

AUSTRALIAN INFORMATION SERVICE
DEPARTMENT OF THE MEDIA

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19 September 1975

Miss R. Gustin
Italian Embassy
27 State Circle
DEAKIN. A.C.T. 2600

Dear Madam,

Ethnic Broadcasting News and Information Service

The Minister for the Media, Dr. Ross Cass, announced on August 27 that Australia's two ethnic broadcasting stations, 2EA(Sydney) and 3EA(Melbourne) had had their licences extended for another six months.

At the same time Dr Cass also announced a series of other changes aimed at establishing ethnic broadcasting on a permanent basis in Sydney and Melbourne.

They were:

- The formation of separate management committees in Sydney and Melbourne and a national committee to co-ordinate the overall approach to ethnic broadcasting
- That both stations would broadcast for at least 72 hours per week, 42 hours of which would be original material
- That both stations would broadcast programs for individual ethnic communities at regular times throughout the week
- Both stations would aim to be self-sufficient at the end of the extended six months experimental period, which for 2EA began on September 1 and 3EA on September 15.

Dr Cass said that the State management committees would have the task of ensuring fair representation of language groups and administering basic program policies.

The major language groups are Greek, Turkish, Spanish, Arabic, Italian, Maltese and the Yugoslav languages.

It is our job to assist in arrangements to supply a news and information service.

I have in mind, as we recently discussed, the supply of material in your language on tape, cassette or disc covering by way of example, such fields as sport, culture, music and current affairs that can be supplied free-of-charge and generally does not infringe copyright provisions.

Such material will find ready placement. If you can supply such material please obtain two copies of each tape, cassette or disc to ensure that both stations can be supplied at the same time.

As Dr Cass said, at the end on the six month period - which followed a 13-week experimental period - ethnic radio would be where it belonged ... in the hands of ethnic broadcasters.

"The National Committee, as a broadly based bipartisan group, will remain as a final forum to hear appeals or to decide contentious issues", Dr Cass said. "But the day to day operations will be run by ethnic communities themselves.

"I am sure this experiment will succeed. Ethnic radio is here to stay".

For your information the national and State ethnic broadcasting committees, comprise:

NATIONAL COMMITTEE

Mr G. Bayutti, Chairman, Mr J. Kaldis, Mr A. Toumborou, Mr M. Spicar, Senator G. Davidson, Senator J.A. Mulvihill, Mr A. Grassby and Mr B. White.

2EA(SYDNEY)

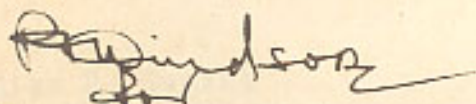
Mr J. Kaldis, Chairman (Greek); Mr M. Alagich (Yugoslav); Mr P. Bosi (Italian); Mr K. Iordanou (Cypriot); Mrs J. Zammit (Maltese); Mr J. Asef (Arabic); Mr A. Incekara (Turkish); Dr J. Gebels (German); Mr H. Hesfka (Polish); Ms S. Becerra (Spanish); Mr A. Pyke (Community Arts Committee); Father J. Weaps (Catholic Immigration Office); Mr T. Fairbairn (Good Neighbour Council).

3EA(MELBOURNE)

Mr A. Toumborou, Chairman (Cypriot); Dr S. Moraitis (Greek); Mr G.Z. Scomparin (Italian); Mr W. Lippmann (Jewish); Mr E. Kempner (Spanish); Mr R. Radulovich (Yugoslav); Mr A. Bonnicci (Maltese); Mr W. Schauble (German); Dr E. Zsembery (Hungarian); Mr G. Luka (Arabic); Mrs S. Barnaby (Turkish); Mrs A. Cili (Croatian) and Mr A. Matheson (Ecumenical Migration Centre).

Radio Station 2EA(Sydney) will be managed by Mrs Jenny Looman.
The manager of the Melbourne station has yet to be appointed.

What we are trying to achieve is to co-ordinate and supply an
information and entertainment service that supplements material
compiled by the stations themselves. Your assistance could prove
invaluable.



(Bernard Freedman)

Director - Immigration Information