

Q. Is there any international co-ordination?—A. There is consultation.

Q. What is the set-up?—A. There is no specific organization for consultation but I think Mr. Désy when he comes before you will explain that there have been consultations with the Voice of America and with the B.B.C.

Q. But there is no set-up I believe?—A. Not formally but it was mentioned when Mr. Pearson was before you, the NATO council from time to time have information conferences at which these things are gone into. Mr. Macdonnell only recently returned from such a conference which was held in Paris.

Mr. GRAYDON: May I raise a question in regard to the practical policy that is followed now in the preparation of the broadcasting of these messages behind the iron curtain. There was a good deal of discussion at previous committees—I am not sure whether it was the last one—but in at least one committee two years ago in which the question of the closer liaison between the Department of External Affairs and the C.B.C. with regard to the international service was considered a must. From what you said, Mr. Wilgress, with respect to the present policy I would think that is a totally wrong policy to follow, if I may say so with great deference. No doubt you are following this policy after careful consideration of the various factors that enter into such a decision, but you mentioned that the mechanical distribution, or at least the mechanical broadcasting technical work in connection with it, is handled by the C.B.C., but the preparation of the general policy to be followed in respect of the material used is a matter for the Department of External Affairs and with these two things I am in entire agreement. But why in the world should we separate the C.B.C. international service by putting Jean Désy in Montreal and then having a commuter service where a man commutes back and forth once or twice a week to tell him what the Department of External Affairs wants beamed to other countries is quite beyond me. I think what we should have is a C.B.C. international service right here in Ottawa and Jean Désy or whoever is responsible for the material that goes out should be right here in the spot where consultations can continually go on instead of having some kind of a remote control of policy such as this where somebody takes a bag of stuff from Ottawa down by train or plane and then brings it back and that I think would be a great nuisance with respect to the whole set-up. There must be some reason for that but certainly that was one of the things that the committee was most concerned about when they were dealing with this matter a couple of years ago, and, while some correction has been made by appointing one of our very able diplomats, Jean Désy, to that post, still, it seems to me you still separate them from the Department of External Affairs where the policy, in the final analysis, should be made and should originate and where consultations on a continuing basis ought to exist.

Mr. GAUTHIER (*Portneuf*): Is that due to certain technical difficulties?

The WITNESS: As members of the committee are aware, the board of governors of the C.B.C. located the international service in Montreal. I think that was largely because the physical facilities were there and that seemed to be the logical center from a technical standpoint in which to locate this particular service. The responsibility as to where it should be located lies with the C.B.C. and I think that was one of the considerations that guided them.

Mr. GRAYDON: That brings me back to a point I raised in the House of Commons which is, who is boss of the international service; because it seems that in this case, because the C.B.C. needs to have their mechanical equipment in Montreal—and nobody is going to object to that, that is perhaps the proper thing to do—but there does not seem any reason why the person responsible for the preparation of that material should be in Montreal. Surely it is a simple matter to have a script of whatever is used taken from Ottawa to