, 1999, this bipartisan, presidentially appointed Board assumed sole supervision of U.S. international broadcasting, in accordance with the 1998 Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act (P.L. 105-277). This act established the Board's supervisory responsibility for all U.S. non-military international broadcasters.

The year 2001 was marked by the September 11 tragedy in which terrorists struck the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon in Washington. The attacks and the ensuing war on terrorism prompted U.S. international broadcasting to adapt programming quickly to meet the crisis. Surge broadcasts were targeted at Afghanistan and neighboring countries, specialized language services were increased, and additional reporters came on board to help better explain America, its policies and the world at large.

As September 11 showed, the men and women of international broadcasting, who work around the clock to bring accurate and truthful news and information to millions of people around the world, are up to the challenge. Using all available technologies—shortwave, medium-wave (AM) and FM radio, television, satellites and the Internet—they are expanding the reach of international broadcasting. We salute them and their work as they go forward to bring facts and truth to dark corners of the world where press freedom does not exist. With the full support and encouragement of the President and Congress, we look forward to continue to promote freedom, truth and democracy around the world.

Respectfully submitted,

Marc B. Nathanson



Marc B. Nathanson
Chairman
Broadcasting Board of Governors



Mission Statement

To promote and sustain freedom and democracy by broadcasting accurate and objective news and information about the United States and the world to audiences overseas.

Strategic Goal

The Broadcasting Board of Governors' (BBG) strategic goal is to promote the free flow of information around the world, thereby encouraging freedom and democracy. The BBG furthers U.S. foreign policy objectives by:

- Providing audiences comprehensive, accurate, and objective news and information about the United States and the world
- Representing the policies of the United States clearly and effectively
- Reaching audiences in their own languages
- Encouraging development of free and independent media

OVERVIEW

The events of September 11, 2001, and the aftermath of the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, underscored the vital role the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) plays in U.S. foreign policy. The BBG, the independent, autonomous federal agency which oversees all U.S. government and government-sponsored, non-military international broadcasting, is charged with explaining America, its policies, its values and its culture to the world and providing fair and accurate local coverage and analysis in countries lacking a free and independent media. The BBG's FY 2001 budget was \$440 million.

Our role is now more important than ever. We rose to meet the challenges of 2001 by moving quickly to increase broadcasts into Afghanistan and surrounding countries. We readied an innovative service, the Middle East Radio Network, designed to reach millions of under-30, Arabic-speaking listeners. We created new programs to provide input from audiences who lack the ability to speak freely in their own countries.

Much remains to be done. We continue to search for ways to strengthen our agency through research and to reach even more listeners around the globe by radio, television and Internet.

The BBG became an independent agency on October 1, 1999, a result of the 1998 Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act (Public Law 105-277), the single most important legislation affecting U.S. international broadcasting since the early 1950s. Congress decided not to merge U.S. broadcasting functions into the Department of State, but to maintain the BBG's independence to preserve a firewall and ensure journalistic credibility.



BROADCAST LANGUAGES

Africa

Afan Oromo
Amharic
English
French to Africa
Hausa
Kirundi
Kinyarwanda
Portuguese to Africa
Swahili
Tigrigna

Eastern & Central Europe

Albanian
Bosnian
Bulgarian
Croatian
Czech
Estonian
Greek
Hungarian
Latvian
Lithuanian
Macedonian

Moldovan
Polish
Romanian
Serbian
Slovak
Slovene

Central Asia

Kazakh
Turkmen
Kyrgyz
Tajik
Uzbek

East Asia

Indonesian
Mandarin
Cantonese
Vietnamese
Thai

Tibetan
Khmer
Korean
Lao
Burmese
Uyghur

Eurasia

Armenian
Avar (added 2002)
Azerbaijani
Belarusian
Chechen (added 2002)
Circassian (added 2002)
Georgian
Russian
Tatar-Bashkir
Ukrainian

Near East & North Africa

Arabic
Kurdish
Farsi
Turkish

Latin America

Spanish
Creole

South Asia

Dari
Hindi
Pashto
Urdu
Bangla

VOICE OF AMERICA

**Native New Yorker
Overwhelmed by Generosity**

On September 12, less than 24 hours after the terrorist attack, VOA reporter Adam Phillips went to New York City, his hometown, to report on the human experience of the disaster.

He found the streets of Manhattan hushed. While many stores and restaurants remained shut, makeshift shrines with American flags and disaster-related artwork had blossomed in apartment windows, parks and squares, and on side streets. Neighborhood fire stations were among the more visible islands of grief.

“The extent of everyday New Yorkers’ desire to help was almost overwhelming,” Phillips said. “My first story was about the American Red Cross headquarters where people stood ten-deep. They offered blood, or volunteered to search for the missing,

Adam Phillips

Number of Employees:	1,353
Weekly Hours Broadcast:	1,043
Number of Languages:	53
FY 2001 annual budget:	\$112.7 million

Overview

The Voice of America (VOA) is an international multimedia broadcasting service funded by the U.S. Government. VOA broadcasts about 1000 hours of news, and informational, educational and cultural programs every week to an audience of some 94 million worldwide. VOA programs are produced and broadcast in English and 52 other languages through radio, satellite television, and the Internet.

2001 Highlights

VOA RESPONDS TO SEPTEMBER 11

Within minutes of the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, VOA mobilized all of its multimedia resources to provide comprehensive coverage of this breaking story. In addition to carrying statements by President Bush, members of Congress, Secretary of State Colin Powell and other U.S. officials on radio, television and the Internet, language services secured interviews with a wide array of experts and analysts. VOA services also provided comprehensive U.S. media reaction and sought interviews with Americans nationwide, including Muslim leaders in Washington, New York, and Dearborn, Michigan. VOA relied on its large network of correspondents and stringers to provide reaction from leaders, government officials, experts and ordinary citizens in every part of the world. On October 12, WORLDNET presented a satellite telecast of a special edition of *America’s Most Wanted*, which profiled 22 suspected terrorists. Some were involved in the September 11 attacks. On October 8, the day after the United States military action started in Afghanistan, VOA-TV launched a Monday-through-Wednesday TV program, *Campaign Against Terrorism*. VOA also melded all its Afghan/Central Asia-related language services, including Dari, Pashto, Farsi, Urdu, and Uzbek, into a new branch.



VOA Director Robert R. Reilly

VOA GETS NEW DIRECTOR

President Bush named Robert R. Reilly as VOA's 25th director. Mr. Reilly is the first director to have spent much of his professional career at the Voice of America prior to his appointment.

VOA RECOGNIZED FOR EXCELLENCE

As has often happened in the six decades of its existence, VOA this year was recognized for excellence in programming by a series of organizations in journalism. Among the awards received were a CINE Golden Eagle Award for VOA's feature production of "The Lost Boys: Journey to Freedom," and the Eleanor Roosevelt Human Rights Award for its China broadcasts. In addition, the National Association of Broadcasters honored VOA for its role in broadcasting to U.S. troops abroad.

U.S., WORLD LEADERS SPEAK ON VOA

VOA featured interviews with nearly 300 members of Congress and with senior members of the Administration. In addition, VOA interviewed more than two dozen chiefs of state and heads of government from foreign countries.

WORLDWIDE AND SPECIAL ENGLISH

VOA Special English expanded its Web site to begin offering individual features for download in RealAudio and MP3 formats in addition to the streaming audio of four daily 30-minute broadcasts. Pictures were added to the scripts. Special English is one of the service's most-requested Web sites.

VOA launched around-the-clock English-language programming to Mongolia on an FM station in Ulaanbaatar. Broadcasts consist of VOA News Now, Special English and Music Mix. About one-third of the country's residents live in and around the capital city.

VOA offered the world comprehensive media coverage of the inauguration of George W. Bush as the 43rd president of the United States. VOA covered the historic event on radio,

Jalil Abdul Ghani broadcasts news about the United States to Afghanistan in the Dari language.



to comfort the grieving, and to give and receive donations of food, blankets and other emergency goods."

Outside the Armory, Phillips saw volunteers passing out tea and candy bars. They offered to scan photos into laptop computers for e-mailing to disaster-related Web sites. Almost every available public surface was covered with photocopied pictures of the missing along with personal descriptions. Every day, as hope dwindled and gave way to grief, Phillips profiled the experience of a loved one as he or she tried to cope.

"The stories seemed endless, and I ached to tell each one to our VOA listeners," Phillips said. They included the thoughts of a rabbi regarding the spiritual meaning of shared catastrophe; the science of DNA collection for identifying victims' body parts; a portrait of a "drop-in center," and reflections of a Generation X'er on the way 9/11 had awakened the altruism and patriotism of her usually self-centered friends.

VOA Control Room staff monitors events around the world.



Broadcaster Richard Pantaleo (r) hosts Talk To America, a daily VOA call-in show.



television and the Internet in English and more than two dozen other languages. VOA and VOA-TV, in close cooperation with WORLDNET and affiliates around the world,

presented audiences across the globe a front row seat to witness the peaceful transition of power that was the climax of the turbulent 2000 U.S. electoral process.

By working closely with the White House, VOA and WORLDNET were able to carry President Bush's message to the world's Muslims on the occasion of Eid al-Fitr at the end of Ramadan. In addition to airing the original message in English, VOA broadcast translations of the President's Ramadan greeting and best wishes in nine other languages, including Arabic, Dari, Pashto, Farsi, Turkish, Urdu, Russian, French, and Indonesian.

An e-mail from Moscow

“Through jamming, through all the technical problems, across seas and oceans for many years, we've been listening to VOA... We are especially interested to hear about people who are able to laugh at themselves and their circumstances.”

Austin Manengu, Zambia

“I would like to express my gratitude at the way America has fought back at terrorism and particularly how VOA has been informing us here in Zambia on the on-going fight. We would never have known how and when the Taliban got defeated.”

A F R I C A

VOA Hausa extended its coverage of Nigeria by hiring new stringers and transforming its weekday broadcasts into broader, more comprehensive and timely coverage. The Hausa Service also broadcast live two highly successful town hall meetings on democracy in Kano and Abuja.

VOA Horn of Africa Service launched a lively new weekend magazine show aimed at people under 35, who make up two-thirds of the target audience in Ethiopia and Eritrea. The show blends hit music, listener poems, comments and chat, while tackling critical topics, including HIV/AIDS, education, and conflict resolution. The service also produced a series that examined Ethiopia's continuing food crisis 18 years after the Great Famine.

VOA's first 24/7 FM frequency in Kenya went on the air in Nairobi in Swahili and English. The Africa Division now has three 24-hour FM frequencies in Africa and 50 affiliates.

English to Africa added a lively discussion program on the week's events aimed to appeal to younger audiences.

All VOA Africa Division programs are now carried via Internet. The service receives some 6,000 letters a month, many by e-mail.

**VOA produces live shows 24 hours a day,
seven days a week.**



EAST ASIA

The VOA Indonesian Service launched a successful TV program, *Halo VOA*. The TV product, which is simulcast on radio, has enabled VOA Indonesian to capture a 4.5 percent audience share.

VOA Tibetan Service celebrated its 10th anniversary in March 2001, with research showing it is the most widely listened-to service in Tibet.

VOA Mandarin's program, *Health Forum*, won Taiwan's prestigious Golden Bell Award for the international radio category. The service also landed an exclusive interview with the Dalai Lama after his visit to Taiwan in April.

VOA Indonesian and the Office of Affiliates convened the first-ever Indonesian Affiliates Conference in Jakarta on "The Role of the Media in Covering Conflict." The three-day training conference is a part of VOA's ongoing commitment to the development of free and independent media throughout the world. It included station and program managers from more than 90 satellite and telephone radio affiliates, as well as three television affiliates from across the Indonesian archipelago. Discussion topics focused on presenting balanced coverage, security risks for journalists battling censorship, and the role of media in conflict-resolution.

SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA

After September 11, VOA expanded the Dari, Farsi, Pashto, Urdu and Uzbek languages. Dari and Pashto each surged to three hours daily (from 1.25 hours), Farsi to six hours (from the original 3.5 hours) and Uzbek to one hour daily (from 15 minutes). Urdu went from 1.5 hours daily to 2.5 hours.

VOA substantially increased its Afghanistan coverage by sending Dari and Pashto staffers to that country, adding four stringers each in Dari and Pashto to report from neighboring countries and increasing reporting trips inside Afghanistan.

VOA Hindi was on top of the story after a devastating earthquake killed nearly 20,000 people in India's Gujarat State in January. Stringers and staffers were at the scene, following the story with color features and hard news interviews.

A Ukrainian listener

"The Ukrainian mass media is not reliable. I get all my information from the Voice of America."

William Patrick, South Africa

"Today I say a million cheers to the Voice of America. The Western press has been so very biased in their coverage of Africa and its people during these painful years, but VOA has distinguished itself."



**Frances Luk delivers news for VOA's
Cantonese Service.**

VOA broadcaster checks the time before going on air.



EURASIA

The VOA Russian Service hired a number of new stringers in Russia and surrounding countries. To improve coverage of the United States, it added stringers in Boston, Atlanta and Los Angeles. The Ukrainian and Georgian services also added stringers.

In response to September 11, VOA Russian TV launched several new initiatives. The service began daily feeds to its Russian affiliate, Daryal TV. These spots chronicled America's response to the terrorist attack and examined such issues as the vulnerability of U.S. installations. The TV service had a weekly two-way discussion with Moscow. The Russian Service covered the deteriorating situation for the independent media including the closing of NTV and TV6.

EUROPE

VOA Estonian marked its 50th anniversary. The inaugural broadcast of the service began with a message assuring Estonian listeners that the United States would never recognize the Soviet occupation of Estonia as legitimate.

VOA concentrated its efforts on the Balkans. The network expanded its Macedonian and Albanian language programming to provide a multimedia source of programming.

LATIN AMERICA

VOA Spanish launched a new Andean-focused program, *Enfoque Andino*, to address issues such as democracy-building, drugs, regional free trade agreements and U.S. foreign policy.

Results from a multi-city survey in Haiti in February showed that VOA Creole maintained a dominant role in the markets. Some 41 percent of adults in four major cities listen to the service weekly. VOA is the only Creole broadcaster with a significant audience across gender, age and educational lines.

NEAR EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

VOA Arabic expanded programming to 12 hours daily, adding five surge hours following the September 11 attacks. VOA Turkish doubled its airtime to one hour daily, attracting a significant increase in mail and visits to its Web site.

VOA Arabic expanded its network of stringers and reporters in the Middle East, including Jerusalem, Gaza City and northern Iraq.



Laura Konda (l) and Arben Xhiiho (r) of VOA's Albanian Service host a popular television show.

VOA Arabic launched its Web site and continued to expand its content and reach.

VOA's Kurdish Service was repeatedly ahead of the news in 2001. In February, the service broke the news of the assassination of a close aide to the leader of the Kurdistan Democratic Party.

VOA - TV

VOA-TV programs now have an Internet page with scripts, pictures and program descriptions. VOA-TV launched a successful program, *Campaign Against Terrorism*, after September 11.

VOA-TV expanded its offerings to Africa to four programs, including *Africa Journal*, and *Straight Talk Africa*. The division also produced two documentaries on AIDS in Africa.

VOA-TV launched a major series based on reporting trips along U.S. Route 50, which runs from Ocean City, Maryland, to Sacramento, California. The series was adapted to radio and the Internet.

VOA-TV prepared a series on the state of the world's rivers, including the Three Gorges Dam which is being built in China to harness power along the Yangtze River. Stories are planned for the Amazon, the Nile and the Missouri rivers.

Program Delivery

Engineering improved the broadcast efficiency and reliability of its shortwave broadcasting capability by changing over to solid-state modulator units in Morocco and Thailand.

Technical and Engineering

The International Broadcasting Bureau (IBB), which supports VOA, began to modernize VOA and VOA-TV broadcast recording studios with the Integrated Digital Audio Production System (IDAPS). This allows sharing of program material with multiple users. The digital project continued to improve quality of production audio and replacement of obsolete audio program production equipment by installing 24 Mix/Dub Centers.

A Very Special Listener— the Dalai Lama

The Dalai Lama told travel writer and cultural commentator Pico Iyer that his morning routine includes listening to VOA Tibetan: "Usually I wake up at 3:30 in the morning. Then immediately I go do some meditation, some exercise prostrations, then I bathe. Then a little walking outside. All this time I am reciting some mantra or doing some meditation. Then at 5:15, I breakfast and at 5:30 listen to the Voice of America Tibetan language broadcast."

Charles Wilson checks computers at VOA's Network Control Center.



OFFICE OF CUBA BROADCASTING

Covering the Terror in New York

On September 11, I got on the Staten Island Ferry headed for work. At about 8:50 a.m., a man getting up to exit yelled out in sheer horror. I got up and saw the North Tower of the Twins, flames shooting out. I called a friend on my cell phone, who told me that a plane had hit the tower.

After exiting the boat, we heard a plane approaching from over the harbor. It was flying so low that we could see the people inside, their faces pressed against the glass windows. The plane speeded up as it flew over us. A skyscraper mercifully shielded my view of the plane's impact into the second tower.

Around me, everyone began to run back up the ramp, prying doors open to get back on the ferry. I decided I had to stay in Manhattan to report live.

Walking up Broadway, I found a phone booth and called the Radio Martí newsroom in Miami. I was told to immediately prepare a report for the nooncast. Shortly afterwards, a tower began to fall.

I ran to the Coast Guard facility next to the water. A man inside opened the door for me and then shut it immediately. All around was soot, ash, and

Number of Employees:	163
Weekly Hours Broadcast:	194
FY 2001 annual budget:	\$23.6 million

Overview

The Office of Cuba Broadcasting directs the operations of Radio and TV Martí, two broadcast services that provide Spanish-language news, features, and entertainment programs to Cuba. Based in Miami, Florida, Radio and TV Martí are required by the Broadcasting to Cuba Act of 1993 (Public Law 98-111) to broadcast accurate, objective and comprehensive news.

Radio Martí broadcasts seven days a week, 24 hours a day on medium wave (AM), shortwave and the Internet.

TV Martí produces four-and-a-half hours of daily newscasts as well as programs about public affairs, culture, music, sports and entertainment. The station broadcasts commentary and information about events in Cuba and elsewhere to promote the free flow of information and ideas in that country.

2001 Highlights**RADIO MARTÍ**

Radio Martí produced a lively mix of news, political talk shows, religious programs, music and entertainment. Its programming targeted young listeners with features of interest to this audience. One unique show, *En Marcha*, was designed for a military audience. Another, *Horizontes Del Mundo*, introduced new regions of the world to Cubans, who cannot travel freely outside their country. Other shows were *Perspectiva Economica*, which analyzed economic news; *A Media Manana*, which served as a marquee for daily programming highlights while incorporating both comedy and music; and *Sin Censores ni Censura*, which helped listeners sharpen their journalistic skills while they listened to

news about journalism around the world.



TV Martí's Aerostat System moored at Cudjoe Key Air Force Station in the Florida Keys.



OCB Director Salvador Lew

TV MARTÍ

TV Martí produced programs that advocated democracy, defended human rights and examined issues such as free elections, press freedom and free-market economies.

Perspectiva Economica focused on economic and financial matters in Cuba and Latin America. TV Martí addressed the concerns of women in Cuba with *Entre Mujeres*, which talked about political change, health, education, women's rights and prostitution. *Revista Femina* also covered topics of interest to women. *Alto Voltaje* looked at youth issues in the format of a variety show. In the news and information category, *Actualidad Mundial* featured three experts who discussed one issue in-depth and, in *Uno y Uno*, a political analyst and an economist tackled current events.

TECHNICAL AND ENGINEERING

Radio/TV Martí deployed a digital audio system that is now used to support every aspect of its operation, including off-site correspondents. The studios have state-of-the-art equipment systems including a hybrid telephone system that can place up to six callers on the air at any given time.

The Marathon, Florida, transmitter station was at full operating power for much of the year, making it the strongest medium-wave station in the United States. After the terrorist attacks of September 11, the station operated at 100 kilowatt power for 24 hours a day for two days.



Broadcasters Ligia Guillen and Luis Gonzalez-Lalondry confer on a story in Radio Marti's newsroom.

blackness. Others showed up, begging to get in from the black cloud.

After what seemed forever, the air outside began to clear to a grey color. And then . . . another thunder, another shaking, another endless half hour of pitch blackness.

Inside, I found a phone that worked. I grabbed it and got through to the newsroom. Someone there yelled, "It's her—from New York!" I tore off two pieces of paper and wrote down what I had seen, not what any TV camera would show.

I had seen the start of the first implosion. I had witnessed two sorts of nuclear winters. I'd seen the faces of the people headed for death on a plane.

*Carmen Maria Rodriguez
Radio Martí, New York Bureau*

We covered the worst terrorist attack in U.S. history so that our audience could learn the truth.... On that day, Radio Martí once again demonstrated its professionalism.

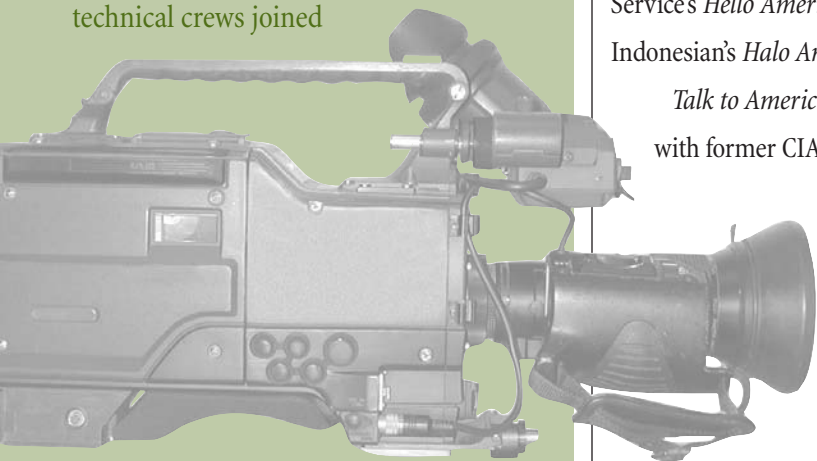
*Agustin Alles Soberon, acting news
director on September 11, Radio Martí*

WORLDNET TELEVISION SERVICE

A Day To Remember in Washington

When the first plane hit the World Trade Center in New York on September 11, Lisa Stancik and her WORLDNET colleagues went into action. Regular programming was interrupted on seven satellites to allow viewers around the world to see raw footage of the attacks in New York and Washington. WORLDNET staffers quickly moved equipment and cameras onto the roof of the Cohen Building giving broadcasters the Washington skyline to use as a dramatic backdrop for live reports.

WORLDNET producers and technical crews joined



broadcasters from the English, Albanian, Bosnian and Serbian services to provide contin-

Number of Employees:	184
Weekly Hours Broadcast	245
Broadcast Languages:	20
FY 2001 Budget:	\$20.5 million

Overview

WORLDNET Television Service produces programs that include news reports, feature magazines, and live call-in shows. The programs are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week by satellite through broadcast outlets, cable systems and direct-to-home satellite receivers. Programs, feeds or segments are produced in 20 languages.

2001 Highlights

On the Line discusses important international issues through interviews with officials and policy makers. Its programs included interviews with the wife of a detained Chinese scholar and a discussion with a German physician who told of the harsh conditions in North Korea.

The terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon prompted broad participation in a number of televised call-in shows, including *Talk to America*, the Arabic Service's *Hello America*, Farsi's *Roundtable with You*, Mandarin's *China Forum* and Indonesian's *Halo Amerika*.

Talk to America, the radio/TV call-in program, produced a special segment with former CIA Director James Woolsey on worldwide terrorism. The program was broadcast a number of times in English and Arabic.

Conversemos En Esta Noche, a one-hour, call-in program that is broadcast live over WORLDNET, brought the Latin flavor of the United States to listeners and viewers across the hemisphere. Some 269 cable stations broadcast the programs.

Foro Interamericano is a weekly public affairs program in Spanish that examined bilateral issues between the United States and Latin America.



WORLDNET Acting Director Marie Skiba

Global Exchange, a television program broadcast in English and Arabic, offered viewers direct access to U.S. officials, insiders and Middle Eastern journalists. After September 11's terrorist attacks, the show discussed the impact of the attacks on Arab-Americans among other issues.

Washington Window, a live television news program designed for Central and Eastern Europe, Russia and the newly independent states, featured a journalists' roundtable weekly. The journalists participated in live interview segments with important newsmakers.

Doing Business, a monthly video magazine explored new products and trends in the world of business. It profiled entrepreneurs and gave first-hand accounts of successes and failures.

TECHNICAL AND ENGINEERING

WORLDNET switched from an analog to a digital system, almost completing the transition by the end of 2001.



Washington Window host Jim Bertel (r) with guest Celeste Wallander of the Council of Foreign Relations (c) and visiting Russian journalist Natalya Bolokhova during a live program.

uous live reports from the roof throughout the day. "We couldn't see the Pentagon, but we could see smoke drifting our way across the Potomac River," Stancik said. "We had a clear shot of the Capitol and Mall. Planes were flying overhead constantly."

As they worked, the staff dealt with a more personal issue: the wife of a WORLDNET staffer was a Pentagon employee. "We were in a panic," Stancik said. "Was she okay?" The woman was located at a training course outside of the Pentagon; however, 14 of her colleagues perished that day.

That night, Stancik went to her office to try to rest. "It was very eerie," said Stancik, acting chief of WORLDNET's Directors and Artists Division. "Tanks rolled through the streets and planes streamed overhead." A Chinese restaurant near a police station was the only place to eat.

She kept the window open and the newscasts on so as not to miss anything. Needless to say, sleep evaded her.

RADIO FREE EUROPE/RADIO LIBERTY

Listeners in Iran Benefit From September 11 Coverage

For listeners in Iran, Behman Nateghi provided riveting eyewitness reports of the September 11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center, attracting widespread praise for his work. "Mr. Nateghi's programs are always interesting, but his first-hand reports on the September 11 tragedy exemplified the quality of journalism in your radio," one listener of the RFE/RL Persian Service said in an e-mail.

Nateghi, who lives in Manhattan, was in the Port Authority terminal on his way to work in New Jersey when the first plane hit. Within a half-hour, Nateghi was on the air, providing three live reports during that morning's 2.5-hour Persian Service broadcast on the attack, the confusion, and the security measures that closed lower Manhattan. In the days following the

Number of Employees:	531
Weekly Hours Broadcast:	1,069
Number of Languages:	28
FY 2001 annual budget:	\$67.9 million



RFE/RL's Broadcast Center, in the former Czechoslovak Federal parliament building on Wenceslas Square in Prague, Czech Republic.

Overview

Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty celebrated its 50th anniversary of regular broadcasting in 2001. A non-profit international communications organization, RFE/RL is funded by Congress. Broadcasting in 28 languages, RFE/RL promotes democratic values and institutions by disseminating news and

information to regions where press freedom is not entrenched. RFE/RL broadcasts more than 1,000 hours of programming a week from its operations center in Prague.

Highlights and Achievements

RUSSIA, UKRAINE, BELARUS

RFE/RL's Russian Service expanded coverage of events within the Russian Federation, and in September began to broadcast live daily news and information programs from its St. Petersburg bureau as well as its Moscow bureau. The service increased coverage of troubled Chechnya, covered human rights and the government-led crackdown on the media in Russia and devoted extensive historical coverage on the tenth anniversary of the collapse of the Soviet Union.

RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service was at the forefront in coverage of allegations of government corruption and wrongdoing in Ukraine. It reported on a tape scandal that raised questions about government involvement in the killing of Georgi Gongadze, an investigative journalist. The service expanded its use of live programming, including programs originating from its Kiev bureau studios.

RFE/RL doubled programming to Belarus from four to eight hours daily, ahead of presidential elections in September. Authoritarian leader Alyaksandr Lukashenka con-



RFE/RL President Thomas A. Dine

demned the expansion. The service reported on human rights, the sale of arms by Belarus to rogue states and support for pro-democracy institutions.

EASTERN AND CENTRAL EUROPE

RFE/RL's broadcast services for Eastern and Central Europe continued efforts to build audiences and strengthen their positions in competitive domestic media markets. At the request of Latvian State Radio, the Latvian Service began a weekly 30-minute program aimed at Russian speakers. The Slovak Service unveiled a new FM program format.

Changes in the political environment in some countries prompted RFE/RL actions. The Romania-Moldova Service increased its Moldova bloc program to one hour, five days a week following the election of a pro-Communist government. After the outbreak of ethnic violence in Macedonia, the South Slavic and Albanian services began broadcasting over a nationwide FM network in Macedonia.

CAUCASUS

RFE/RL's Azerbaijani Service was a primary source of uncensored news and analysis in Azerbaijan, where free press is strangled. The service added freelancers and nearly doubled the amount of original programming in its 5.5-hour daily broadcasts. The Armenian Service covered meetings between the Armenian and Azerbaijani presidents to try to solve the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.



BBG Chairman Marc Nathanson (r) and RFE/RL Director Tom Dine cut the cake at RFE/RL's 50th Anniversary celebration.

terrorism, Nateghi said he "focused on providing a personal angle, as I reported on the emotional devastation and sense of loss. In retrospect, what affected listeners and made them remember these reports was not just what I said, but the feelings expressed in my tone of voice, which broke a few times as I was trying to hold back tears."

He also interviewed Iranian scholars, including Dr. Ahmad Ashraf of Princeton University, who said the strikes made all monuments vulnerable to air attacks.

In one vignette, Nateghi told of a festival of Persian films at New York's Lincoln Center. Director Amir Naderi said the devastation in New York was similar to that depicted in *Search II*, a film about the destruction in 1986 of the Iranian cities of Ahwaz and Abadan during the Iran-Iraq war.

Participants in the 2001 RFE/RL Affiliates Assembly, which took place in Prague from June 27–July 1, 2001.



Petar Stoyanov, President of the Republic of Bulgaria

“We are still faced with a great challenge—to prevent geopolitics from determining geography. We cannot imagine a future Europe further divided into two parts: a Europe of stability and prosperity, united around the values of market economy, personal freedoms and civic society, and another Europe—torn by ethnic, political and economic conflicts. It is in this field that I see the present day role and mission of Radio Free Europe.”

Rep. Tom Lantos (D-CA) House International Relations Committee

“So let me say on behalf of all of us ... every single member of Congress is deeply grateful for the work you are doing. We will support the work because we passionately believe in it. We think these are among the best expenditures of U.S. national security dollars.”

The Georgian service focused on domestic stories, including President Eduard Shevardnadze’s decision to force his government to resign after a failed tax raid on a private television station. He also accused Russia of bombing Chechens living in Georgia along the border with Russia.

CENTRAL ASIA

The U.S. war on terrorism prompted an increase in programming to countries neighboring Afghanistan. RFE/RL had substantial listenership among Tajiks, Uzbeks and Turkmen. RFE/RL deployed 20 correspondents from various language services to Afghanistan to cover the start of U.S.-led strikes and the fall of the Taliban. RFE/RL prepared to launch Radio Free Afghanistan in Dari and Pashto in 2002.

The Turkmen Service was the first in Turkmenistan to report news of the September 11 attacks. Within days of the attack, the service introduced a special daily 45-minute package of materials about the war on terrorism. RFE/RL expanded its coverage of Tajikistan’s regions, including—in cooperation with an independent news agency—more reporting on the country’s northern cities.

The Kazakh Service broadcast live just after the first plane hit the World Trade Center on September 11, giving listeners in Kazakhstan extensive coverage. The Kyrgyz Service also was on air reporting within minutes of the attacks. The next day, the service carried an interview with Aichurek Saryulova, a Kyrgyz citizen whose son-in-law survived the attack on the World Trade Center. The Uzbek Service emphasized the impact of events in neighboring Afghanistan on Uzbekistan. The Uzbek Service also covered human rights and anti-democratic measures taken by the Uzbek government. In November 2001,

Representatives William M. Thomas (R-CA), at left, and Alcee Hastings (D-FL) present an American flag to RFE/RL during their visit to the Prague Broadcast Center as part of Speaker Dennis Hastert’s congressional delegation. At right is Representative Ray LaHood (R-IL).





Czech President Vaclav Havel speaking in Prague at the Grand Assembly in honor of RFE/RL's 50th anniversary on May 14, 2001.

Muhammad Salih, an Uzbek opposition figure living in exile, was arrested on an Interpol warrant after traveling to Prague at RFE/RL's invitation. He was freed two weeks later after international pressure.

IRAN AND IRAQ

Using special funding from Congress, programs into Iran increased from eight to 11 hours daily after the September 11 attacks. Coverage during the year spotlighted the pressures on Iranian reformers and journalists, many of whom were arrested and tried behind closed doors. Tehran jammed the Persian Service occasionally, imprisoned a prominent cleric for giving an interview to RFE/RL, and ordered some two dozen journalists and human rights lawyers not to talk with the service. Many have defied the order.

Radio Free Iraq strengthened its Prague staff, added new stringers, trained existing stringers, added voices to its *Iraq File* program, increased use of actualities, and began two new cultural programs. The service has three correspondents in Iraqi Kurdistan, three in countries contiguous to Iraq, and four in other major Middle East countries.

The service broke several big stories, including an interview with an Air Force official who said Saddam Hussein gave orders to gas Kurds in 1988, and an interview with a doctor who arranged a medical exam for the dictator. After September 11, the service highlighted daily the link between the military campaign in Afghanistan and the possible consequences for Iraq.

Program Delivery, Technical Operations and Equipment Improvement

RFE/RL increased the bandwidth to the bureaus served by Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT) satellite communications, allowing for higher quality audio and data transfer. Additionally, four smaller bureaus were provided with higher speed Internet connections to allow high-quality digital transfer of actualities to the Prague production facility. This trend continues and will eventually be available at all RFE/RL bureaus.

The use of digital minidisc recorders for field reporting became the RFE/RL standard in FY 2001.



Listener in Tehran, Iran (by e-mail)

"I really admire your daily programs and listen to them on a regular basis. I believe that what you are producing is the best programming among all Persian radio broadcasts originating from abroad."

RADIO FREE ASIA

Broadcaster Finds Chinese-Americans Hard-Hit

Cantonese broadcaster Tanya Lau went to New York's Chinatown after September 11 to explore how its residents were faring, both financially and psychologically. In a five-part series, she found a community hit hard by the World Trade Center blasts. She also found hope.

Lau reported some residents were unable to obtain financial assistance because they didn't speak English and didn't understand the laws. And Chinatown, like many parts of Manhattan, experienced a precipitous drop in tourism. But Lau found many Chinese-Americans embraced their new identity as Americans for the first time in the wake of September 11. In fact, in the six months that followed the attacks, Chinatown raised an estimated \$2 million to aid victims and their families.

Number of Employees:	250
Weekly Hours Broadcast:	246
Broadcast Languages:	10
FY 2001 Budget:	\$24.2 million

Overview

Radio Free Asia is a private, nonprofit corporation broadcasting news and information to listeners in those Asian countries where full, accurate, and timely news reports are unavailable. Created by Congress in 1994 and incorporated in 1996, RFA delivers news reports and commentaries and provides a forum for a variety of voices and opinions.

RFA functions as a surrogate broadcaster, providing in-country news and commentary unavailable through the local media of the target country. RFA does not broadcast in English and airs only that international news which directly affects the target country or its neighbors. RFA does not broadcast U.S. government editorials.

In addition to its news programming, RFA strives to be a "university of the air," broadcasting works of literature and nonfiction that have been banned in RFA target countries. RFA also aims to give its Asian listeners a vehicle to voice their own thoughts through five call-in programs—three in Mandarin, one in Tibetan, and one in Khmer—whereby listeners may dial a toll-free number and speak directly with an RFA host.

RFA's Vietnamese Service broadcasts daily from Washington, D.C.





RFA President Richard Richter

Highlights and Achievements

CHINA (INCLUDING UYGHUR AND TIBETAN)

RFA's Chinese-language services distinguished themselves on numerous occasions in 2001. Among other things, the Mandarin Service:

- Acquired exclusive worldwide Mandarin-language broadcast rights to *The Tiananmen Papers*
- Reported extensively on China's spy trial and expulsion of scholar Gao Zhan. An academic at American University, Gao subsequently broadcast on-air columns exclusive to the Mandarin Service
- Broadcast China's decision to expand its list of blacklisted individuals targeted for arrest if they should enter the country

RFA's Tibetan services—in the Uke, Amdo, and Kham dialects—provided listeners exclusive, in-depth reporting, including:

- Organizing a three-way discussion of Tibetan Buddhism among a Tibetan listener, a call-in show host, and the Dalai Lama's private secretary in India
- Covering the July election of Buddhist scholar Samdhong Rinpoche as Tibetan prime minister in exile

RFA's Uyghur Service, which doubled its broadcasting in 2001 to two hours daily, reported on unsuccessful efforts to rescue an ethnic Uyghur woman caught in the September 11 attacks in New York.



The Dalai Lama addresses an RFA audience.

“In the very early stages, the pioneer Chinese immigrants contributed their hard labor to America,” said Li Yuning, a New York historian documenting the effects of September 11 on the Chinese community. “Since the 1950s, educated Chinese have been contributing their brains to this country. After September 11, 2001, it's time for us to give our hearts to America.”

Radio Free Asia's language services found unique angles in covering the terrorist attacks, allowing listeners in Asia to connect personally and emotionally with what had happened in the United States. RFA services identified and interviewed a large number of Asian-born victims and witnesses to the attacks—including the single ethnic Uyghur who died in the collapsing World Trade Towers—as well as emergency medical and rescue personnel. These reports underscored the truly global nature of the September 11 tragedy.

RFA President Richard Richter talks with U.S.-based Chinese scholar Gao Zhan shortly after her release from detention by the Chinese government.



North Korean defector from Pyongyang, 46, former journalist

“Continued broadcasting will change the awareness of the people. The DPRK (North Korea) is a country that cannot exist long. Broadcasting is like shooting a gun at the general public. You should broadcast even if you think there is only one person in the audience. You should not spare money for broadcasting.”

Journalist, 31, from Hanoi, Vietnam

“As a reporter working for the [Vietnamese] local media with all the privileges and connections that one can imagine, I still could not get the details of behind-the-scenes events [as RFA did during the 2001 Party Congress].”

Male, 54, NGO worker, from Siem Reap, Cambodia

“All these [RFA] programs have benefited our people. They are good at a time when Cambodians are developing their country.... I personally have gained a lot of knowledge so far by listening to RFA.”

SOUTHEAST ASIA

RFA's Khmer Service expanded its staff and programming in anticipation of Cambodia's February 2002 communal elections. In late 2001, it provided five hours a day of coverage, including an hour-long program on Cambodian youth and two hours of special coverage.

The Burmese Service meanwhile reported on the end of the political stalemate between the junta that has ruled Burma since 1988 and the National League for Democracy (NLD). This led to the release of NLD leader and Nobel Peace laureate Aung San Suu Kyi. In December, the Burmese service was also first in reporting that the junta had freed 280 prisoners, including an NLD township leader.

Starting in November, the Vietnamese Service followed an unusual series of popular demonstrations in Hanoi to protest official corruption and demand the return of land seized by the government.

Program Delivery

RFA added two new facilities to its list of broadcast sites. Today RFA broadcasts from 11 transmitter sites from Saipan and Tinian in the Pacific to Holzkirchen in Germany. To overcome extensive jamming from China and Vietnam, RFA broadcasts simultaneously on a large number of transmitters spread out around these countries in a diversified network.



RFA established a presence at the Cambodian boat races in 2001.

Technical Operations and Equipment Improvement

In 2001, RFA made office, technical, and equipment improvements. It:

- Opened an office in Ankara, Turkey, and relocated and upgraded offices in Dharamsala, India, and Phnom Penh, Cambodia
- Provided upgraded equipment for all Asian office staff and stringers
- Designed and built “studios in a box” that can receive and send data over multiple transmission media during live events
- Upgraded bandwidth for enhanced Internet access



RFA host William Zhang fields calls from all over China on his program, *Listener Hotline*.

Male trader, 52, Rangoon, Burma

“RFA seems to know what news items would be of interest to the Burmese people. The beauty of the RFA programming is that it provides us with the information that we cannot get from any other sources. . . . RFA’s coverage of Burmese political news is far more complete than that of the other foreign broadcasting stations.”

Tibetan businessman, 30, from Derge

“[RFA] understands exactly how it is in Tibet. They broadcast each day’s news. . . . In fact, an event that happens in Lhasa, which even Lhasa residents are not aware of, gets broadcast by RFA. That is really amazing.”



Marc B. Nathanson,
Chairman



Tom C. Korologos



Edward E. Kaufman

The BBG's component broadcasters—the Voice of America (VOA), WORLDNET Television, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL), Radio and TV Martí and Radio Free Asia (RFA)—reach a total of about 100 million people a week through radio, television and the Internet. The International Broadcasting Bureau (IBB) provides technical, engineering, marketing, research and administrative support to broadcasters. The IBB has a budget of \$191.1 million.

As the agency head, the BBG evaluates the mission and operation of U.S. international broadcasting, ensures compliance with statutory broadcasting standards, assesses the quality and effectiveness of language services, determines language service priorities and submits annual reports to the President and Congress. The BBG also serves as the Board of Directors for RFE/RL and RFA, private, non-profit corporations funded by Congress.

The BBG is a bipartisan group composed of nine people, including eight private citizens who are appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. The Secretary of State is the ninth member, serving in an ex-officio capacity.

Marc B. Nathanson, Chairman

Mr. Nathanson is Vice Chairman of Charter Communications, which is the nation's fourth largest cable television operator and serves more than six million subscribers throughout the United States. Mr. Nathanson is a 30-year veteran of the cable TV industry and was elected a member of "Cable Pioneers" in 1982. He also serves on the boards of the Annenberg School of Communications at the University of Southern California and UCLA's Anderson School of Management and is Chairman of UCLA's Center for Communications Policy. He is also Chairman of Mapleton Investments LLC and Mapleton Capital Management LLC. Mr. Nathanson is a former member of the Albanian-American Enterprise Fund and a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Tom C. Korologos

Mr. Korologos is the President of Timmons & Company, a government relations consulting firm. A former journalist in Salt Lake City and New York City, he previously served as the Chairman of

the United States Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy and as a member of the Board of Directors of the International Media Fund. He is the former Chief of Staff to U.S. Senator Wallace F. Bennett and a White House Assistant to Presidents Nixon and Ford.

Edward E. Kaufman

Mr. Kaufman is President of Public Strategies, a political and management consulting firm in Wilmington, Delaware. In addition, he is a Senior Lecturing Fellow at Duke University School of Law and the Fuqua School of Business. Mr. Kaufman was formerly the Chief of Staff to U.S. Senator Joseph Biden.

Cheryl Halpern

Ms. Halpern has participated extensively in community activities on the national, state, and local levels. She serves on the Boards of the International Republican Institute and the Washington



BBG Governor Cheryl Halpern speaking in Indonesia in July 2001 at a conference for VOA's affiliate stations there.



Cheryl Halpern



Norman J. Pattiz



Robert M. Ledbetter, Jr.



Colin L. Powell

Institute for Near East Policy. She also serves as the Chairperson of the B'nai B'rith International United Nations Committee. From 1990 to 1995, Ms. Halpern served as a member of the Board for International Broadcasting, the predecessor to the Broadcasting Board of Governors.

Norman J. Pattiz

Mr. Pattiz is founder and Chairman of Westwood One, America's largest radio network which provides programming to over 7,000 radio stations in the U.S., including those of the Mutual Broadcasting System, NBC Radio Networks, and CBS Radio Networks. Westwood One also has distribution rights to CNN Radio News. Mr. Pattiz has received an Honorary Doctorate in Fine Arts from Southern Illinois University. He is a member of the University of California Board of Regents, a member of the executive board and the past president of the Broadcast Education Association and a trustee of the Museum of Television & Radio and the Hollywood Radio and Television Society. He is the primary benefactor of the Hamilton High Academy of Music and the Norman J. Pattiz Concert Hall.

Robert M. Ledbetter, Jr.

Mr. Ledbetter is Vice President and General Manager of WTVA, Incorporated, which operates WTVA-TV and has programming or sales agreements with WLOV-TV and WKDH-TV in Tupelo, Mississippi. He also is Vice President of WMDN, Incorporated which operates WMDN-TV and has a local marketing agreement with WGBC-TV in Meridian, Mississippi. He also serves on the Board of Directors, the Finance Committee and the Public Accountability Committee of BlueCross BlueShield of Mississippi. He is chairman of the Tupelo Symphony Orchestra and serves on the board of directors of numerous civic organizations.

Colin L. Powell

Secretary of State Colin L. Powell serves as an ex officio member of the bipartisan Board. He is also the former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and served as National Security Advisor under President Reagan. Secretary Powell served two tours of duty in Vietnam and as Executive Assistant in both the Energy and Defense Departments and as Senior Military Assistant to Defense Secretary Casper Weinberger. In 1997, he helped found America's Promise, an organization dedicated to building the character and competence of the nation's youth. General Powell is currently a member of the Board of Trustees of Howard University and of the Board of Directors of the United Negro College Fund.

** Two seats on the Board were vacant in 2001.*



Governor Kaufman meets in Gaya, Niger, with the Emir (fourth from right) from Kamba, Nigeria, and his followers, all avid VOA listeners.

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