

PUBLIC OPINION NEWS SERVICE

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**Public Sentiment Found
Divided on Broadcasts
To Russia Describing U. S.**

**Voters With Greatest Amount
Of Formal Education Are Most
In Favor of State Dept. Program**

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PRINCETON, N. J., June 10 — Public sentiment is about evenly divided on the question of whether the State Department's radio broadcasts to Russia should be continued.

Because there has been some criticism of the project in Congress, the Institute put the issue before the American people in a coast-to-coast poll as follows:



"Do you think our government should spend money for radio

broadcasts to the Russian people — giving them an honest picture of America and of our government's policies?"

The vote:

Yes, it should43%
No, it shouldn't46
No opinion11

Each voter who gave an opinion was asked what reasons lay back of his opinion.

Those in favor of the radio broadcasts said the programs would help give the Russians a better understanding of our form of government and of how we live in America, and would promote better relations between the two nations.

Those against the project cite two reasons for their opposition: (1) a waste of money that could be used for better purposes, (2) the Russians probably don't listen anyway—or wouldn't be allowed to listen.

THE SURVEY finds that attitudes toward the broadcasts vary considerably according to degree of education.

Voters who have had some college training are in favor of the State Department's project by a very substantial majority.

Those with high school training are in favor by a slim margin, while those who have had only grade school training, or no school, are opposed to the broadcasts.

The vote by education levels follows:

| | Yes | No | No Opin. |
|-----------------------------|-----|-----|----------|
| College | 62% | 34% | 4% |
| High School | 48 | 43 | 9 |
| Grade or No School | 35 | 51 | 14 |

THE STATE Department's whole program of "Voice of America" overseas broadcasts was publicly backed by General Dwight D. Eisenhower at committee hearings in Congress May 20. Representative Karl E. Mundt, Republican, of South Dakota has introduced a bill which would sanction continuing the State Department's current informational and cultural program.



Last week a citizens' group, headed by Ralph McGill, editor of "The Atlanta Constitution," was formed to support the legislation.

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