

MALTA BROADCASTING AUTHORITY

**ANNUAL REPORT
AND ACCOUNTS
1964-65**



MALTA BROADCASTING AUTHORITY

FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

Covering the Year ended
31st March, 1965

31st July, 1965

Your Excellency,

In accordance with subsections (3), (4) and (5) of Section 13 of the Broadcasting Ordinance we have pleasure in submitting to Your Excellency the Malta Broadcasting Authority Report and Accounts for the financial year ended on the 31st March, 1965.

An original copy of the accounts certified and signed by our auditors, is also enclosed.

We have the honour to be,
Your Excellency's
Obedient Servants,

(sd) A.J. Montanaro-Gauci
Chairman

(sd) J.A. Manduca
Chief Executive

His Excellency the Governor-General,
The Palace,
Valletta.

MEMBERS OF THE AUTHORITY

on 31st March, 1965

Chairman: Judge A. Montanaro-Gauci, C.B.E., K.M. LL.D.,

Members: Dr. V. A. Mercieca, LL.D.,

G. Muscat Azzopardi Esq.,

Rev. Fr. P. Serracino Inglott, B.A., B.D., M.A., (Oxon)

J. Vella Esq.

J.A. Manduca Esq. (Chief Executive).

The Authority's Secretary throughout the period under review was
Mr. A.J. Ellul.

NOTE: The present members of the Broadcasting Authority were appointed by virtue of Government Notice No. 527 of the 29th September, 1964, for a period of three years commencing on the 29th September, 1964. (See Appendix "B").

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTORY	7
Programming	7
The Broadcasting Ordinance	9
Finance	9
MBA PROGRAMMES	12
MTV AND REDIFFUSION	14
Technical Developments	14
NEWS AND CURRENT AFFAIRS	14
Sound	14
Television	15
SOUND BROADCASTING	16
Outstanding Events	16
Public Service Broadcasts	17
SCHOOLS BROADCASTING	18
The Young Listener	18
MINISTERIAL BROADCASTS	20
REFERENDUM BROADCASTS	20
POLITICAL BROADCASTS	21
RELIGIOUS PROGRAMMES	22
ADVERTISING	22
WIRELESS STATION	22
COMMONWEALTH BROADCASTING CONFERENCE	23
COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION	23
C.E.T.O.	23
STAFF	24
OVERSEAS CONTACTS	24

APPENDICES

A. CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS REGARDING THE MALTA BROADCASTING AUTHORITY	25
B. THE MEMBERS OF THE AUTHORITY	27
C. SCHOOLS BROADCASTING	28
D. ANALYSIS OF TELEVISION PROGRAMMES	33
E. ANALYSIS OF REDIFFUSION PROGRAMMES	35
F. MINISTERIAL BROADCASTS	37
G. REFERENDUM BROADCASTS	39
H. PARTY POLITICAL BROADCASTS	40
I. ADVISORY COMMITTEES	44
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ACCOUNTS	45

Introductory

THE outstanding event of the year in the field of broadcasting was the provision of safeguards in the Independence Constitution to ensure the continuance of the Broadcasting Authority's autonomy in programme matters and in the day-to-day conduct of its business.

The new Constitution, which came into being on the 21st September 1964, provides for the appointment of Members of the Authority by the Governor-General acting in accordance with the advice of the Prime Minister after he has consulted the Leader of the Opposition.

The function of the Broadcasting Authority as laid down in the Constitution is to ensure that, so far as possible, in such Sound and Television broadcasting services as may be provided in Malta, due impartiality is preserved in respect of matters of political or industrial controversy or relating to current public policy, and that broadcasting facilities and time are fairly apportioned between persons belonging to different political parties.

In the exercise of its function "The Broadcasting Authority shall not be subject to the direction or control of any other person or authority". (See Appendix "A").

On the expiry of the term of office of Members appointed when the Authority was first established in 1961 under the Chairmanship of the Hon. Mr. E.G. Arrigo, new Members were appointed on the 29th September 1964 under the Chairmanship of Judge A.J. Montanaro-Gauci. (See Appendix "B").

The number of Television receivers continued to increase and at the end of the year there were 24,490 combined Radio and Television licences, 39,943 Rediffusion receivers and 8,488 Radio licences. (No official statistics are available as to the number of wireless sets in use, but the Authority estimates this figure to be in the region of 24,000).

In August, customs duty on radio and television sets was raised by 5 per cent to 45 per cent under the preferential tariff and to 50 per cent under the general tariff. These figures are among the highest in Western Europe, while the combined licence fee at £4 is among the lowest to be found in all countries belonging to the European Broadcasting Union.

Programming

The Malta Broadcasting Authority is responsible, under the Constitution and the Broadcasting Ordinance, for the control and supervision of Sound and Television services in the Maltese Islands. Broadcasting in Malta is further regulated by three Agreements under which the Authority must spend in each financial year the sum of £10,000 and £25,000 respectively on Wired Sound and Television programming.

The Authority is an independent statutory body whose income derives from licence fees. It produces and pays for its own programmes but its main function remains that of a supervisory body and of "holding the ring" between

contending parties. The bulk of the programme output is provided and produced on both media by commercial companies, under contract to the Authority, whose main source of income is advertising. These companies are Rediffusion (Malta) Ltd., and The Malta Television Service Ltd., both associated with the parent company in London, Rediffusion Ltd., which operates many companies in the United Kingdom and in other parts of the world.

Radio and Television are primarily mass media of entertainment but there must be strong elements of information and education if the opportunities presented by these powerful inventions are not to go to waste. While catering for mass tastes the broadcasting authorities have a clear duty to minority interests.

The Authority is anxious to exploit television as a medium of information and education in the broadest sense and throughout the year the Authority's aim and policy continued to be that of providing broadcasting services which are comprehensive in character and which catered for the widest possible range of tastes and interests compatible with the law and existing Agreements as well as with the financial and technical resources available. In a small Island of 122 square miles and a population of 330,000 these resources are necessarily modest. This is sometimes over-looked by critics who tend to make comparisons with other broadcasting services forgetting that these larger organisations have at their disposal financial resources running into millions of pounds sterling a year and a staff of many thousands.

The overall output of locally originated programmes increased to 30 per cent. This is ten per cent in excess of that required by the terms of existing Agreements and is considerably in excess of what is achieved by stations in similar circumstances overseas and by several of the programme companies in the United Kingdom where resources are much greater than those to be found in Malta.

A start was made on the production of Maltese drama, four plays having been screened during the year. The production of Maltese drama is difficult and expensive and is not made easier by the present dearth of suitable material for television. Talented actors are not lacking but full-time professional actors as such do not exist. This means that all casting, readings and rehearsals of plays must take place after normal working hours and this necessarily creates difficulties. Apart from financial and technical considerations a healthy and expanding Maltese television drama is closely linked with a corresponding vigorous expansion and higher standards in the theatre. Nonetheless an encouraging start has been made and both acting and production have been of a good standard. Towards the end of the year ways and means were being considered which would result in further progress in the years ahead.

It should be borne in mind that in order to compete with recorded material produced overseas under favourable conditions and with immense resources local programmes must have finish, polish and sophistication. This is an area of activity where there is still much room for improvement and the Authority's aim is to concentrate on achieving this.

Throughout the year the Authority kept under review all programmes in which scenes of violence were liable to occur and special attention was paid to the number and the timing of such programmes. An overall improvement has been noted.

The Broadcasting Ordinance

Subject to the Constitution it is the Broadcasting Ordinance 1961 which regulates broadcasting in these Islands. It is understood that steps are to be taken by the Government to bring the Ordinance in line with the new and welcome provisions in the Independence Constitution.

It is the view of the Authority that apart from being overtaken by Constitutional developments the Ordinance contains a number of deficiencies which need to be put right. The Broadcasting Ordinance is based on the U.K. Television Act 1954, which makes provision only for Television Services. The Ordinance in Malta on the other hand applies to Wired Sound and Wireless as well as to Television. Furthermore the U.K. Act was found to be faulty in several respects and was amended and replaced by the U.K. Television Act 1964.

Finance

The most glaring weakness in the Broadcasting Ordinance lies in the wording of its financial clauses and the lack of any provision for a reserve or contingencies fund. This together with the actual sums of money made available from licence fees to the MBA continued to cause grave concern to the Authority which has had to live from hand to mouth from one year to the next.

Despite strong representations, funds available to the Authority during 1964-65 amounted to only £45,000—£7,000 less than in 1963-64. This necessitated a drop in the output of MBA programmes of some 30 hours and for the first time since the establishment of the Authority in 1961 a deficit is recorded (See Accounts).

The Authority's Third Annual Report had made it clear that unless a greater proportion of the licence fees being paid by the public is devoted to broadcasting purposes the Authority cannot carry out its functions in a satisfactory manner, and may even be unable, under present arrangements, to meet its administrative expenses and its contractual obligations in the future. Due to rising costs the position continued to deteriorate throughout the year and it is significant that though the Authority was forced to reduce its own output by 16 per cent the financial saving amounted to only 9.5 per cent.

The intention of the Broadcasting Ordinance is that all fees paid by the public for wireless and television licences should be ploughed back into broadcasting—after the deduction of £15,000 by the Government for the collection of these fees. In fact, although the fees being collected have increased each year, the amount allocated to the Authority has remained stationary at £45,000.

The following figures illustrate this point:

Year	Revenue from Wireless licence fees	(Revenue from Customs duties on T.V. and Radio sets)	Amount budgetted for by M.B.A.	Amount available to M.B.A.
1959/60	£17,793	£96,902	—	—
1960/61	£21,847	£168,269	—	—
1961/62	£63,546	£124,428	£19,200	£17,200
1962/63	£83,067	£117,698	£50,355	£45,000
1963/64	£96,074	£140,482	£65,075	£45,000
1964/65	£98,000	£104,123	£66,000	£45,000
1965/66	£103,000 (est.)	Not Known	£67,000	£45,000

The position is that out of every £4 paid by the public only £1 15s or 43.7 per cent is being channelled back into broadcasting.

The Authority's Estimates for the year under review amounted to £66,000. This would have enabled the Authority to meet its administrative expenses in full and without loss of efficiency and to make a radical contribution towards raising the level of programming and broadcasting generally. It was in August, 1964, that is half way through the financial year that the Authority became aware that only £45,000 would in fact be available. This was particularly unsatisfactory since in Television programming one should always plan some six months ahead.

Under existing Agreements the Authority must spend a minimum of £25,000 each year on the prescription and improvement of programmes on Television and £10,000 on the prescription and improvement of programmes on Sound, and the Authority pays normal commercial charges including air-time for these programmes. Apart from the fact that £25,000 is too small a figure to make a substantial impact on Television programming, the amount available for meeting the Authority's administrative costs is inadequate. It is pertinent to note that the Broadcasting Ordinance provides for the retention of £15,000 by the Government merely for collecting fees. It is also significant that prior to the establishment of the Authority, the inauguration of Television and of major improvements in Sound broadcasting such as local news bulletins, the yearly cost to the Government of broadcasting in these Islands was estimated at £36,000.

The Authority had repeatedly made known its anxiety at this unsatisfactory state of affairs and it wishes to reiterate that a continuation of the present situation is bound in the long run to lower both standards and efficiency and to prevent any long term planning which is essential for good broadcasting.

It is anomalous that while the Authority is bound by Contract to spend money each year on Sound and Television broadcasting its own source of revenue is neither adequate nor guaranteed. This is bound to have a bearing

on standards and equally important it endangers the independence of broadcasting which the Constitution seeks to ensure. If this danger is to be avoided there must be a clear relationship between the licence fees paid by the public and the amount given to the Authority for its own administrative expenses and to help raise the overall level of broadcasting in these islands.

In countries such as the United Kingdom, Austria, Belgium, Gibraltar, Greece and Ireland, the entire sum resulting from the collection of licence revenue either remains in the hands of the organization concerned (in cases where it is responsible for collection) or is passed on to it by the collection service.

In some other countries the State levies a tax on the revenue derived from radio and television. But in no European country is this anything like the amount "levied" in Malta. In France, for example, it is 9.29 per cent and in Italy 27.95 per cent on radio and 16.66 per cent on television. In Malta the amount being withheld from the Authority amounts to some 56.3 per cent.

MBA Programmes

Previous Reports have stressed the importance which the Authority attaches to maintaining and increasing the output of "serious" or "enrichment" programmes. This remains the policy of the Authority which continues to prescribe programmes of an informative, cultural, and educative nature. The number of these programmes totalled 334 on Television and 271 on Sound. But while the Authority was able to contribute 191 programme hours on T.V. during 1963-64 this figure had to be reduced to 161 hours during the year under review. Despite this reduction in the overall total, the number of locally originated programmes produced and prescribed by the Authority continued to increase.

These included:

L-Imghallem: A monthly filmed programme dealing with Maltese crafts and craftsmen which included a live interview.

Retina: A monthly studio documentary which dealt with the following subjects and personalities: The University (two programmes); Church Architecture (two programmes); Girolomo Cassar; St. John's Co-Cathedral; Old Maps of Malta; Dun Karm Psaila; Interior Decoration; Melchiorre Gafà; and Vincent Apap.

Favur Jew Kontra: A programme in the form of a debate dealing with subjects of general interest in which an invited audience is asked to give a verdict.

Dawra mal-Gnien: A fortnightly programme devoted to gardening.

Documentaries (With a Maltese Commentary): Unfinished Revolution (Mexico); 40 Million Shoes (Brazil); A King's Revolution (Iran); The Land That Waited (Australia); Ten Million Strong (Malaysia); Two Faces of Japan; Algeria—What Price Freedom?; The New Italian.

Towards the end of the year the Authority's staff produced thirteen programmes on Sound under the general heading of *lċ-Ċittadin u Pajjiżu* (The Citizen and His Country). The series, in which a number of prominent personalities took part, was inspired by the words used by the late President Kennedy in his inaugural address: "Ask not what your country can do for you: ask what you can do for your country".

In addition, the Authority's staff organised five Television Press Conferences; forty political broadcasts of which 11 were transmitted on both Sound and Television; three Ministerial broadcasts; six Referendum Broadcasts and 210 Broadcasts to Schools. The MBA also helped in the organisation and production of Religious programmes on Sound and Television.

Among the recorded programmes prescribed by the Authority were the following:

Classic Series: Our Mutual Friend (12 episodes); Jane Eyre (6 episodes); Lorna Doone (9 episodes).

Music: The Art of Music (26 programmes); La Belle Helene; Gilbert and

Sullivan (3 programmes); Carmen; The Mikado; Christmas Carol; Handel's—The Messiah.

Art: Michelangelo (3 programmes); The Art of Architecture (3 programmes); Discovering Japanese Art (3 programmes); Vincent Van Gogh.

Informative: Reports from: Paris, Munich, London, Beirut, Rome; Meet Us In London: The Italians, The Americans, The Chinese; The University of London; Trial at Nuremburg; Russo-Finnish War; Hiroshima; D-Day Build-up; Laval; Ghandi; Canada between two World Wars; Command in Battle (8 episodes) Mussolini; Crisis at Suez; Yugoslavia—Bridge of Tightrope? Turn of the Century; Paris in the Twenties.

Science: It can Happen Tomorrow (11 episodes).

Adult Education: English by Television (39 episodes); Design (10 episodes); Family Car (10 episodes).

Ballet: Famous Dancers (2 programmes); Coppelia; La Perie; La Mort du Cygne; Senor du Manara; Ballad of Carmen and Don Jose.

Documentaries: The Great War (26 episodes); Churchill: Man of the Century; The Twisted Cross (Nazism); Freedom Road; Profiles in Power: Kennedy and Kruschev; Greece: The Golden Age; The City and the World; The French Army; Quebec Qui—Ottawa Non; Kennedy Remembered.

Drama: Children of the Sun; Hamlet; Stalingrad; Lady of the Camellias; Shakespeare—Soul of an Age.

MTV and Rediffusion

1964-65 was the first year of operation from the new studios at Television House.

MTV's Programme Department was re-organised in September to incorporate what was formerly the Film Department. This enabled the Company to increase the flexibility of its staff and to provide a more logical control of programme material of which films provide a greater proportion.

The Company continued its policy of obtaining direct assistance from overseas experts to train staff on the facilities which they have available, by bringing Mr. Richard Stelp, a television lighting expert from London to Malta.

Technical Developments

In the sphere of technical development the year was one of consolidation rather than expansion. However, technical facilities have continued to expand, notably by provision of a zoom lens for studio use, a high grade rebroadcast receiver to enable a better quality rebroadcast of Eurovision transmissions, the introduction of video magnetic tape recordings and additions to the television studio lighting equipment.

During the independence celebrations, there was close co-operation with the outside broadcast team of RAI making possible the broadcast of three major events. These were, the handing over of the instrument of Independence; the State Opening of Parliament by H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh and the schoolchildren's rally in the Independence Arena.

The Medium Wave and V.H.F. transmitters for Radio Malta were installed at Bugibba and Television House respectively.

A total of 22,000 yards of Rediffusion cable was laid during the year. This enabled the Rediffusion Service to be installed in various rural areas. It is interesting to note that the staff of the Engineering Department including the Chief Engineer is now entirely Maltese. This is a significant achievement in a television service started in September 1962.

NEWS AND CURRENT AFFAIRS

MTV and Rediffusion's News Division continued to expand and to give a very good and comprehensive coverage of local and world events.

The following is a breakdown of the coverage given by the News Service on Sound and on Television during 1964-65.

Sound

One ten minute local news bulletin in Maltese from Monday to Saturday.

Two local and foreign news headlines services from Monday to Saturday.

One ten minute local news bulletin in English from Monday to Saturday.

One daily 20-minute Magazine programme ("Malta Magazine") from Monday to Saturday and repeated the following morning.

One 15-minute English language news Magazine ("People in the News") broadcast on Saturdays and repeated on Sundays.

A fortnightly 10-minute foreign news background talk in Maltese "Fid-Dinja l-Lum" (introduced in January 1965).

"Dil-Gimgha fil-Parlament" (This Week in Parliament): A weekly 15-minute programme broadcast every Sunday giving a summary of Parliamentary debates and proceedings in the House of Representatives (repeated every Monday).

Television

One 13-minute local and foreign news bulletin in Maltese, Monday to Saturday with a round-up on Sundays.

One 13-minute local and foreign news bulletin in English, Monday to Saturday with a round-up on Sundays.

"Din il-Gimgha": A 25-minute news magazine programme in Maltese broadcast every fortnight.

In addition weekly discussion programmes on Sound and Television continued in "Nithaddtuha" and prominent personalities and people in the news continued to be interviewed in "Kif Jarawha".

The London Talks, the Referendum in May and the Independence celebrations in September 1964 involved heavy extra commitments by the News Division over and above the normal news operation outlined above.

Sound Broadcasting

Despite the impact and popularity of television, Rediffusion remains the most widely received medium of communication. The number of homes connected to the service totalled 39,943 at the end of the financial year.

Programmes on Sound account for some 34 hours a day on a two channel network. The service continued to offer a wide choice of programme material to its listeners including those things for which radio is particularly well equipped such as, for instance, a regular service of news and music of all kinds.

Several new programmes were introduced during the year.

These included:

Nghixu maż-Żgħażaġh: A programme started on the 13th June 1964, consisting of a twenty-minute playlet on youth problems followed by a discussion.

Fid-Dinja l-Lum: A current-affairs programme which gives a fortnightly report on world events.

lċ-Cittadin u Pajjiżu: A fortnightly programme on citizenship started on the 26th January, 1965 (M.B.A. Programme).

To-morrow's Sport: Every Friday. This is a programme which is similar to the one broadcast every Saturday. The Friday programme is concerned with sporting events to be held on the following day. The first broadcast was on the 5th February, 1965.

Family Choice was extended to 60 minutes — from the 14th February, 1965.

The Other Side of the Record: A pop programme. Because of the importance given to popular hits, the other side of the record was being neglected. This provides enough material for several types of popular music Programmes and five monthly programmes were originated: Rhythm and Blues; Country and Western Time; The Other Side of the Hit; From the International Hit Parade; Debut—Recent Record Releases.

Public Opinion: A monthly programme in the form of a "Vox Pop". Reactions and comments by the man in the street following a special event. The first broadcast was on the 4th March, 1965.

Book Review: Books received from local and foreign publishers and reviewed fortnightly in a 15-minute programme. The first programme was on the 19th March, 1965.

Outstanding Events

Among the outstanding broadcasts of the year were those connected with the Malta Independence Celebrations. Very full coverage was given to these events on both media and this was probably the most ambitious undertaking in the broadcasting field in Malta. It required all-round co-operation and a special effort by the Engineering and Programme Departments.

The General Election in Britain was given full coverage which included an all-night service.

Other memorable broadcasts were features on President Kennedy, Sir Winston Churchill, the Vatican Council, Dun Karm—the National Poet; and the First Raid on Malta.

As in previous years the Authority contributed financially and in other ways towards the improvement of the following programmes: “Nithaddtuha” and “Radio Press Conference”; “Malta Magazine”; “This Week in Parliament” and “Religious Forum”.

Public Service Broadcasts

During the year rules were worked out with Rediffusion (Malta) Ltd. and with MTV which would govern the acceptance and broadcasting of SOS and Police Messages.

Also during the year MTV and Rediffusion broadcast and screened a number of slogans and filmlets urging the public to Keep the Beaches Clean, to Save Water and to observe Traffic Regulations.

Public Notices issued by the Government and forming part of an agreed list continued to be broadcast daily on Rediffusion.

Schools Broadcasting

The Authority's School Broadcasting Unit continued to organise and produce all broadcasts to Schools on Sound. The year's programme, as approved by the School Broadcasting Advisory Committee under the Chairmanship of the Director of Education, consisted of 210 programmes.

Out of the £10,000 available to the Authority for Sound Broadcasting, nearly £7,000 is being spent annually on broadcasts to schools.

The Authority continued to explore the possibilities of introducing Schools Television in Malta as is being done in an increasing number of countries throughout the world. This was however ruled out for the time being because of lack of funds.

An on the spot survey carried out by the Unit and a frank exchange of views with teachers and students resulted in some important changes including an increasing emphasis on the element of dramatization in all programmes to Schools. A number of new programmes were introduced in the English and Music series.

Close contact with schools is essential and in order to strengthen existing ties the "Schools Reporters Scheme" was launched in October. Primary Schools in Malta and Gozo were invited to nominate three volunteers from among teachers to act as 'reporters' on one particular series. Each teacher was provided with an assessment card which was to be filled immediately after a broadcast. In this way the classrooms' reaction could be accurately gauged and assessed. Thanks to the co-operation of the teachers the scheme has proved successful and 95 per cent of the schools able to receive the service nominated 300 reporters.

The Young Listener

The Authority continued to publish "The Young Listener" magazine each month during the scholastic year. The magazine which is closely linked to schools broadcasting is bought by an average of 20,048 teachers and school-children each month. It is sold at 1d a copy—one farthing of which is given to the School Fund. Despite its circulation the Young Listener has been running at a loss and an arrangement which would have eliminated this deficit was reached with the Ministry of Education in June 1963. Unfortunately this was never implemented by the Ministry and the Authority decided that an increase of its price to 2d was indicated. The Minister of Education however could not see his way to allowing its sale in Schools at the increased price and the Authority was therefore forced to reduce the size of "The Young Listener" from 16 to 8 pages in order to maintain its selling price at 1d. This is by no means an ideal solution but one which was, in the circumstances, inevitable. Every effort was made throughout the year to make the magazine as attractive as possible and various innovations including a Readers' Corner were introduced during the year. A return to the 16 pages is however clearly

desirable but if public funds are not to be wasted the price must be 2d a copy. In view of present day costs and the number of illustrations carried in "The Young Listener" this is more than reasonable.

Ministerial Broadcasts

The number of Ministerial Broadcasts made during the year under review was three as against nine during the previous year.

All were on Sound and Television (33 minutes). The corresponding figure for 1963-64 was 108 minutes on Sound and Television and 20 minutes on Sound only.

Towards the end of the year a review was made of the conditions and procedures under which the Authority affords to the Government of the day broadcasting facilities for these broadcasts.

The opportunity was taken in the light of experience to clarify one or two points; to incorporate in one document the Authority's views and to introduce a new rule regarding the holding of Ministerial Broadcasts during periods when Referendum or General Election broadcasts are being held (See Appendix "F").

REFERENDUM BROADCASTS

When the Government made known its intention of holding a referendum in which the electorate was to be asked "Do you approve the proposed Constitution for independence" the Authority called a meeting of Political Party representatives to discuss broadcasting arrangements during a pre-referendum period.

The Authority after careful consideration of all the circumstances and of the varying views expressed during the meeting decided to earmark 120 minutes of airtime for the holding of Referendum broadcasts. The actual division of this airtime into eight broadcasts was additional to facilities already in being for party political broadcasts. (See Appendix "G").

The Authority's Scheme was objected to in varying degrees and for different reasons by the political parties and there was pressure from several quarters to change the allocation of Referendum Broadcasts and to modify other arrangements made by the Authority to give as fair and as comprehensive a coverage as possible to this event. The Authority did not however feel justified in modifying its views and broadcasts in connection with the Referendum were held as scheduled in April, 1964.

The Malta Labour Party submitted one script but the amendments suggested by our Legal Advisers as necessary to conform with the law proved unacceptable to the Party which did not broadcast in the series of Referendum Broadcasts.

A series of special broadcasts on the new Constitution and on the Referendum Bill were held on Sound and Television and arrangements were made to broadcast the results of the Referendum as these were announced.

POLITICAL BROADCASTS

In September a meeting was held with representatives of the Political Parties in order to establish the pattern of party political broadcasts for the next twelve months. The Authority's policy is to make time available to the Parties who are asked to agree on its allocation. As in previous years however, this did not prove possible and the Authority decided to make a similar allocation as had been made for 1963-64. The number of these broadcasts on Sound only was maintained at 52 a year and those on Sound and Television at 15 (See Appendix "H").

The Authority's allocation of airtime on Sound is 14 hours 40 minutes and on Television 4 hours 5 minutes.

Up to January 1965 the Malta Labour Party did not make use of its allocation and the reason given was the "Religious Clause" in the Broadcasting Ordinance. As from the 14th January however the Party made use of the airtime at its disposal on both Sound and Television.

Religious Programmes

The pattern of religious programmes remained constant on Rediffusion but changes were made on Television. The daily epilogue was replaced by a brief religious thought at the end of the day's programming but "Gheluq il-Jum" was retained on Sunday. Two new T.V. programmes were introduced during the year: "Dawl it-Triq" each week and "Dawl il-Hajja" every month. The children's religious programme on Sunday continued throughout the year as did "Mid-dinja Kattolika" a weekly news bulletin of Catholic news on Monday. "Katequiz" a fortnightly 20 minute Religious quiz on alternate Sundays was also introduced during the year.

On Sound, "Hajja Kattolika" a magazine programme continued each week and retained its popularity as did "Nikkellmu fuq ir-Religjon" a monthly discussion programme. Some forty religious functions were broadcast during the year mostly from St. John's Co-Cathedral. The new liturgy was explained on Sound and Television and special programmes were presented on both media during Holy Week and Christmas. Religious events such as Christ the King, St. Joseph the Worker and the Holy Name Congress were given full coverage.

The Authority continued to receive advice from the Religious Broadcasting Advisory Committee (See Appendix "I").

ADVERTISING

Advertisements, which like all other programmes are subject to the control and supervision of the Authority, constitute the main source of income of the programme companies. Since more and better programmes cost money it is encouraging to note that revenue from the sale of commercial airtime showed a slow but steady increase on Television. There was also an increase in the amount of locally produced advertising material.

The gradual increase in advertisements and the necessity to tighten control led the Authority to bring under review the rules governing the amount of advertising and its distribution over programmes. These rules were submitted to the Governor for approval in accordance with the terms of the Broadcasting Ordinance in April 1964. They were forwarded to the Government in July but unfortunately were still under consideration at the end of the financial year.

WIRELESS STATION

Under existing agreements, The Malta Television Service Ltd., is given the exclusive right to provide wireless Sound programmes for ten years from the 28th September, 1961 (without prejudice to the right of the Authority to provide such services). The date of commencement of this service is any time within five years of the signature of the Agreement and is *ipso facto* determined if the contractor does not commence Wireless Sound Broadcast-

ing by the expiry of five years from the date of signature. Equipment for the service was delivered in the spring and test transmission began in July 1964. At the end of the year the inauguration of the service had not yet taken place.

COMMONWEALTH BROADCASTING CONFERENCE

In October the Malta Broadcasting Authority was invited to join the Commonwealth Broadcasting Conference and to send a representative to the next Conference due in September 1965, in Nigeria.

The first conference held in London at the invitation of the BBC early in 1945 was called to enable the national broadcasting organizations of various Commonwealth countries to review their co-operation during the war and to consult with each other how best this co-operation should continue and develop in time of peace. Subsequent conferences were held in Britain (1952), Australia (1956), India (1960) and Canada (1963). Membership is limited to the national public service broadcasting organizations of the independent Commonwealth countries.

Mr. Michael Stephens, Secretary of the Commonwealth Broadcasting Conference, visited Malta in February to establish personal contact with the Authority.

COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

The law governing Copyright in Malta is the U.K. Copyright Act of 1911. This legislation, which has since been repealed in the United Kingdom, is appropriate for a large country which is an exporter of works but is entirely inadequate for a country in whose territory it is principally works of foreign origin that are broadcast. This matter was taken up by the Authority during the year and Mr. G. Straschnov, Legal Adviser to the European Broadcasting Union who has been active in the drafting of new legislation in various commonwealth territories, has kindly offered to help with new legislation for Malta and, if necessary, to visit the Island. This offer was passed on to the Government.

C.E.T.O.

The Authority has always been anxious to explore the possibilities of further development in the field of educational television. Contact with the Centre for Educational Television Overseas (C.E.T.O.) was followed by a visit to Malta of Mr. T. Singleton, Head of Training, on a fact-finding mission. As a result of this, C.E.T.O. agreed to a proposal for a training course to be held at Television House during July, 1965, which will be attended by staff members of the Authority and of The Malta Television Service.

The Centre for Educational Television Overseas was established early in 1962 to assist in the advancement of education overseas by providing help to Television Services in the use of the medium for the education of adults and children.

Staff

The Authority's policy of training all members of its staff continued throughout the year and the Authority is specially grateful to the British Broadcasting Corporation, the Centre for Educational Television Overseas and the British Council, for their generous help and assistance.

Mr. John Scerri, a member of the MBA's School Broadcasting Unit was awarded a British Council bursary and attended an eleven-week course in School Television organised by the Centre for Educational Television Overseas.

Mr. Godwin Miceli, Programme Editor, attended a ten-week specialised course for Broadcasters from overseas organised by the British Broadcasting Corporation. The course covered all aspects of Sound broadcasting and was followed by an attachment to the BBC's Television Talks Department.

The Religious Broadcasting Organiser, Fr. Charles Vella, resigned as a permanent full-time member of the Authority's staff and was re-appointed as Religious Broadcasting Adviser with responsibility for advising the MBA and planning and helping in the production of religious programmes on Sound and Television.

OVERSEAS CONTACTS

The Chief Executive and Broadcasting Director, Mr. John Manduca, attended the "Prix Jeunesse International" held in Munich in June. Organised by the State of Bavaria and the Bavarian Broadcasting Corporation it aimed at making a contribution towards the proper use of television especially in its potential for influencing the younger generation.

On his way to London for talks with officials of the BBC and of the Independent Television Authority, Mr. Manduca paid a brief visit to the Radio-diffusion Television Francaise (RTF) and to U.N.E.S.C.O. in Paris. While in the United Kingdom Mr. Manduca also visited the Thomson Foundation Television College in Glasgow.

Father C. Vella attended a General Assembly of the International Catholic Association for Radio and Television (UNDA) held in Rome in February, 1965.

Relations with other broadcasting organizations and in particular with the European Broadcasting Union, the British Broadcasting Corporation and the Independent Television Authority continued to become closer and much valuable help and advice was received from these quarters.

CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS REGARDING THE MALTA BROADCASTING AUTHORITY

Broadcasting Authority

121. (1) There shall be a Broadcasting Authority for Malta which shall consist of a chairman and such number of other members not being less than four as may be prescribed by any law for the time being in force in Malta.

(2) The members of the Broadcasting Authority shall be appointed by the Governor-General, acting in accordance with the advice of the Prime Minister given after he has consulted the Leader of the Opposition.

(3) A person shall not be qualified to hold office as a member of the Broadcasting Authority if he is a Minister, a Parliamentary Secretary, a member of, or candidate for election to, the House of Representatives, a member of a local government authority or if he is a public officer.

(4) A member of the Broadcasting Authority shall not, within a period of three years commencing with the day on which he last held office or acted as a member, be eligible for appointment to or to act in any public office.

(5) Subject to the provisions of this section, the office of a member of the Broadcasting Authority shall become vacant—

- (a) at the expiration of five years from the date of his appointment or at such earlier time as may be specified in the instrument by which he was appointed; or
- (b) if any circumstances arise that, if he were not a member of the Authority, would cause him to be disqualified for appointment as such.

(6) A member of the Broadcasting Authority may be removed from office by the Governor-General, acting in accordance with the advice of the Prime Minister, but he may be removed only for inability to discharge the functions of his office (whether arising from infirmity of mind or body or any other cause) or for misbehaviour.

(7) If the office of a member of the Broadcasting Authority is vacant or if a member is for any reason unable to perform the functions of his office, the Governor-General, acting in accordance with the advice of the Prime Minister, given after he has consulted the Leader of the Opposition, may appoint a person who is qualified to be appointed to be a member, to be a temporary member of the Authority; and any person so appointed shall, subject to the provisions of subsections (5) and (6) of this section, cease to be such a member when a person has been appointed to fill the vacancy or, as the case may be, when the member who was unable to perform the functions of his office resumes those functions.

(8) In the exercise of its functions under section 122 (1) of this Constitution the Broadcasting Authority shall not be subject to the direction or control of any other person or authority.

Function of the Broadcasting Authority

122. (1) It shall be the function of the Broadcasting Authority to ensure that, so far as possible, in such sound and television broadcasting services as may be provided in Malta, due impartiality is preserved in respect of matters of political or industrial controversy or relating to current public policy and that broadcasting facilities and time are fairly apportioned between persons belonging to different political parties.

(2) The function of the Broadcasting Authority referred to in subsection (1) of this section shall be without prejudice to such other functions and duties as may be conferred upon it by any law for the time being in force in Malta.

Powers and procedure of Commissions

123 (1) Any Commission established by this Constitution may, with the consent of the Prime Minister or such other Minister as may be authorised in that behalf by the Prime Minister by regulation or otherwise regulate its own procedure and confer powers and impose duties on any public officer or authority of the Government of Malta for the purpose of the discharge of its functions.

(2) Any Commission established by this Constitution may act notwithstanding any vacancy in its membership or the absence of any member and any proceedings thereof shall be valid notwithstanding that some person who was not entitled so to do took part therein.

(3) Any question proposed for decision at any meeting of any Commission established by this Constitution shall be determined by a majority of the votes of all the members thereof, and if on any such question the votes are equally divided the member presiding shall have and exercise a casting vote.

(4) For the purpose of subsection (3) of this section, the references to a member of the Electoral Commission shall be construed as including a reference to the Chairman of that Commission.

(5) The provisions of this section shall apply to the Broadcasting Authority established by this Constitution.

THE MEMBERS OF THE AUTHORITY

On 31st March, 1965, the Authority was composed as follows:

Chairman: Judge A. Montanaro-Gauci, C.B.E., K.M., LL.D.

Members: Dr. V.A. Mercieca, LL.D.

G. Muscat Azzopardi Esq.

Rev. Fr. P. Serracino Inglott, B.A., B.D., M.A. (Oxon.)

J. Vella Esq.

J.A. Manduca Esq. (Chief Executive).

The Authority's Secretary throughout the period under review was Mr. A.J. Ellul.

The present members of the Broadcasting Authority were appointed by virtue of Government Notice No. 527 of the 29th September, 1964, for a period of three years commencing from the 29th September, 1964.

During the remaining period of the year under review the Authority was composed as follows:

The Hon. Mr. E.G. Arrigo, C.B.E. (Chairman); Lt Col. G.C. Micallef-Eynaud; Mrs Inez Galea, O.B.E., Prof. V. Caruana Galizia, O.B.E., LL.D. (nominated by the Vice-Chancellor and Rector Magnificus of the Royal University of Malta); Mr. Edgar Staines, O.B.E., Mr. E.C. Tabone; Rt. Rev. Mgr. E. Vella, D.D., B.L. Can., Ph.D. (nominated by the Metropolitan Archbishop of Malta); Mr. J.A. Manduca (Chief Executive).

SCHOOLS BROADCASTING

The Schools broadcasting programme for the year 1964/65 as approved by the School Broadcasting Advisory Committee, consisted of 210 programmes. As in previous years there were 39 "Nitghallmu u Nemnu" programmes consisting of the explanation of the Sunday Gospel followed by answers to questions on Religious topics regularly sent in by children. The remaining programmes were as follows: 29 programmes for stages and Class I—6 to 8 years; 41 programmes for Classes II & IV—8 to 10 years; 57 programmes for Classes IV and V—10 to 12 years; 41 programmes for Classes VI and VII—12 to 14 years and two special half hour features for all classes.

As usual, regular broadcast days have been allotted to each class grouping but measures are being taken to improve this system even further.

This year greater emphasis was placed on increasing the element of dramatisation in all the programmes. This was prompted by remarks and suggestions put forward by teachers and pupils alike during a four week survey carried out on the spot by members of the School Broadcasting Unit. Another important change was made in the presentation of religion broadcasts which amounted to about 13% of the whole schools programme. Moreover a number of new programmes were introduced in the English and Music series while programmes on History were designed with the fourth centenary of the Great Siege in mind.

The following is a brief outline of each series:

Stages and Class I

Action Songs and Story Songs meant to teach English words and phrases through song have had continued success. Schools have been furnished with a considerable amount of supplementary material mainly in the way of illustrations. School reports indicate that these broadcasts are achieving their aim though the general feeling is that the duration should be extended by 5 minutes. This suggestion will be implemented next year.

A new civics series in Maltese embodying principles of behaviour in and out of the home was presented in the form of episodes in the life of a brother and sister.

This mode of presentation has its appeal but some schools feel that a limited form of dramatisation could be introduced.

English

"The Young Listener" played its role in supplementing the English broadcasts, with illustrations and exercises. The series for the 10 to 12 year group consisted of an unfinished dramatised story to which listeners were asked to find a suitable ending. The aim of this exercise was to help children write a number of short sentences in sequence. This series has proved to be a successful experiment because it served as a mental exercise for the listener. School reports were all very favourable.

Generally speaking broadcasts in English are regarded as best suited to "A" stream children. Some schools would prefer actors in these programmes to speak almost at dictation speed. This would, however, impair acting and destroy any dramatic effect the story may have.

Religion

In previous years each of the 24 religion broadcasts was written and presented by a different spiritual director. This arrangement has now given way to another system whereby one spiritual director is responsible for the writing and presentation of a whole series. In this way the scriptwriter had a greater hold over the subject matter of each broadcast thus rendering the series more coherent. Parables for the 8 to 10 year group were very popular mainly due to the fact that each programme was presented in the form of a dramatised story.

The series for the other two age groups dealt with fundamental aspects of Christian doctrine and love for one's neighbour. The teaching points of each programme were illustrated with dramatised episodes.

Maltese

The Maltese literature series for classes IV-V sought to acquaint listeners with the works of leading Maltese authors—the established and the newcomers to the field. These works included poems, essays, short stories and one-act plays.

A shorter series on the same topic was designed for Classes VI-VII. This age group being composed largely of school leavers, had a special series planned for them with this object in view. This series, called "Nikbru u Nitghallmu" dealt with broad principles of citizenship and general knowledge. Subjects treated included the media for the dissemination of news and information, the meaning and workings of the main types of government with special reference to a democratically elected body in an independent country; and the cinema and TV as a means of entertainment and instruction.

Science

It can safely be said that broadcasts in these series have gone a long way towards fostering an increased awareness of the importance of science in the child's daily life. The success of such broadcasts depends mainly on the co-operation of the teacher. Very often the teacher is required to carry out simple activities of observations with the children in the classroom. These activities are essential for a full understanding of the subject matter. The majority of teachers fail to carry out these activities generally due to various factors connected with the running of the school.

Judging by school reports however, interest in these programmes is on the increase.

Subjects covered in the series for classes II-III included: care of goldfish;

different birds with different beaks; looking after pets; the water cycle; the sun as a source of light and heat; the weather and the farmer.

The theme of broadcasts for classes IV-V was the description of and conclusions drawn from a specific activity which children were asked to perform such as sowing seeds, drawing insects, observing frogs, etc.

The series for the school leaving age group stressed the impact science has made on every section of the community especially the housewife and the farmer.

All science broadcasts were supplemented in "The Young Listener".

History

The series for classes IV-V, deserves a special mention. Entitled "Sehem il-Maltin fl-Assedju l-Kbir" it set out, in this centenary year, to make our children conscious of the part played by our forefathers in defence of these Islands and the Christian Faith. The first broadcast dealt with accounts of the siege recorded by contemporary historians as a proof of its authenticity. Subsequent programmes dealt with the contribution of Maltese—children, women, architects, builders, cavalry, infantry, messengers and pilots towards the final victory.

According to school reports it seems that these broadcasts which were partly narrated and partly dramatised have fulfilled their aim.

Il-Belt Dari u l-Lum

This series was designed to give a portrait of Valletta since its foundation in 1566. Unfortunately the broadcasts suffered through an overdose of teaching matter coupled with a lack of preparation on the part of the listeners. This was partly due to insufficient pictorial supplementary material in "The Young Listener" which this year was drastically cut down to half its normal size, and partly due to the surprising fact that schoolchildren have so very little knowledge of Valletta today let alone about Valletta of old.

Il-Gżejjer Maltin

The eight broadcasts in this series aimed at giving a clear picture of various aspects of these Islands viz.: position and climate, economy, industries, tourism and emigration. These broadcasts would have been more effective had they contained fewer teaching points. According to school reports, listeners favour plenty of sugar with the pill. However one must be careful not to sacrifice the content for too much superficial attractive matter.

"L-Industrija u l-Kummerċ" for Classes VI—VII had a more favourable reception mainly because interviews recorded on the spot helped, as it were, to transport the atmosphere of the scene right into the classroom. These broadcasts made the listeners (mostly of school leaving age) aware of the growing importance of industrialisation to the economy of these Islands.

GENERAL

As has been the practice during the past three years scriptwriters were selected not only on their merits as writers but also on their experience in classroom technique. Most of the scriptwriters come from the teaching ranks. Every effort is made to develop the number of teacher-writers, which at present is rather limited.

School Visits

By agreement with the Education Authorities members of the School Broadcasting Unit were able to carry on the spot enquiry into the reception of broadcasts in primary schools. Some 30 schools were visited, and information was collected from about 100 classes. These visits proved profitable, because they afford direct contact with the class-teacher and pupils alike.

School Reporters

In October the School Reporters Scheme was launched. Every primary school in Malta and Gozo was invited to submit the names of three volunteer teachers each of whom would act as reporter on one particular series of broadcasts e.g. History or English. Reporters were provided with assessment cards which had to be filled directly after the broadcast. The School Broadcasting Unit would, thus have at its disposal the classroom reaction representing, as far as possible a cross-section of the primary schools in these Islands. This scheme proved to be successful. 95% of the schools which are wired to the Rediffusion system nominated some 300 reporters. The majority of these carried out their task admirably and the greater part of their comments and suggestions have been or will be adopted. It is proposed that this scheme will become a permanent feature. In the absence of a scientific audience research and reaction, the scheme should go some way towards providing essential data.

Competitions

Following the policy adopted during the last three years, the S.B.U. organized two competitions, one in October and one in April. Both were published in "The Young Listener". The aim of these competitions is threefold: to increase children's interest in school broadcasts, to foster love of cultural subjects and to provide scope for self expression.

It is gratifying to record that the standard reached is usually high and the number of entries is most encouraging.

The April competition deserves special mention because it was related to the siege of 1565.

School Transcription Service

The School Transcription Service comprising quite a substantial number of BBC recordings on English Literature and Language, Famous Men and Women, Science, History, Geography and General Knowledge was extended to

all Government and private secondary schools. About 25% of the schools availed themselves of the offer. It is hoped that in future more schools will make use of the excellent opportunities afforded by this service.

The help and co-operation afforded by members of the School Broadcasting Advisory Committee under the chairmanship of the Director of Education, the vetting panels and the schools—heads and teachers alike—again proved invaluable.

ANALYSIS OF TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

(Year ended 31st March, 1965)

Table 1 **Breakdown of All Television Programmes**

	Weekly Average	%
1. News	3.80 hrs.	12.8
2. Documentaries	3.03 hrs.	10.3
3. Talks and Discussions	1.22 hrs.	4.2
4. Religion	0.47 hrs.	1.6
5. Adult Education	0.48 hrs.	1.6
6. Schools	—	—
7. Children's		
a) Informative	1.32 hrs.	4.5
b) Entertainment	3.85 hrs.	13.0
8. Plays and Serials	11.42 hrs.	38.7
9. Variety and Shows	1.10 hrs.	3.7
10. Feature Films	0.28 hrs.	0.9
11. Panel Games	0.50 hrs.	1.7
12. Serious Music & Ballet	0.28 hrs.	0.9
13. Sport	1.07 hrs.	3.6
14. Others	0.73 hrs.	2.5
TOTAL	29.55 hrs.	100.0

Table 2 **Breakdown of Locally Produced Programmes**

	Weekly Average
1. News	3.53 hrs.
2. Documentaries	0.10 hrs.
* "	(0.25 hrs.)
3. Talks & Discussions	1.11 hrs.
4. Religion	0.45 hrs.
5.* Adult Education	(0.12 hrs.)
6. Children's	
a) Informative	1.07 hrs.
b) Entertainment	0.05 hrs.
* "	(0.10 hrs.)
7. Drama	0.03 hrs.
8. Panel Games	0.50 hrs.
9. Variety and Shows	0.60 hrs.
10. Serious Music	0.08 hrs.
11. Sport	0.45 hrs.
12. Others	0.73 hrs.
TOTAL	8.70 hrs.

Percentage of Weekly Average Output 29.4%

* Imported Filmed material transmitted with Maltese commentary.

Table 3 Breakdown by Source of Imported Film Material

	Weekly Average
United Kingdom	9.78 hrs.
Commonwealth Countries	.75 hrs.
U.S.A.	10.08 hrs.
Others	0.24 hrs.
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TOTAL	20.85 hrs.
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Percentage of Weekly Average Output 70.6%

**Table 4 Breakdown of Programmes 'Prescribed' by
the Malta Broadcasting Authority**

	Weekly Average
Documentaries	1.57 hrs.
Talks and Discussions	0.43 hrs.
Adult Education	0.48 hrs.
Children's	0.03 hrs.
Plays and Serials	0.35 hrs.
Serious Music	0.20 hrs.
	<hr/>
TOTAL	3.06 hrs.
	<hr/>

Percentage of Weekly Average Output 10.35%

ANALYSIS OF REDIFFUSION PROGRAMMES

(Year ended 31st March, 1965)

Table 1 **Breakdown of 'B' Network Programmes**

	Weekly Average	%
1. News/Magazines	12.45 hrs.	10.1
2. Talks/Political Talks/Discussions	8.47 hrs.	6.8
3. Religion	4.85 hrs.	4.0
4. Schools	1.18 hrs.	1.0
5. Adult Education	0.45 hrs.	0.4
6. Children's		
a) Informative	1.27 hrs.	1.0
b) Entertainment	0.88 hrs.	0.7
7. Plays and Serials	3.92 hrs.	3.2
8. Variety Programmes	1.09 hrs.	0.8
9. Quizzes and Panel Games	0.09 hrs.	0.1
10. Sport	1.33 hrs.	1.1
11. Serious Music	16.00 hrs.	13.0
12. Light Popular Music	59.48 hrs.	48.4
13. Women's Programmes	5.12 hrs.	4.2
14. Others	6.32 hrs.	5.2
TOTAL	122.90 hrs.	100

Table 2 **'B' Network—Breakdown of Locally Originated Programmes**

	Weekly Average	%
1. News/Magazines	11.35 hrs.	9.2
2. Talks/Political Talks/Discussions	6.90 hrs.	5.6
3. Religion	4.70 hrs.	3.8
4. Schools	1.16 hrs.	0.9
5. Adult Education	0.45 hrs.	0.4
6. Children's		
a) Informative	1.24 hrs.	1.0
b) Entertainment	0.88 hrs.	0.7
7. Plays and Serials	3.92 hrs.	3.2
8. Variety Programmes	1.05 hrs.	0.8
9. Quizzes and Panel Games	0.09 hrs.	0.1
10. Sport	1.30 hrs.	1.1
11. Serious Music	8.22 hrs.	7.3
12. Light Popular Music	46.65 hrs.	37.9
13. Women's Programmes	5.12 hrs.	4.2
14. Others	6.17 hrs.	5.0
TOTAL	99.20 hrs.	81.2

Table 3

Breakdown of 'A' Network Programmes

	Hours	% of total output
1. News/Magazines	33.93 hrs.	28.42
2. Talks/Political Talks/Discussions	7.27 hrs.	6.14
3. Religion	2.92 hrs.	2.46
4. Schools	—	—
5. Adult Education	5.03 hrs.	4.20
6. Children's Programmes		
a) Informative	0.24 hrs.	0.20
b) Entertainment	0.15 hrs.	0.13
7. Plays and Serials	12.43 hrs.	10.41
8. Variety Programmes	2.37 hrs.	1.98
9. Quizzes and Panel Games	2.12 hrs.	1.78
10. Sport	10.03 hrs.	8.40
11. Serious Music	14.29 hrs.	11.98
12. Light Popular Music	26.01 hrs.	21.97
13. Women's Programmes	0.92 hrs.	0.77
14. Others	1.39 hrs.	1.16
TOTAL	119.10 hrs.	100%

'A' Network Programmes

The 'A' Network of Rediffusion consists in the main of a direct relay of the BBC World Service between 7.00 a.m. and midnight each day of the week.

In order to reach various parts of the world at different listening times, the BBC World Service repeats certain programmes from time to time. The less important of these are replaced by a variety of substitutions of locally produced programmes and by BBC transcription recordings. These are also used to fill the daily period when the BBC World Service is off the air between 9.00 a.m. and 10.00a.m.

The programmes broadcast from the Malta Studios include:

- a weekly play from transcription recordings.
- three topical weekly programmes supplied on tape by the BBC.
- a weekly request programme for Service families in Malta.
- the "Top Twenty" a highly topical weekly disk-jockey programme.
- "Films in Malta", a panel discussion programme, broadcast weekly.

MINISTERIAL BROADCASTS

1. In view of their responsibilities for the care of the nation the Government should be able to broadcast from time to time, Ministerial Broadcasts, which for example, are purely factual, or explanatory of approved legislative or administrative policies or in the nature of appeals to the nation to co-operate in national policies which require the active participation of the public.
2. Such broadcasts must comply with the provisions of the Broadcasting Ordinance, 1961.
3. It will be incumbent on Ministers making such broadcasts to be as impartial as possible, and in the ordinary way there will be no question of a reply.
4. If however a reply is established to the satisfaction of the Authority, the total broadcasting time devoted to such reply or replies will not exceed the duration of the original Ministerial Broadcast. Requests for a reply should be submitted in writing to the Authority within forty-eight hours of a Ministerial Broadcast being made.
5. Except by agreement with the Malta Broadcasting Authority the amount of airtime which may be utilized in any one year (April 1st of one year to March 31st of the next) will not exceed 210 minutes, and any one broadcast will not exceed 30 minutes in length. Ministerial Broadcasts may be on Sound only or on both Sound and Television.
6. All requests for Ministerial Broadcasts are to be made direct to the Authority and reasonable notice given.
7. In the absence of a recording a script of a Ministerial Broadcast should be sent to the Authority.
8. Except by agreement with the Broadcasting Authority Ministerial Broadcasts will not take place during periods when General Election or Referendum Broadcasts are being held.
9. Ministerial Broadcasts do not and are not intended to exhaust the possibilities of Ministers appearing on Sound or Television. Ministers also broadcast by invitation in news interviews, balanced discussions, Radio and Television Press Conferences, outside broadcasts etc. Ministerial Broadcasts come into a separate category because they constitute special time placed at the disposal of Ministers which is availed of at the choice and on the initiative of the Ministers and not either of the Contractors or of the Broadcasting Authority.
10. When any dispute arises over Ministerial Broadcasts the final responsibility remains with the Authority.

DETAILS OF MINISTERIAL BROADCASTS DURING THE PERIOD 1ST APRIL, 1964 TO 31ST MARCH, 1965

Date	Speaker	Duration and Channel
1. 7th May, 1964	Prime Minister	10 minutes on both TV and Sound.
2. 18th September, 1964.	Prime Minister	10 minutes on both TV and Sound.
3. 23rd February, 1965.	Minister of Labour and Social Welfare	13 minutes on both TV and Sound.

REFERENDUM BROADCASTS

The Malta Broadcasting Authority held a meeting with delegates of the five political parties represented in the Legislative Assembly to hear their views on broadcasting facilities prior to the holding of a referendum.

The Authority has given very careful consideration to all the varying views expressed during this meeting and to all the circumstances involved.

The Authority has decided to earmark 120 minutes of airtime for Referendum broadcasts.

The actual division of this airtime into a number of broadcasts, which will be additional to facilities already in being, is as follows: Nationalist Party, 3 broadcasts of 20 minutes each; Malta Labour Party 2 broadcasts of 15 minutes each; Christian Workers Party 1 broadcast of 10 minutes; Democratic Nationalist Party 1 broadcast of 10 minutes and Progressive Constitutional Party 1 broadcast of 10 minutes.

These talks will be screened on Television at 7.30 p.m. and repeated on Sound at 8.00 p.m.

On the assumption that the first day of the Referendum is May 2nd the sequence of these broadcasts, the last five of which have been determined by ballot, is as follows:

Political Party	Date of Broadcast
Nationalist Party	Tuesday, 7th April
Malta Labour Party	Friday, 10th April
Nationalist Party	Tuesday, 14th April
Progressive Constitutional Party	Friday, 17th April
Christian Workers Party	Tuesday, 21st April
Malta Labour Party	Friday, 24th April
Nationalist Party	Tuesday, 28th April
Democratic Nationalist Party	Friday, 1st May.

In the event that the first day of the Referendum will be earlier or later than May 2nd the Malta Broadcasting Authority may modify the above arrangements.

2nd April, 1964.

PARTY POLITICAL BROADCASTS 1964-65

The Malta Broadcasting Authority's allocation of Party Political Broadcasts for 1964-65 is the same as that made in 1963-64.

The series for 1964-65 will come into force as from October 15th and will be as follows (on Sound):

Nationalist Party	22 broadcasts of 20 mins each
Malta Labour Party	14 broadcasts of 20 mins each
Christian Workers Party	7 broadcasts of 10 mins each
Democratic Nationalist Party	7 broadcasts of 10 mins each
Progressive Constitutional Party	2 broadcasts of 10 mins each

The proportion of these broadcasts which may, by seven days notice of the Parties concerned, be given on Television as well as on Sound is as follows:

Nationalist Party	6 broadcasts of 20 mins each
Malta Labour Party	4 broadcasts of 20 mins each
Christian Workers Party	2 broadcasts of 10 mins each
Democratic Nationalist Party	2 broadcasts of 10 mins each
Progressive Constitutional Party	1 broadcast of 5 mins

This series of Party Political Broadcasts is being arranged and will be presented by the Authority on the understanding that there shall be no legal obligation to implement such arrangements and that the Malta Broadcasting Authority may at any time discontinue or suspend these Party Political Broadcasts or make any alterations as it thinks fit. The Authority's decision shall be final on any question which may arise in connection with these broadcasts.

September, 1964.

Procedure governing Party Political Broadcasts

PART I

SOUND BROADCASTS

1. Every broadcast will be transmitted on a Thursday at 8.10 p.m.
2. All broadcasts should be scripted and pre-recorded. Scripts are to reach the Authority's Offices at 12, Old Treasury Street, Valletta, *typewritten and in triplicate*, not later than noon on the Tuesday preceding the broadcast.
3. The script for a ten-minute broadcast should not exceed five foolscap pages, typewritten with double space and a 1½ inch margin (10 pages for a 20-minute broadcast).
4. Provided the Parties inform the Authority in writing at least forty eight hours before the broadcast is due, the Authority will issue a Press Handout giving the name of the speaker or speakers and Party taking part. Rediffusion will also be asked to trail the information on the day of the broadcast.
5. The time allotted to each political party must not be exceeded and there must be no material deviation from the script.
6. The speaker is requested to be at Rediffusion Studios for rehearsal and recording of the talk, on the day of the broadcast at 3.30 p.m. (between 16th June to 30th September, at 10.30 a.m.). Unless the talk is pre-recorded the broadcast cannot take place as scheduled.
7. Neither the Malta Broadcasting Authority nor Rediffusion (Malta) Ltd. can accept any responsibility for any interference with or breakdown of the wired distribution system and cannot bind themselves to repeat any broadcasts that suffer as a result of such interference.
8. Copies of the script of each Party Political Broadcast will, after the broadcast, be sent to the Secretaries of all Parties and will also be available to the Press.
9. The decisions of the Authority on any matter concerning the procedure governing Party Political Broadcasts shall be final.

PART II

TELEVISION BROADCASTS

1. Notice is to be given to the Authority *at least seven clear days* in advance of a proposed Television broadcast. This may be taken — at the option of each of the Parties—on any of the days set aside for the Party as shown on the attached Calendar.
2. Every broadcast on television will also be carried on sound. In order to make this possible the time of a television broadcast will not necessarily be at 8.10 p.m. but may be at any other time as close as possible to 8.10 p.m.

3. All broadcasts are to be scripted and pre-recorded on film. Scripts are to reach the Authority's Offices at 12, Old Treasury Street, Valletta, *typewritten and in triplicate* not later than noon on the Tuesday preceding the broadcast.
4. The speaker is requested to be at MTV Studios at 10.00 a.m. on the Wednesday immediately preceding the broadcast, for the talk to be rehearsed and pre-recorded on film. Unless the talk is pre-recorded the broadcast cannot take place as scheduled.
5. The time allotted to each Political Party must not be exceeded and there must be no material deviation from the script.
6. Neither the Malta Broadcasting Authority nor The Malta Television Service or Rediffusion (Malta) Ltd. can accept any responsibility for any interference with, or breakdown of the wired distribution system or the Television Service and cannot bind themselves to repeat any broadcast that suffer as a result of such interference.
7. The decisions of the Authority on any matter concerning the procedure governing Party Political Broadcasts shall be final.

Malta Broadcasting Authority
September, 1964

CALENDAR OF PARTY POLITICAL BROADCASTS OCTOBER 1964 TO OCTOBER 1965

1	15th October	N.P.	27	15th April	N.P.
2	22nd October	M.L.P.	28	22nd April	C.W.P.
3	29th October	N.P.	29	29th April	N.P.
4	5th November	D.N.P.	30	6th May	M.L.P.
5	12th November	N.P.	31	13th May	D.N.P.
6	19th November	N.P.	32	20th May	N.P.
7	26th November	C.W.P.	33	27th May	C.W.P.
8	3rd December	N.P.	34	3rd June	P.C.P.
9	10th December	M.L.P.	35	10th June	N.P.
10	17th December	N.P.	36	17th June	N.P.
11	24th December	P.C.P.	37	24th June	M.L.P.
12	31st December	M.L.P.	38	1st July	M.L.P.
13	7th January	N.P.	39	8th July	D.N.P.
14	14th January	M.L.P.	40	15th July	M.L.P.
15	21st January	N.P.	41	22nd July	C.W.P.
16	28th January	D.N.P.	42	29th July	N.P.
17	4th February	N.P.	43	5th August	D.N.P.
18	11th February	M.L.P.	44	12th August	M.L.P.
19	18th February	N.P.	45	19th August	C.W.P.
20	25th February	C.W.P.	46	26th August	N.P.
21	4th March	N.P.	47	2nd September	M.L.P.
22	11th March	M.L.P.	48	9th September	D.N.P.
23	18th March	N.P.	49	16th September	N.P.
24	25th March	D.N.P.	50	23rd September	M.L.P.
25	1st April	N.P.	51	30th September	N.P.
26	8th April	M.L.P.	52	7th October	C.W.P.

Note: The proportion of the above broadcasts which may, by seven days notice of the Parties concerned, be transmitted on Television and Sound is as follows:

Nationalist Party	6 20-minute broadcasts
Malta Labour Party	4 20-minute broadcasts
Christian Workers Party	2 10-minute broadcasts
Democratic Nationalist Party	2 10-minute broadcasts
Progressive Constitutional Party	1 5-minute broadcast

ADVISORY COMMITTEES

As on the 31st March, 1965, the membership of the Authority's Advisory Committees appointed under Clause 10 of the Broadcasting Ordinance was as follows:

Religious Broadcasting Advisory Committee

Chairman: Rt. Rev. Mgr. Prof. A. Bonnici

Members: Rt. Rev. Mgr. Prof. J. Lupi
Rt. Rev. Mgr. S. Laspina
Very Rev. Fr. C. Xuereb
Very Rev. Fr. L. Cachia
Very Rev. Fr. N. Cauchi
Rev. Fr. H. Born, O.P.
Rev. Fr. P. Serracino Inglott
Magistrate Dr. J. Formosa, LL.D.
Dr. P. Mallia, LL.D.
Mrs. T. Vassallo Mallia.

Schools Broadcasting Advisory Committee

Chairman: Chev. J.P. Vassallo, O.B.E.

Members: S. Gatt Esq.
Miss M. Mortimer
Mgr. M. Azzopardi
Rev. Fr. P. Cachia, O.P.
F.X. Mangion Esq.
J. Cilia Esq.
Miss R. Chetcuti
Miss M. Attard Gouder
G. Zarb Adami Esq.
Frederick Vella Jones Esq.
Philip Vella Esq.
Miss L. Bugeja.

MALTA BROADCASTING AUTHORITY
— ACCOUNTS — 31ST MARCH 1965
 (Constituted under Ordinance XX of 1961)
BALANCE SHEET AT 31ST MARCH 1965

31st March 1964		Cost			Depreciation Provided			Net		
		£	s	d	£	s	d	£	s	d
£	FIXED ASSETS									
655	Freehold Land	654	18	8	—	—	—	654	18	8
	Office Equipment,									
2,241	Furniture & Fittings	3,690	17	11	1,499	1	2	2,191	16	9
767	Technical Equipment	1,989	3	8	1,005	3	8	984	0	0
189	Studio Equipment	238	0	0	44	16	0	193	4	0
<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>	<hr/>		<hr/>	<hr/>		<hr/>
3,852		6,573	0	3	2,549	0	10	4,023	19	5
	CURRENT ASSETS									
871	Sundry Debtors and Prepayments				359	15	6			
	Cash at Bank:									
	On Savings Account	11,871	15	7						
	Less: On Current Account	548	19	1						
14,640		<hr/>		<hr/>	11,322	16	6			
14	Cash in Hand				3	5	0			
<hr/>					<hr/>		<hr/>			
15,525					11,685	17	0			
	Deduct:									
	CURRENT LIABILITIES									
6,245	Sundry Creditors and Accrued Charges				2,806	13	11			
<hr/>					<hr/>		<hr/>			
9,280	WORKING CAPITAL							8,879	3	1
<hr/>								<hr/>		<hr/>
13,132	NET ASSETS							12,903	2	6
<hr/>								<hr/>		<hr/>

Represented by:

GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTIONS FROM LICENCE FEES

Amount applied for Capital Purposes to date

5,407	(see above)	6,573	0	3
112	Provision for Loss or Damage to Films on hire	262	10	0
7,613	Balance of Income and Expenditure Account (page 49)	6,067	12	3
<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>
13,132		12,903	2	6
<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>

AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE MALTA BROADCASTING AUTHORITY

We have examined the above Balance Sheet and the annexed Income and Expenditure Account which are in agreement with the books and records kept by the Authority. Proper books of account have been kept so far as appears from our examination thereof. In our opinion and according to the information and explanations given to us, the said Balance Sheet presents a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Authority as at 31st March 1965, and of the deficit for the year ended on that date.

**TURQUAND, YOUNGS & CO.
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS**

10 South Street,
Valletta.

MALTA BROADCASTING AUTHORITY
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 1965

Year Ended
31st March

1964

£

£ s d

£ s d

£ s d

INCOME

	Government Contributions from Licence fees				45,000	0	0
52,000							
102	Licence Fees from Contractors				102	0	0
51	Ground Rents				50	16	10
134	Bank Interest				111	8	0
<hr/>					<hr/>		
52,287					45,264	4	10
<hr/>							

Deduct:

	Prescription of Sound Broadcasts in accordance with Clause 12 of an agreement dated 28.9.61 with Rediffusion (Malta) Ltd. (note 2)				8,050	1	9
7,628							
	Contribution towards improvements carried out by Rediffusion (Malta) Ltd.				1,949	18	3
3,722					<hr/>		
<hr/>							
11,350					10,000	0	0
<hr/>							

	Prescription of Television Broadcasts in accordance with Clause 12 of an agreement dated 28.9.61 with The Malta Television Service Ltd. (note 3)				25,252	19	1
27,165							
	carried forward				25,252	19	1
					10,000	0	0
					45,264	4	10

MALTA BROADCASTING AUTHORITY
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 1965

Year Ended
 31st March
 1964

£		£ s d	£ s d	£ s d
27,165	brought forward	25,252 19 1	10,000 0 0	45,264 4 10
	Contribution towards improvements carried out by the Malta Television Service Ltd.	267 0 0		
27,733			25,519 19 1	
39,083				35,519 19 1
13,204				9,744 5 9

Deduct:

13,289	ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES (See Appendix)		12,360 1 10	
	Less: Charged to the cost of programmes prescribed by the Authority:			
(759)	Sound 5.7% — note 2	706 5 9		
(1,899)	Television 14.3% — note 3	1,765 14 3	2,472 0 0	
10,631	20.0%			9,888 1 10
				(143 16 1)

Deduct:

	SPECIAL CHARGE			
	Contribution towards the cost of publication of school magazine—(less charged to contractor £117 14 8)			
615				235 9 3
1,958		carried forward		(379 5 4)

MALTA BROADCASTING AUTHORITY
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 1965

Year Ended
 31st March
 1964

£		£ s d	£ s d
1,958	Brought forward		(379 5 4)
	Deduct:		
1,456	Expended for capital purposes		1,166 1 7
<u>502</u>			<u>(1,545 6 11)</u>
	Add:		
11,629	Balance brought forward from previous year	7,612 19 2	
4,518	Less: allocated to the current year	<u>— — —</u>	
<u>7,111</u>			<u>7,612 19 2</u>
<u>7,613</u>	Balance (page 45)		<u>6,067 12 3</u>

MALTA BROADCASTING AUTHORITY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 1965
NOTES

1. The excess expenditure of the Authority for the year to 31st March 1965 calculated in accordance with Clause 12(3) and (4) of the Ordinance is made up as follows:

	£	s	d
Balance of Income and Expenditure Account	6,067	12	3
Add: Depreciation to Date	2,549	0	10
	8,616	13	1
Less: Sundry Debtors and Prepaid Charges	359	15	6
	8,256	17	7
Less:			
Balance of excess revenue at 31st March 1963	7,805	19	10
Balance of excess revenue at 31st March 1964	490	15	8
	8,296	15	6
Excess Expenditure for the Year	39	17	11

2. The following expenditure was incurred on sound programmes prescribed by the Authority:

1963/64	£	£	s	d	£	s	d
4,132	Salaries and Allowances	4,276	1	11			
610	Scriptwriters' and Actors' Fees	802	13	6			
1,275	Airtime and Studio Charges	1,341	4	6			
64	Records, Tapes and Publications	35	13	7			
350	School Broadcasting Magazine	117	14	8			
—	Training of Staff	218	13	3			
279	Sundry Expenses	303	2	0			
318	Depreciation on Technical Equipment	497	5	2			
(159)	Less: Allocated to Television Broadcasts	248	12	7			
					248	12	7
6,869		7,343	16	0			
759	Proportion of Overhead Expenses (5.7%)	706	5	9			
7,628		(see page 47)	8,050	1	9		

MALTA BROADCASTING AUTHORITY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 1965
NOTES (Continued)

3. The following expenditure was incurred on Television programmes prescribed by the Authority:

1963/64				
£		£	s	d
5,369	Hire of Television Films	4,638	6	6
19,176	Airtime and Studio Charges	17,718	11	9
40	Training of Staff	—	—	—
—	Production of T.V. Documentaries	405	18	11
325	Scripts, Contributors' Fees	327	1	0
177	Sundry Expenses	124	18	1
159	Depreciation on Technical Equipment	248	12	7
21	Depreciation on Studio Furniture	23	16	0
<hr/>		<hr/>		
25,267		23,487	4	10
1,898	Proportion of Overhead Expenses (14.3%)	1,765	14	3
<hr/>		<hr/>		
27,165	(see page 47)	25,252	19	1
<hr/>		<hr/>		

MALTA BROADCASTING AUTHORITY
ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 1965

Year Ended 31st March 1964			£ s d	£ s d
£				
1,631	Honoraria to Board Members			1,560 13 2
7,959	Wages and Salaries			7,051 9 1
463	Rent of Offices			489 0 0
403	Stationery			300 10 2
262	Water, Electricity and Telephones			262 3 7
74	Transport			89 17 11
150	Audit Fees			270 0 0
94	Sundry Expenses			113 2 5
17	Messenger's Uniforms			19 17 6
46	National Insurance Contributions			42 5 10
310	Legal Fees and Expenses			425 13 2
125	Postages and Telegrams			173 8 2
112	Subscriptions to Newspapers etc.			124 19 4
192	Duty Visits Abroad			192 8 0
180	Training of Staff			— — —
192	Staff Superannuation Scheme			379 6 8
99	Entertainment and Hospitality			117 15 2
	Overseas Travelling and Repatriation			
227	Expenses of Chief Executive			— — —
166	Visiting Lecturers			— — —
62	Rentals Wired Sound and Television Sets			20 17 9
43	Maintenance and Repairs			214 14 0
	Depreciation:			
207	Furniture and Fittings	10 %	228 8 0	
185	Office Equipment	20 %	231 3 4	
90	Soft Furniture	33½ %	52 8 7	
				<hr/>
				511 19 11
				<hr/>
13,289		(see page 48)	12,360	1 10

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