

BROADCASTING AUTHORITY

**ANNUAL REPORT
AND ACCOUNTS**

1974 - 75



MALTA

BROADCASTING AUTHORITY
FOURTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

Covering July 31st, 1974 - 31st March, 1975

THE AUTHORITY

The Constitution provides for a Broadcasting Authority for Malta which in terms of the Broadcasting Ordinance, 1961, is made up of not less than four nor more than six members other than the Chairman.

The actual composition of the Authority on the 31st March, 1975 was as follows:

Professor Carmelo Coleiro, M.D.	- Chairman
Mr. Gontran Borg, F.C.I.S., C.P.A.,) F.R. Econ.S., A.T.I.I., D.P.A.)	
Mr. Nicholas Debono	
Dr. Albert Manche', LL.D.	- Members
Mr Emanuel C. Tabone	

The members of the Broadcasting Authority are appointed by the President of the Republic acting in accordance with the advice of the Prime Minister given after he has consulted the Leader of the Opposition. The present members of the Authority were initially appointed for a period of one year as from the 23rd April, 1974. Their term of office was extended for a further annual period which expires on the 22nd April, 1976.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN BROADCASTING

At its first public pronouncement after the General Election, through the Governor-General's (now The President) speech from the Throne, the new Administration made clear its policy on broadcasting. There was to be a point in time when broadcasting was to pass to the public sector. As early as December 1971, the Broadcasting Authority supported Government's plans to shift the broadcasting media into the public sector.

On two separate occasions the Authority offered its good Offices to its Contractors to see the beginning of negotiations which, in the opinion of the Authority, would have benefited the Rediffusion Group of Companies. All approaches made by the Authority were received coolly by the Rediffusion Management.

Negotiations between Government and the Rediffusion Group began towards the end of 1973. Although the Authority was not involved in these discussions, it is known from statements in Parliament that these negotiations continued throughout 1974 but no conclusions were reached. The breakdown of the negotiations was coupled with a second breakdown in labour relations. The General Workers

Union declared in a public statement that no agreement had been reached between the Union and the Management as to the terminal benefits that would be paid to Company staff were the Company to terminate its activities in Malta. On February 14, 1975 the workers of the Rediffusion Group of Companies members of the General Workers Union occupied the premises of Rediffusion and the Malta Television Service and declared a sit-in. For a few days the Wired Sound and the Television Service remained closed. On the 19th February, 1975 the workers commenced radio and television operations on their own.

The commencement of operations by the workers of Rediffusion divided the Authority itself as to whether it was the Authority's responsibility to enter into the merits of this issue. The Authority which had not been party to either the negotiations between the Rediffusion and MTV management and Government, or the Rediffusion and MTV management and The General Workers Union decided that the problem that had arisen should be solved by the parties who had been involved in the original discussions.

On February 24th, 1975 Government introduced a Bill legalising past and future activities of the workers of Rediffusion and MTV and setting up an Emergency Council made up of workers from the two Companies.

In April 1975, Government decided that all broadcasting operations were to be grouped together under the Emergency Council and that the former Rediffusion, Malta Television and Radio Malta would be grouped under a new name "Broadcasting Malta" in a new corporation to be known as Telemalta. The Corporation would group together all the communications media i.e. the former telephone department, the former Cable and Wireless and the former Rediffusion, M.T.V. and Radio Malta. Telemalta is run by a Chairman and members under the Minister of Development. Each section is then run by its own management.

Meanwhile, all members of the broadcasting staff of the Broadcasting Authority were transferred to and engaged by the Emergency Council and all broadcasting equipment previously purchased or acquired by the Broadcasting Authority was also transferred to the Emergency Council.

PARTY POLITICAL BROADCASTS

The Broadcasting Ordinance requires the Authority to satisfy itself that, amongst other things, "no matter designed to serve the interests of any political party is included in the programmes". However, this obligation does not prevent the Authority from organising a scheme of Party Political Broadcasts which, in terms of the law, "fairly apportions facilities and time between persons holding different points of view".

The Authority fulfils this requirement by basing its scheme of political broadcasts on a strictly mathematical formula which reflects the parties' numerical strength in the House of Representatives. Two schemes were in operation during the year under review. The first series of broadcasts which expired in November, 1974 allocated airtime in the proportion 28:27 - the Malta Labour Party having had 28 elected representatives in Parliament which consists of 55 members. Following a change in the parties' representation in Parliament, the Malta Labour Party requested the Authority to revise its airtime allocation in the proportion MLP 29: MP 26. The Authority decided to review the position after the expiry of the first series of broadcasts. This revision was carried out in consultation with the parties and, as a result, the following scheme emerged:

Malta Labour Party

- 4 Talks of 15 minutes each and 1 Talk of 10 minutes
- 3 Political Conferences of 56 minutes each and 1 of 41 minutes
- 2 Press Conferences of 56 minutes each

Nationalist Party

4 Talks of 15 minutes each

3 Political Conferences of 56 minutes each

2 Press Conferences of 56 minutes each

In addition, both parties were offered participation in 4 debates of 51 minutes each.

As in former years, the parties were free to select their own subject on an alternate basis. The parties could also exercise the option to have Political talks in interview form. The overall number of broadcasts in this series was 24. The Scheme came into operation in January 1975 for a period of one year.

During the course of the year, the Authority dealt with several incidents which arose between the representatives of the Parties during political programmes in which both political parties were represented. In the interests of good programming and to preserve adequate broadcasting standards, the Authority renews its appeal to the parties to observe the rules and abide by the instructions of the presiding Chairman. The Authority acknowledges its gratitude to the gentlemen who accepted nomination as Chairman of these programmes for their efforts to maintain strict impartiality and order.

MINISTERIAL BROADCASTS

In view of the Government's responsibilities for the care of the nation, the Authority provides airtime and facilities for a special category of broadcasts which are availed of on the initiative of Ministers. These Ministerial Broadcasts are meant to enable the Government to explain approved legislative measures on administrative policies to the public and, in the ordinary way, do not call for a reply. However, the Authority's regulations provide for the granting of a reply when it is proved to the satisfaction of the Authority that the original broadcast did not keep to its intended scope.

During the course of the year, the Authority reviewed its policy on Ministerial Broadcasts and decided to increase by 30 minutes the amount of airtime placed at Government's disposal in any one year. The airtime which may be used for this purpose now stands at 240 minutes. Another amendment to the previous rules concerned broadcasts by the Prime Minister which take the form of "addresses to the nation" and are clearly indicated as such. The Authority decided that these broadcasts do not come within the category of Ministerial Broadcasts and any airtime utilised for this purpose is not deductible from the annual airtime provision set aside for Ministerial Broadcasts. These provisions and the method of application of the general rules governing Ministerial Broadcasts were contested by the Nationalist Party.

The airtime available for this purpose during 1974-75 was fully utilised by Government. The following are the details of the Ministerial Broadcasts delivered during the year:

19th November, 1974	The Hon. Paul Xuereb, Minister of Trade Industry & Tourism	Review of Ministerial Activities (16 minutes)
3rd December	The Hon. Freddie Micallef, Minister of Agriculture & Fisheries	" (18 minutes)
10th December	The Hon. Patrick Holland, Minister of Housing and Land	" (16 minutes)
17th December	The Hon. Joseph Abela, Minister of Finance, Customs and Ports	" (20 minutes)
14th January, 1975	The Hon. Anton Buttigieg Minister of Justice and Parliamentary Affairs	" (15 minutes)
27th January	The Hon. Joseph Cassar Minister of Education and Culture	Setting up of "Dirghajn il- Maltin" - a Student/Worker Corps (34 minutes)
28th January	The Hon. Lorry Sant, Minister of Public Building & Works	Review of Ministerial Activities (20 minutes)

11th February, 1975	The Hon. Daniel Piscopo, Minister of Posts and Electricity	Review of Ministerial Activities (25 minutes)
24th February	The Hon. Wistin Abela Minister of Development	" (12 minutes)
25th February	The Hon. Albert Hyzler, Minister of Health	" (25 minutes)
18th March	The Hon. Agatha Barbara Minister of Labour, Employment & Welfare	" (25 minutes)
25th March	The Hon. Joseph Cassar, Minister of Education and Culture	" (13 minutes)

The right of reply was requested by the Nationalist Party on four occasions. In accordance with established policy, the Authority considered each case on its merits having regard to the specific points raised in each case by the Nationalist Party. Two requests were acceded to by the Authority and replies were broadcast as follows:

26th November, 1974	The Hon. Michael Refalo on behalf of the Nationalist Party in reply to the Ministerial Broadcast delivered on the 19th November (8 minutes).
1st April, 1975	The Hon. Eddie Fenech Adami on behalf of the Nationalist Party in reply to the Ministerial Broadcast delivered on the 18th March (12 minutes).

RADIO PROGRAMMING

Previous Annual Reports carried details about the advent of radio in Malta. The first local wireless sound broadcasting service was inaugurated in January, 1973. It struggled at first, gradually gained strength and finally thrived. Further progress in this field was recorded during the year with the opening of a music service and an international service, the latter having been inaugurated on the 8th September, 1974. These developments completed the Authority's original plans for the establishment of radio services which, in a surprisingly short period, provided listeners with two home services with a combined output of 36 programme hours daily and laid down the foundations for an external broadcasting service.

While Radio continued to grow physically, there were changes in its programme content and in the listening pattern of its audience. Although radio continued to be a predominantly entertainment medium, its informative and educational aspects were strengthened and adapted to the particular requirements of radio. News bulletins, reports from Parliament, sport commentaries, discussion and cultural programmes, weather reports and financial news (of interest to the business community) served to enhance the native power of radio to create further interest in the medium. Radio has the unique feature and function of flexibility which has been used to serve the individual needs of people at different times of the day in various locations.

The following is a representative sample of the type of programmes broadcast by Radio Malta during the year:

"IL-FOLKLORISTI" (The Folk Singers) A series of 45-minute programmes featuring "The Greenfields" - a very popular Maltese trio who has done a great deal to engage public interest in Maltese folk singing. The group toured practically all towns and villages in Malta and took part in several overseas contests.

The programme included traditional Maltese "ghana" "folk songs and impromptu singing in ballad style).

"MILL-GHERF U L-GMIEL TA' L-IMGHODDI" An Analysis of ancient relatively forgotten Maltese books and manuscripts in the fields of Art, Science, Literature and other Sectors.

These 15-minute programmes were well presented and amply documented by a specialist in the Maltese language.

"X'TGHID L-ISTORJA" (Historical Reflections) This programme attempted to set out a critical analysis of recorded history as it unfolds through the ages. The history of Malta is, of course, prominently featured and dealt with in chronological order. The series included information about such aspects of Maltese history as Malta in medieval times; the coming of the Knights; the building of Valletta and its uses, in those times, as part of the Island's fortifications network.

"PJANTI MEDICINALI MALTIN" (Maltese plants with medicinal properties) This series of 15-minute programmes dealt with a wide range of plant life and included some of the less known herbs and some which are exclusively found in Malta. Recipes for a variety of home-made drinks were included in most of the programmes.

"MALTESE LEGENDS" Another interesting series of 15-minute programmes which reflected the way in which our ancestors used to live.

These colourful and vividly related episodes in the history of the Maltese people, partly based on Historical fact and partly on tradition, are inextricably linked with the Maltese way of life and the people's religious beliefs.

"ART TWELIDI" (My Country) These half-hour programmes were produced with the aim of providing listeners with information about the history of Malta in general and about their town or village in particular. This was a question and answer programme in which active listener participation was encouraged. Questions ranged from information about specific historical monuments to the Maltese railway which disappeared from the local scene some sixty years ago.

"RADIO DRAMA" In a full year, Radio Malta produced more than fifty hours of drama which contributed towards an overall balance in programme fare. Radio drama has a technique of its own based on a build-up of the listener's imagination which, with experienced actors and with the help of suitable music and sound effects, creates an illusion of reality. Care is

taken to ensure that the listener is offered an adequately varied range and style in drama programming. Radio plays are very much in demand by Maltese listeners. This can be gauged from the number of requests received to increase the output as well as by the number of those who applied for audition to test their acting capabilities.

"POPULAR MUSIC" Radio Malta broadcast a wide variety of popular music on its home frequencies. These included a daily morning show and the afternoon programme "Antenna" which is a marathon mixture of "pop" music with brief and attractively presented items of general interest between records. Local and foreign hit parades as well as record request programmes guaranteed the wide following of which the station was justifiably proud.

"WOMEN'S PROGRAMMES" Audience research has shown that the Station's female listeners are interested in various types of programmes but, as expected, their main interests were well catered for in a daily programme "Għan-Nisa Maltin u Għawdzin" which had a large following. Besides the normal items of interest to women, the programme included contributions by experts on various aspects of life in the home, at work and other interests which help towards making life easier and more pleasant. Cultural interests such as music and literature appreciation were encouraged.

"HUMOUR ON RADIO" A sense of humour is not merely a desirable part of modern man's social equipment, but an essential part. Nobody appreciated this more than Radio Malta's team of humourists - Charles Clews, Johnny Navarro, Armando Urso and Vitorin Galea.

With these four well-known personalities, radio comedy took off into its own unique realms of fancy and imagination. "L-Unoristi" presented a mixture of jokes, sketches - in poetry and verse - and even excerpts from historical episodes, naturally, all in a humorous vein.

"Book Reviews" Book publication is a continuous process and the programme "Kotba Godda" attempted to review some of the more important local and foreign works by brief and well prepared summaries which were meant to provide the listener with an insight of the work concerned.

During the year, the producer of this half-hour programme interviewed a great number of Maltese authors who spoke about their literary contributions and their plans for the future in the literary field. The series included several well-known Maltese authors amongst whom were Francis Ebejer, Anton Buttigieg, Kilin, George Zammit, Wallace Gulio and Trevor Zahra.

"SERIOUS MUSIC" Radio Malta provided a considerable amount of music through its three services. Serious music was well represented, and such programmes as the weekly concert, "Immortal Melodies" and the morning classical music slot on Radio Malta 2 had a devoted following. Every effort was made to ensure that they maintained high quality and standards of performance.

THE NEWS SERVICE

In the year under review the local and foreign news service of Radio Malta continued to provide detailed and extensive coverage of local and foreign events under the terms required of such services by the Broadcasting Ordinance. The impartiality of the Authority's news service on Radio Malta was disputed on a number of occasions. In each instance the Authority examined the complaints raised but did not find justification for them.

Changes were effected to the daily news schedule to provide for more news outlets during the year under review. The local and foreign news headlines broadcast in the afternoons were separated into two different slots.

Another change was the re-slotting of the World news bulletin which used to follow immediately after the Malta News at 18.00 hours. The foreign news was scheduled for an hour later.

From December 1, 1974, a new programme was introduced by agreement with the political parties. The programme "Attivitajiet Politici" caters for all political activities which take place during the week. Hard news arising from political meetings and conferences was also carried in local news bulletins.

Parliamentary coverage introduced during the latter part of last year continued to have a very wide listenership. The original format was retained throughout the year with a first direct broadcast at 21.02 hours and a second report at 22.45 hours. The full report is then re-broadcast the following day after the Malta News Bulletin at Midday.

During the year under review, the Radio Malta News Division retained five full-time journalists and increased its part-time journalists by three. The Station also kept permanent correspondents at the House of Representatives, the Law Courts, the Civil Airport and Gozo.

On the Musical Programme of Radio Malta the system of news presentation introduced on May 1, 1974, was also retained. On this network, news items are included between records and read on service, as the news becomes available.

With the introduction of the International Service of Radio Malta, the news division commenced a daily Malta News Bulletin in the Italian language. This bulletin is broadcast at 14.00 hours.

Other productions by the news room staff are two weekly half-hour current affairs programmes:

"Mill-Ahbarijiet tal-Gimgha" - is broadcast on Sundays and consists of interviews with the newsmakers of the week.

"Lill Hinn Mix-Kefaq" - is also broadcast on Sundays. This programme gives the background to major items of foreign news.

DAILY NEWS SCHEDULE

- 06.00 to 08.00 - Foreign news items in 'Merħba'
- 06.30 - Malta News Summary of the last 24 hours
- 07.30 - Malta News Summary
- 08.25 - World News Headlines
- 10.00 - World News Headlines
- 12.00 - Malta News Bulletin
(on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays,
followed by re-broadcast of parliamentary
report of the previous night's sitting)
- 12.15 - World News Bulletin
(Mondays, Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays)
- 12.40 - World News Bulletin
(Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays)
- 16.30 - Malta News in Brief
- 17.00 - World News in Brief
- 18.00 - Malta News Bulletin
- 19.00 - World News Bulletin
- 21.00 - Local News Headlines
(First direct broadcast from Parliament
on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays)
- 21.15 - Malta News Bulletin
followed by
- World News Bulletin
followed by
- Local and Foreign News Headlines
- 22.45 - Second direct broadcast from Parliament
on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays

COMMONWEALTH BROADCASTING CONFERENCE

The tenth conference of the Commonwealth Broadcasting Association was held in Malta between the 17th and 26th September, 1974. The conference was originally due to take place in Cyprus but owing to political events in that country, the Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation gave notice that it was unable to host the conference and the venue was changed to Malta.

With a few weeks' notice, the Authority had to make preparations to host a conference which was attended by a record number of delegates representing most of the 41 member organisations. The Conference was inaugurated by the Hon. Dr. Anton Buttigieg, Deputy Prime Minister of Malta. Before Dr. Buttigieg's inaugural speech, the Conference was addressed by the Chairman and by the Chief Executive of the Authority. At its first Plenary Session, the Conference elected Mr. Joseph Grima, the Authority's Chief Executive, as its Chairman. This session was also addressed by Mr Arnold Smith the then Commonwealth Secretary-General who described the Association as "one of the most important elements in the machinery of Commonwealth cooperation".

The business of the Conference was discussed during lengthy meetings of the Programme and Administrative Committee and the Engineering Committee. The Authority was represented on both committees. The Programme and Administrative Committee discussed a wide range of subjects including Training, Space Communication, the Role of Radio, Television Development, Educational Broadcasting, Advertising Codes and Practices, Political Pressures in Broadcasting, News and Current Affairs, Programme Cooperation and Exchange and Problems for Management including Finance, Staff, Copyright and Industrial Relations.

The Engineering Agenda included Cable Television; Automation and Computer Control; Development of Satellite Broadcasting; Management and Cost Control; Training; Operation and Maintenance Procedures and Future Events such as the International Telecommunications Union LF/MF Conference.

Discussions on all these items in both Committees were backed by the presentation of professional papers on the subjects by the various member organisations.

The Authority's delegates took an active part in the discussion and, at the final Plenary Session, tabled a resolution on cooperation and mutual assistance among the Association's member organisations. The resolution which was adopted by the Conference reads as follows:-

"REALISING that the historical basis of the Commonwealth Broadcasting Association is one of mutual cooperation and assistance between members and accepting that this has to be given tangible effect, the Conference RECOMMENDS that, where possible:

- (i) In the field of television, member organisations should consider making available programmes of an educational and entertainment nature to other organisations, at a nominal fee.
- (ii) Organisations which have already converted to colour, or which may be preparing for the advent of colour, and which may have superfluous monochrome

equipment on hand, should consider making it available, at nominal rates, to other Commonwealth broadcasting organisations which may need it or which, for economic reasons, may not find it possible to convert in the foreseeable future.

- (iii) The Secretariat take the appropriate action to give this effect."

The Authority, with the full cooperation of the Minister responsible for Tourism and the Malta Government Tourist Board laid on an extensive programme of entertainment for the visiting delegates some of whom were accompanied by their wives.

The Authority has been a member of the Association since 1963 and its representatives attended three previous conferences which were held in Nigeria (1965), Jamaica (1970) and Kenya (1972).

In addition to the general conferences of the Association which are held every two years a Standing Committee which is the policy-making body of the Association between Conferences was appointed. The Chief Executive was elected a member of this Committee.

SPECIAL EVENTS

- | | | |
|----------------------|---|---|
| November 15, 1974 | - | Tokyo Song Festival |
| December 13, 1974 | - | Malta Becomes A Republic |
| December 19/21, 1974 | - | Visit of President of the
Libyan Arab Republic,
Colonel Muammar Gaddafi |
| January 8, 1975 | - | 2nd Anniversary Celebrations
Radio Malta - Plaza Theatre
Sliema. |
| February 1, 1975 | - | Malta Song Festival,
Alhambra Theatre. |

MALTA BECOMES A REPUBLIC - FRIDAY 13TH DECEMBER, 1974

A direct broadcast was made from the Hall of St. Michael and St. George at the Palace, Valletta on Friday, December 13th, 1974, to bring to the Maltese public the historical events which changed Malta's constitutional status from a monarchy to that of a Republic within the Commonwealth.

The coverage included the oath of allegiance to the people and the constitution of Malta and the oath of office by the first President of the Republic Sir Anthony Mamo who was followed by the Prime Minister, Mr Dom Mintoff, members of the Cabinet, the Leader of the Opposition and all members of The House of Representatives.

At the end of the ceremony, The President addressed the people of Malta from the main balcony of the Palace. The speech was also broadcast live. The whole ceremony was re-broadcast in full the next day after the Malta news bulletin at midday, with an edited version on Sunday in a special edition of "Mill-Ahbarijiet tal-Gimgha".

VISIT TO MALTA BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE LIBYAN ARAB
REPUBLIC COLONEL MUAMMAR GADDAFI BETWEEN 19TH
AND 21ST DECEMBER 1974

Full coverage was given on Radio Malta to the official three-day visit to Malta by the President of the Libyan Arab Republic, Colonel Muammar Gaddafi from the 19th to 21st December, 1974.

Direct broadcasts with commentaries were made on the following days:-

Thursday, 19th December, from Luqa Airport -

Arrival of the Libyan Leader.

Friday, 20th December

Official opening of the new Libyan Cultural Centre by the Libyan President. Speeches were made by Col. Gaddafi, The Minister for Education & Culture, Dr. Joseph Cassar and the Libyan Ambassador for Malta Mr Mohammed Jallala. The ceremony was relayed live.

Before ending his visit, on Saturday 21st December, the Libyan Leader addressed both members of the House of Representatives at the Palace in Valletta. Speeches were also made by the Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister for Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Dr. Anton Buttigieg, and the Deputy Leader of the Opposition Dr. Vincent Tabone. This ceremony was also broadcast live.

The last direct commentary was made from Luqa Airport to cover the departure of the Libyan President.

SECOND ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION - AL BANO SHOW FROM
PLAZA THEATRE IN SLIEMA, 8TH JANUARY, 1975

As part of the official programme to commemorate the second anniversary from the setting up of Radio Malta, a four-hour live show was broadcast direct from the Plaza Theatre in Sliema on Wednesday, 8th January, 1975.

The Main attraction of the Show was the Italian popular singer Al Bano, who was invited to Malta for this special occasion. Supporting cast was made up of Renato and the Aquarius, Joe Cutajar and the Hilton-Falconaires, the Maltese folk group the Greenfields, and the comical group who appeared regularly on Radio Malta's programme called "L-Umoristi". The show was introduced by Daniele Piombi and Norman Hamilton.

The Theatre was filled to capacity and the list of distinguished guests was headed by the Acting Prime Minister Dr. Anton Buttigieg. Also present were the Hon. Minister of Health and Mrs Hyzler, members of the Diplomatic Corps, the Chairman of the Broadcasting Authority and Mrs Coleiro, and other distinguished guests.

WORLD POPULAR SONG FESTIVAL, TOKYO, NOVEMBER 1974

Following the visit to Malta of two officials from the 'World Popular International Song Festival of Tokyo' and after talks held at the Broadcasting Authority's Offices between the Japanese representatives, Radio Malta and Rediffusion, it was agreed that Malta was to be offered the same facilities as in previous years to enter the Tokyo Festival. This meant that after a national selection process on the Island, in which broadcasters would be directly involved, Malta would gain automatic entry into the semi-finals in Tokyo.

The Authority set up an organising committee under the chairmanship of Mr E.C. Tabone. The Committee included representatives of the Authority, Radio Malta, Rediffusion, Malta Television and the Guild of Maltese Composers and Authors. (UKAM).

22 Compositions from Maltese composers were received, out of which "WORLD OF SUNSHINE" with words and music by Carmen Gusman was chosen to represent Malta in Tokyo in November, 1974. The song was interpreted in the festival by ENZO GUSMAN.

Malta's delegation to this festival was led by Mr Tabone and included Enzo and Carmen Gusman. Although "World of Sunshine" did not qualify for the finals it was well received during the festival.

MUSIC FESTIVALS IN MALTA

On Saturday, February 1, 1975, The Sixteenth Malta Song Festival was broadcast live on Radio Malta from the Alhambra Theatre. Ten compositions were interpreted in Maltese and English. Five had to emerge as finalists for the "Song for Europe" Contest organised by the Broadcasting Authority.

Other direct broadcasts were those of the "Malta Folk Song Contest" on 30th November 1974 from the University Theatre, Tal-Qroqq, and the "International Christmas Song Festival", from the Catholic Institute, On Saturday 14th December, 1974.

SCHOOL BROADCASTING

During 1974/75 school broadcasts were relayed as follows:

<u>PRIMARY</u>	- Sound	- 177 broadcasts
	TV	- 18 programmes
<u>SECONDARY</u>	- Sound	- 29 broadcasts
	TV	- 74 (148 transmissions)

PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Subject areas covered by sound broadcasts for Primary Schools were Religion, Maltese, English, Science and Social Studies whereas Television covered History, Geography, Crafts and Science.

A prominent feature of some of the sound broadcasts was the active participation of children in them. A new Social Studies series for Year 5 was particularly interesting in this regard. A number of schools were invited to carry out research about a given topic. Some of the more fluent children who took part in the research were then asked to talk about their experiences - which they did rather successfully. It is hoped that similar broadcasts will be held in the future.

With regard to television, teachers complain that the number of transmissions (18 in all) is far too small to really be effective. It is felt that more use can be made at Primary level of this medium so that the use of the television medium in schools can be put to better advantage.

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

A new experimental English series called JOHN AND SUSAN was transmitted in the first term. The aim of the programmes was to provide help for remedial Form I classes. The series met with limited success due mainly to the fact that the standard of English of these remedial classes is extremely low and consequently programmes were found to be advanced.

Another new series - SCIENCE for Forms V designed to provide help with some of the more difficult areas of the syllabus had a much better reception - although judging by reports, it seems that programmes were more beneficial to single subject specialists.

SCIENCE ONE - for Forms I was remade and reduced from 25 to 15. The new look programmes were quite well received too, though teachers were not at all keen on the reduction in the number of transmissions.

SCIENCE for Forms II was shown for the third consecutive year. It is intended to transmit an entirely new series in the coming year.

In addition, filmed versions of JULIUS CAESAR by William Shakespeare and George Eliot's SILAS MARNER were transmitted in April for the benefit of those students who were taking their GCE in June.

Schools Broadcasting Advisory Committee 1974/76

Dr. F. Chetcuti, Director of Education, Chairman
 Mr A. Depares
 Mr L. Farrugia
 Miss H. Borg Bonnici
 Mr M. Sultana
 Mr C. Carrugia
 Rev. B. Mangion M.S.S.P.
 Mr L. Mizzi S.B.O.
 Mr C.J. Xerri (Secretary)

EUROVISION SONG CONTEST, 1975

It is with satisfaction that the Authority records Malta's placing in this year's Eurovision Song Contest, which was held in Stockholm, Sweden, on 22nd March, 1975.

Malta's representative RENATO placed twelfth out of 19 participating countries with "Singing This Song", composed by Sammy Galea, with lyrics by Charles Mifsud. The Maltese entry collected 32 points with votes coming from the Netherlands, France, Luxembourg, Norway, Switzerland, Yugoslavia, Belgium, Israel and Turkey.

Preparation for Malta's participation in the Eurovision Festival, after an absence of two years, started in October, 1974, with the formation of an Organising committee. This was chaired by Mr. E.C. Tabone, Board member, and was made up of the Chief Executive of the Broadcasting Authority, Mr Joseph Grima, together with representatives of Radio Malta, Rediffusion, Malta Television, the Guild of Maltese Composers and Authors (UKAM) and the Malta Song Festival Board.

54 original compositions were submitted, out of which ten were chosen to participate in the Malta Song Festival, which was staged at the Alhambra Theatre in Sliema on February 1, 1975.

The five winning songs which emerged from the festival were then presented in a television programme "Kanzunetta għall-Ewropa" a few days later. The singers were accompanied by a 22-piece orchestra and the five songs with musical arrangements by Bill Le Sage were pre-recorded for the programme.

The voting system was similar to that used during the 1972 contest.

The jury was divided in two sections. The first section, composed of two representatives from each of the ten districts in Malta and Gozo, was present at the television studios. The twenty members of this panel each had one point at their disposal which had to be given to one of the five songs in accordance with individual preference.

The second panel was made up of eight persons selected by the organising committee and each member of the panel had ten points at his disposal to be allocated as follows: Six points for the best song; three points for the song which was second in order of preference and one point for the third song preferred. This jury viewed the programme at Television House and was linked to the MTV studio by telephone. This panel was chaired by EMI Artistic Director Bruno Tibaldi, who came to Malta for this purpose.

Following discussions in Rome between the Director General of EMI Italiana, Dottor Ramon Lopez Serrano and the Chief Executive of the Authority, Mr Joseph Grima, agreement was reached for EMI to provide all technical services and facilities for Malta's Song entry to the Eurovision Song Contest.

The agreement placed at the Authority's disposal the company's technical knowhow in the popular music field and included provisions for a new musical arrangement and for the song to be recorded at EMI studios in Rome. "Singing this Song" was released as a single in France, Spain, Sweden, Belgium, Austria and Brazil as well as in Malta.

EMI also offered the services of its publicity, public relations and promotional departments to the Broadcasting Authority.

The Authority's Chief Executive also finalised arrangements with RAI for the provision of the necessary facilities for a colour video tape recording of the Maltese entry. This recording featured in special preview programmes shown on TV stations of the countries participating in the European Festival.

The Maltese Carnival was used as background to the Maltese song. Carnival scenes were selected from films belonging to the Department of Information and to the Malta Government Tourist Board.

38 Television services in 35 countries transmitted the Malta film and the Eurovision Song Contest itself.

THE MALTA TELEVISION SERVICE LIMITEDPART I - NOTES ON LOCALLY ORIGINATED PROGRAMMES

The locally originated output, including news and current affairs programmes accounted for around 36% of the total transmission time during the period under review. Well over a third of the local output was of a serious and informative nature.

PROGRAMMES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Most of the programmes in this category were designed for teenage audiences in an effort to foster a greater awareness of the medium as a vehicle for the expression and exchange of ideas. Programmes succeeded in attracting a steady audience and in stimulating considerable feedback. The series incorporating around 60 one-hour programmes, featured among other things a course on film appreciation, debates, literary contributions from young people, a history of popular music, unusual past times, interior decor, items planned to commemorate International Women's Year and a quiz for secondary school students on subjects closely related to the curriculum.

Programmes for children in the 5 to 12 year age group, presented in a magazine format, concentrated mainly on topics aimed to promote civic sense. Each magazine provided a combination of elements representing interests and responsibilities of the child in his little world.

Items, sometimes presented in a humorous manner, included ecological aspects, life and customs of children in other countries, dramatised situations depicting relationship with others and road sense.

Competitions and exhibitions were held in conjunction with the series produced in this category.

LIGHT ENTERTAINMENT

Around 40 programmes of music/variety nature varying from 15 to 60 minutes were produced during the year. All programmes provided a vehicle for local talent with "guest spots" for visiting entertainers. Folk music and song sustained their popularity.

MAGAZINE PROGRAMMES

The fortnightly cultural magazine "Prizma" provided a collage of comments, information and criticism on artistic activity including drama, architecture, music, literature, folklore and other forms of audio and visual expression. The principal art exhibitions were comprehensively covered as were most of the literary publications and recent additions to libraries. The magazine also featured extracts from performances by visiting ballet troupes.

The weekly Sports magazine and results of weekend sport activities continued on a regular basis. Special events and international meetings held on the island were given coverage in additional reports and features mounted for the occasion.

A number of changes were made in the format and content of the Women's magazine. Items on books, dress design and diet were introduced and a series of short items dealt with women's role in a developing society in commemoration of International Women's Year.

DOCUMENTARIES

Around 30 documentary programmes varying from 20 to 60 minutes were produced during the year. Foremost among these were the programmes commemorating anniversaries, a series about Malta during the Second World War and another about places of historic and social importance. All three series entailed considerable research and interviews with personalities who witnessed or recalled incidents related to the subject. Most of the programmes were filmed on location while others required the staging and shooting of simulated action sequences in order to bring to life unrecorded episodes.

Other programmes dealt with Malta's architectural heritage, private collections, museums, interiors of stately homes as well as palaces and cathedral treasures.

During the Summer months a short series of semi-documentary features presented visual aspects of present day village life during the hot season through a combination of filmed reactions of people during their work and leisure hours. These reactions were then compared and contrasted to documented evidence in the form of prose and poetry relating to the behaviour of past generations in similar situations.

DRAMA

Nine plays were produced during the year. Four of these were written by Maltese playwrights and the rest were translated and freely adapted from works by foreign authors. Some plays were grouped in series of three by the same author showing different facets of his work. The first series featured works by Luigi Pirandello.

RELIGIOUS

The weekly programme presented in "magazine" and "inquiry" formats on alternate weeks, continued on a regular basis with a replacement during the summer months. The summer series of 13 programmes was devoted to an analysis of the practice of religious belief and principles, their validity and application to the modern social concept. Special reference was made to the study of factors which could minimise the prevalent passive and superficial attitude toward faith. Special programmes were also produced during the Christmas and Easter periods including, among others a 70-minute documentary commemorating the 50th anniversary of the episcopate; Easter traditions and life in a convent.

ADULT EDUCATION

There were two series in this category both designed to appeal to the home handyman. The first dealt with a step by step introduction to woodworking tools and their application in the manufacture of small items of furniture and fittings well within reach of the home amateur. A set

of notes and diagrams were made available free as a follow-up to the explanation and demonstrations made during the programmes. The second series, also designed for the home handyman, had a much wider scope - covering principles involved in tackling various odd jobs in the home including plastering, plumbing, electrical fittings and light metal work.

PUBLIC SERVICE BROADCASTS

Most Campaigns originated by Government Departments were given comprehensive coverage. Major campaigns promoted included Carnival Festivities, the Water situation, the collection of funds for Cypriot refugees, cessation of legal tender for Banknotes and the Identity Card system. Ministers and government officials broadcast messages on the occasion of "World Days" - Environment Day, Europe Day, UN Day, World Health Day and others.

PART II - IMPORTED PROGRAMMES

The documentary series "World at War" was perhaps the most outstanding series of all the imported programmes shown during the year. This mammoth 26 hour production, rated as one of the most ambitious documentary series ever created by a television organisation, told the story of the greatest conflict the world has ever known.

Other documentaries of calibre included the series "Family of Man", the award winning seven-part "Appointment with Destiny", the "John Secondari" productions and a second series of "National Geographic Society Specials".

Over 80 one-hour and around a hundred half-hour documentaries were shown during the year. These covered among others, aspects of pollution, scientific and social developments in the future, man's habitat, recent discoveries and explorations, preservation of the environment and customs of the people of the world.

In the adventure category, a varied fare was presented ranging from crime and detection to legal and comedy dramas. Programmes varied from 50 to 90 minute segments and included such popular series as McMillan and Wife, Columbo, Kung Fu, the Bold Ones, Cannon, Love Story, Search, The Magician and an Anthology of TV specials of 90-minute duration. Music and comedy programmes made up for the highest percentage of imported programmes in any category except for feature films. These included among others, The Harry Secombe Show, Love American Style, Sing out with the Settlers, The Amazing Kreskin, The Mary Tyler Moore Show, Rhoda, Temperatures Rising, and by far the most popular half-hour show "All in the Family".

Drama was represented by a third season of the highly acclaimed series Upstairs Downstairs, Justice, Suspicion, and various other single plays. Children's programming combined the serious and informative with varied entertainment. The most successful series was "Little House on the Prairie" based on the books of Mary Ingalls closely followed by Partridge Family

Feature films occupied the two regular slots each week and succeeded in maintaining the highest audience. The standard of films shown, continued to improve in content and variety with the addition of a considerable number of highly rated features and a number of seasons dedicated to popular "stars". Additional features were shown during the Christmas and Easter peirods.

REDIFFUSION (MALTA) LIMITED

During the year under review Rediffusion provided listeners to the wired sound service with a variety of programmes.

Variety in both content and presentation was evident throughout and included more specialised programmes dealing with the occult and supernatural "Mis-Saltniet Mohbija", Maltese heritage in language, dialect, character and folklore "Kliem ix-Xih", various aspects and peculiarities of culture in the past "Ceklem, Ceklem ma l-Istorja" and "Il-Barumbara fis-Sajf" in addition to a series recalling tragedies at sea encountered by Maltese Fishermen "Il-Bahar Rasu Iebsa". A striking feature was the interviews illustrating the subject broadcast which have been preserved in our archives for posterity.

"Phone-in" programmes introduced during the year under review proved to be highly popular. A typical example being "Exchange and Mart" which moved from strength to strength fully warranting an almost constant increase in air time.

The annual play-writing competition attracted a total of 50 entries and the station's policy of commissioning Maltese translations of masterpieces of world theatre was maintained.

The reading of episodes from published and unpublished manuscripts continued to occupy a prominent place in the schedule and Rediffusion added the translation of Nicholas Monserrat's best-seller "The Kapillan of Malta" to its output.

The major local and foreign sporting fixtures were given full coverage and kept listeners abreast with the latest results. The station's sports commentators were in West Germany for the World Cup Soccer Competition and direct commentaries were broadcast from abroad whenever local soccer teams and athletes were competing.

A comprehensive service was offered to listeners who cared about music of any kind and the main Classical repertoire was dedicated to Giacomo Puccini on the 50th Anniversary since his death.

Outstanding broadcasts were the swearing-in ceremony of the first President of the Republic of Malta at the Palace, Valletta on December 13, and the coverage of the State Visit by H.E. Col. Muammar Gaddafi, President of the Libyan Arab Republic between the 19th and 21st of December, 1974.

Facilities were provided to the Broadcasting Authority for the recording and transmission of Ministerial and School's broadcasts. For these facilities the Authority made payments from its annual government allocation. On May 4, 1974, Rediffusion's National Network extended its services by one hour daily to midnight offering subscribers specially selected non-stop music for late night listening.

On the International Network transcribed series from foreign stations were increased and locally originated programmes, which included a Classical Drama season, provided listeners with a particular type of programme to meet a particular range of interest.

During the twelve months ending March 31, 1974 the number of subscribers to the Rediffusion Sound Service was 49,252 the total number of sets on March 31, 1974 stood at 59,616.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMES

These are aimed at widening the horizons of the children, to stimulate their imaginative and creative faculties and encourage their interest in past and present arts and literature. Some of the series were designed specially to develop the children's own powers of imagination, individuality and expression.

Novels, anecdotes, history, classical and operatic music, hobbies, careers, science and technology were also exemplified in carefully designed series. Competitions adjacent to programmes stimulated listenership and a Christmas drawing competition attracted over 1,000 entries.

The year under review also marked the 30th Anniversary of Children's programmes on Rediffusion and the 25th year of Frans Said's connection with these broadcasts.

MAGAZINE PROGRAMMES

This sector of programming covered a wide range of culture, history, folklore and the arts. Programmes were skillfully scripted, produced and presented and offered listeners a steady flow of direct information.

LIGHT MUSIC

Pop music was given prominence during the year under review. The practice of launching new releases in sequence was adhered to and provided the listening public with time to judge quality and prospects.

The American, Italian and U.K. hit parades were augmented by a comprehensive service featuring the best selling records in France whilst minority musical interests such as jazz, folk and country were also given prominence.

As well as its pop music programmes the network also included features such as "Antologija Pop", "Id-Dinja tal-Folk", "Spazju" and "Radjuattivita".

Brass Band music is popular by tradition and the Sunday afternoon programmes featuring local band clubs are well followed. A series of Military Band Music "Meta l-Banda Tibda Ddoqq" was extended in view of public demand, and four programmes by the Band of the Malta Police Corps was well received.

SERIOUS MUSIC

The output covered the whole spectrum of serious music, and the repertoire ranged from the traditional to the contemporary. However the emphasis was on the mainstream of classical music, as the accepted masterpieces are the works considered to bring the appreciation of music for the first time to new listeners among the young. Concerts were produced from records and recordings received from

overseas stations. Rediffusion also featured a commemorative concert on the occasion of the 125th Anniversary of the death of Frederick Chopin on October 18, whilst recitals by visiting and local artistes were also included.

In the operatic sector, a series of broadcasts to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the death of Giacomo Puccini started on November 29th and his works were broadcast in chronological order every week during December and January. "Kwadri Operistici" and "L-Istorja tal-Opra f'Malta" were two other productions in this sector.

TALKS

Programmes for the housewife, straight talks, magazines and other specialised series were devoted to a review of the arts and dealt with topics such as science, the environment, natural history, motoring, gardening, civics, hygiene, legal matters, world finance and social problems.

"Spark" traced the history of electricity whilst the programme compilers informed listeners on the science of electxonics. "Bejn il-Blata u l-Ilma" dealt with the geological features of this Island and the marine flora and fauna to be found in the Maltese countryside or in the surrounding seas. "Ghal Sewqan Ahjar" was a question and answer series prompted by the lack of courtesy on the road and the increase in the number of traffic accidents. A police Inspector from the traffic section of the Malta Police answered questions put to him on the Highway Code.

LITERARY PROGRAMMES

A relative percentage of the network's speech output is dedicated to Maltese literature. Such programmes incorporate the reading of episode novels and short stories which in the main are submitted by listeners themselves, series of weekly thirty minute transmissions produced in association with the four foremost literary societies, and a monthly 'close-up' presentation in which Maltese authors are interviewe and their works evaluated. An important addition to this sector of programming during the year under review, was a fortnightly series in which the Dean and Head of the Maltese Department and Oriental Languages at the Royal University of Malta brought to the fore arguments related to the Maltese language as seen from diverse angles such as writing, literature, teaching and studying of Maltese. For "Ilsien Pajjizna" to yield the desired impact, listeners, students and teachers of the Maltese language were invited to pose difficulties and set questions.

SPORT

Full coverage was given to all local and foreign fixtures.

The main event was the World Cup which was staged in Munich. Rediffusion broadcast reports direct from the playing fields by two commentators who were sent to Munich to cover this event.

Other broadcasts were the direct commentary from Norway of the Helsinki vs Valletta champions Cup match and fixtures connected with Malta's participation in the World Cup preliminaries, the E.U.F.A. Youth Competition, FISEC Games, Middle Sea Race and the International Water-polo Tournament held in Malta between August 10-14, 1974. Volleyball, Boxing, Table-Tennis, Hockey, Automobile activities, Billiards, Basketball, cycling, Horse-races, tennis, wrestling, Badminton and underwater fishing were also the subject of sports transmissions during the year under review.

FEATURES AND DRAMA

Drama continued to occupy a prominent place in the programme schedules, and to further the standard of play-writing for radio a competition was again staged attracting fifty entries.

Masterpieces of World Theatre were also featured prominently and among the outstanding drama broadcasts of the year were "Gie Spettur" (An Inspector Calls) by J.P. Priestly and Ibsen's "Kolonni tas-Socjeta" (Pillars of Society). Comedy also featured prominently. Authors were commissioned to write seasonal plays which were broadcast during Christmas and the Holy Week.

Features were abundant and were designed to coincide with anniversaries and events.

Plays broadcast between April 1974 and March 1975 amounted to 47. Six serials comprising 41 episodes were also transmitted whilst during the same period 9 features were mounted.

These broadcasts provided a total of 469 acting roles for 64 authors and producers.

RING US UP

The total sum of £M3,856 was derived from this annual Christmas fund-raising request programme in aid of the Blind in Malta and Gozo.

INTERNATIONAL NETWORK

This network continued to provide news, talk programmes, sport, drama, light entertainment and music in addition to transcribed programmes from foreign stations.

Station output on this network included a season of World Theatre, Classics for Pleasure and a series of business language programmes titled "The Bellcrest Story". "French In Your Home" - a course of lessons in Elementary French was also well followed whilst "The Malta Scene" a topical weekly programme for tourists was retained.

Locally presented programmes on the International network during the year under review amounted to 42% an increase of 4.8% on the previous year's output.

News and Current Affairs

April 1974 - March 1975

During the past year the News Division broadcast 389 hours of news and comment on Sound (Rediffusion) and 279 hours on television.

The services include local and foreign news bulletins in Maltese and English; news in brief in both languages; interview programmes on sound "Minn Kullinkien", "Panorama Maltija", "Stharrig u Fehmiet", "People In the News", and "Wicc Imb' Wicc"; discussion programmes on sound and vision; "Mill-Editorjali" and the current affairs magazine programme on television "Malta u Lil Hinn Minnha".

The programme "Din Il-Gimgha Fil-Parlament" incorporates the salient points of sittings and debates in the House of Representatives and is broadcast once a week.

During the year the News Division also gave comprehensive coverage of the visits in Malta by the President of the Republic of Cyprus and the President of the Libyan Arab Republic.

APPENDIX I.

PROCEDURE GOVERNING

PARTY POLITICAL BROADCASTS

PROCEDURE GOVERNING
PARTY POLITICAL BROADCASTS

General Rules

1. This scheme of Party Political Broadcasts consists of Press Conferences and Political Conferences, Debates and Political Talks.
2. All programmes are produced by the Broadcasting Authority and broadcast on Television.
3. No Party Political Broadcast is held on a declared public holiday or a feast of Obligation. Should a broadcast happen to fall on such a day, that broadcast is postponed to the same day in the following week.
4. This scheme is for a period of twelve months.
5. Political Broadcasts will be held as shown in the attached calendar (vide Appendix)
6. If a broadcast is not used by the respective Party on its scheduled transmission date, that broadcast will be forfeited and an appropriate announcement made.
7. Political party representatives, and all those taking part in this series, must abide by the provisions of the Broadcasting Ordinance, any rules issued by the Authority from time to time and any order or directive given

by the presiding Chairman. The Authority's decision on any points which may arise in connection with these broadcasts will be final.

8. Neither the Broadcasting Authority nor its Contractor, The Malta Television Service Ltd., will accept any responsibility for any interference with the television service and cannot bind themselves to repeat any broadcasts that suffer as a result of such interference.
9. The Authority reserves the right to suspend indefinitely or for such time as it will consider necessary, any person from participating in any of the programmes in this scheme in the event that such person shall have, in the Authority's view, committed a serious breach of the rules, particularly rule 7.
10. The Broadcasting Authority retains the right to broadcast the political programmes in the scheme on Radio Malta.
11. All programmes in this series will be broadcast on Fridays at 8.05 p.m. Alternative timing arrangements may be made for summertime.
12. Provided adequate notice is given, the Authority will issue a Press Hand-Out and advance publicity on the broadcasting media will also be arranged.

13. This series of party political broadcasts will automatically come to an end on the date Parliament is dissolved.
14. In all political programmes where the Authority requires advance information about speakers and the choice of subject i.e. Debates and Political Conferences, the following arrangements will apply: The Party whose turn it will be to choose the subject and speakers will supply the required information to the Authority by not later than noon on Monday preceding Friday of the political broadcast. In turn, the Authority will inform the other Party of the subject and speakers selected by not later than the following day (office hours). In the case where the subject proposed by the selecting Party is not approved by the Authority, notification to the other Party will be made as soon as possible.
15. Political Parties participating in the scheme may request a tape recording of any political programme under the scheme after the programme has been broadcast. In such cases, the tape is to be provided by the requesting party. A period of seven days from the date of the broadcast is allowed for such requests.
16. The following arrangements are made for party political broadcasting during the period 1975-76.

TELEVISION CONFERENCES

General Rules

17. The Scheme for Television Conferences consists of 11 programmes and comprises two types of conferences - "Konferenza Politika" and "Konferenza Stampa".
18. Subjects and speakers for Television Conferences will be selected by political parties on an alternate basis.
19. Television Conferences will be under the charge of a Chairman, nominated by the Broadcasting Authority, after consultation with the Political Parties. A substitute Chairman may also be appointed.
20. The Chairman should ensure that both speakers and questioners keep to the subject selected for the Conference. Under this scheme, the Chairman has full discretionary powers to be able to regulate the Television Conference fairly and firmly, in order to ensure clarity at all times and a fair opportunity for all.
21. The Party representative who will be addressing the Conference may be accompanied by another person of his choice who may answer any question which the official party spokesman wishes to refer to him.

However, the questioning panel are to address all their questions and supplementaries to the official party representative.

22. Questions should be brief and to the point.
23. Questioners may put one question and supplementary questions to the speaker. The Chairman should ensure that speakers are given full opportunity to answer the questions put to them and that no interruptions occur during the programme. The Chairman should also provide equal opportunities to representatives of the Press or of the political parties on the questioners' side.
24. Television Conferences are pre-recorded at MTV Studios. Recording will normally take place at 2.30 p.m. sharp on the day of broadcast. Only the participants and the party Broadcasting Officer or his representative may attend during the checking of the play-back. Conferences will be re-recorded only if the Authority's representative decides that a serious technical fault has occurred.

POLITICAL CONFERENCES

25. There will be seven political conferences in this series. Political conferences will be distributed as follows:

Malta Labour Party - 3 Political Conferences
of 56 minutes each and
one of 41 minutes

Nationalist Party - 3 Political Conferences
of 56 minutes each

26. Political Conferences will be conducted on the following lines:

Introductions	1 min.
Speaker's introduction	5 mins.
Question Time	45 mins.
Speaker's roundup	4 mins.
Closing	1 min.

In the case of the 41-minute programme, question time will be reduced to 30 minutes.

27. Four questioners will take part in each political conference. They will be selected as follows:

2 to be nominated by the Malta Labour Party
2 to be nominated by the Nationalist Party

28. After the Chairman's introductory remarks, the Party representative will make a brief statement on the subject chosen for the Political Conference.

29. When all questions have been dealt with, and provided that time is still available, the speaker may make a concluding statement.

PRESS CONFERENCES

30. There will be four Press Conferences in the present series. Press Conferences will be distributed as follows:

Malta Labour Party: 2 Press Conferences of
56 minutes each

Nationalist Party: 2 Press Conferences of
56 minutes each

31. One Pressman will be invited from each of the following:

Regular:

Allied Malta Newspapers
Union Press
National Press
Freedom Press
Il-Hajja
The Bulletin

32. Press representatives have the right to put one question and supplementary questions.
33. All general rules, pertaining to television conferences will also apply to Press Conferences.

DISCUSSIONS

General Rules

34. The present series of Discussions is made up of four political debates of 51 minutes each.
35. Discussions are transmitted from MTV Studios after pre-recording. Recording will normally take place at 2.30 p.m. sharp on the day of broadcast. Only the participants and the parties' Broadcasting Officers or their representatives may attend during the checking of the play-back. Discussions will be re-recorded only if the Authority's representative decides that a serious technical fault has occurred.
36. The subjects of these discussion programmes are chosen on an alternate basis by the political parties. The Party whose turn it is to select the subject will open and wind up the discussion.
37. A Chairman will take charge of all debates and discussions in the series. A substitute Chairman may also be appointed.

38. The Chairman should ensure that clarity prevails at all times and that an equal opportunity is presented to both sides. The Chairman retains full discretionary powers to act as necessary to ensure that the interests of viewers and listeners are safeguarded.

DEBATES

39. In this scheme, the title "Debate" should be taken to mean a discussion between two representatives chosen by each of the two Parties taking part in the scheme. The Debate will be under the control of a Chairman nominated by the Broadcasting Authority after consultation with the Parties.

40. Debates will be conducted on the following lines:

Chairman's introduction	1½ mins.
(1st Round)	
First Speaker	6 mins.
Second Speaker	6 mins.
Third Speaker	6 mins.
Fourth Speaker	6 mins.
(2nd Round)	
First Speaker	6 mins.
Second Speaker	6 mins.
Third Speaker	6 mins.
Fourth Speaker	6 mins.
Closing	1½ mins.
	<hr/>
	31 mins.
	<hr/>

41. All those taking part in debates must strictly follow the Chairman's instructions whose decision in the proper conduct of the debate will be final.

TALKS

42. Political Talks will not be of more than 15 minutes duration.
43. All straight political talks must be scripted and scripts are to reach the Authority's Offices at National Road, Blata l-Bajda, typewritten and in triplicate not later than noon on the Wednesday before the day of broadcast.
44. Speakers must be at MTV Studios at 2.30 p.m. on the day of broadcast for the talk to be rehearsed and recorded. In the case of straight talks, legal vetting will take place, in consultation with the speaker concerned, at least 36 hours before the talk is due to be recorded. In the case of talks in interview form the recording will take place at 2.30 p.m. on the Wednesday preceding the Friday of the broadcast.
45. At the discretion of the parties, talks may be in interview form and unscripted but adequate notice has to be given to the Authority to allow for proper legal

vetting and trailing on the broadcasting media. Should it become necessary to re-record a programme due to legal difficulties in the vetting process, the party concerned will be liable to pay any extra charges involved. The decision of the Authority's Legal Adviser will be final.

46. The time allotted to each political party should not be exceeded and in the case of straight talks, there must be no material deviation from the script. Speakers are allowed thirty seconds grace on each fifteen minute talk.
47. After the broadcast, copies of the script of each straight talk in the Party Political Broadcast series will be sent to the Broadcasting Officers of both Political Parties and will also be available to the Press. This facility will not be available in the case of broadcasts made in interview form.
48. Talks on Television will be assigned as follows:

Malta Labour Party - 4 talks of 15 mins. each
and 1 talk of 10 mins.

Nationalist Party - 4 talks of 15 mins. each

The Authority offers the political parties an option to illustrate their talks on television with graphics, photographs and films. The Authority retains full

discretionary powers on the admissability or otherwise of any material proposed for inclusion in talks. No assistance is to be expected from the Authority in filming, taking of stills, or in putting graphic material together. All illustrative material must be commissioned by the parties themselves and submitted to the Authority for vetting with the script of the talk.

Calendar of Party Political Broadcasts

January 1975 to January 1976

WK. NO	DATE	PROGRAMME	PARTY
1	10th January 1975	Talk	Malta Labour Party
2	24th January	Talk	Nationalist Party
3	7th February	Press Conference	Malta Labour Party
4	21st February	Debate	<u>N.P.</u> & M.L.P.
5	7th March	Political Conference	Malta Labour Party
6	21st March	Political Conference	Nationalist Party
7	4th April	Talk	Malta Labour Party
8	18th April	Talk	Nationalist Party
9	2nd May	Press Conference	Malta Labour Party
10	16th May	Debate	<u>N.P.</u> & M.L.P.
11	30th May	Political Conference	Malta Labour Party
12	13th June	Political Conference	Nationalist Party
13	27th June	Talk	Malta Labour Party
14	11th July	Talk	Nationalist Party
15	25th July	Press Conference	Nationalist Party
16	8th August	Debate	<u>M.L.P.</u> & N.P.
17	5th September	Political Conference	Nationalist Party
18	19th September	Political Conference	Malta Labour Party
19	3rd October	Talk	Malta Labour Party
20	17th October	Press Conference	Nationalist Party
21	31st October	Debate	<u>M.L.P.</u> & N.P.
22	14th November	Political Conference	Malta Labour Party
23	28th November	Talk	Nationalist Party
24	9th January 1976	Talk	Malta Labour Party

APPENDIX II.

PROCEDURE GOVERNING
MINISTERIAL BROADCASTS

BROADCASTING AUTHORITYMinisterial 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. This time limit will be extended automatically in the case of an intervening Saturday, Sunday or a Public Holiday.

5. Except by agreement with the 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 240 minutes. Ministerial Broadcasts may be on Sound only or on both Sound and Television.
6. On Television, Ministerial Broadcasts may be illustrated with graphics, photographs and/or films. It should be noted that when this facility is made use of, and, if a right of reply is established, the same facility will be extended to the reply.
7. All requests for Ministerial Broadcasts are to be made direct to the Authority and reasonable notice given.
8. A script of a Ministerial Broadcast should be sent to the Authority.
9. Except by agreement with the Broadcasting Authority Ministerial Broadcasts will not take place during periods when General Election or Referendum Broadcasts are being held.
10. Ministerial Broadcasts do not and are not intended to exhaust the possibilities of Ministers appearing on Sound or Television. Broadcasts by the Prime Minister which take the form of an "address to the nation", and

are indicated as such, do not come within the category of Ministerial Broadcasts. 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.

11. When any dispute arises over Ministerial Broadcasts the final responsibility remains with the Authority.

BROADCASTING AUTHORITY

A C C O U N T S

31st MARCH, 1975

I N D E X

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BROADCASTING AUTHORITY
(Constituted under Ordinance XX of 1961)

BALANCE SHEET AT 31st MARCH, 1975

31.3.74		Cost	Depreciation Provided	
£M		£M	£M	£M
	<u>FIXED ASSETS</u>			
655	Freehold Land	655	-	655
	Office Equipment, Furniture			
2,252	and Fittings	7,003	4,944	2,059
905	Technical Equipment	10,208	10,184	24
3,241	Studio Equipment	8,119	6,454	1,665
1	Motor Vehicle	742	741	1
	Radio Malta - Furniture			
649	and Fittings	1,351	535	816
	Radio Malta - Studio and			
15,494	Technical Equipment	19,904	6,133	13,771
<u>23,197</u>		<u>47,982</u>	<u>28,991</u>	<u>18,991</u>
=====				
	1974	£M45,520	£M22,323	
		=====	=====	
	<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>			
2,572	Amount receivable re airtime sales		9,314	
2,565	Sundry Debtors and Prepayments		6,478	
<u>5,137</u>			<u>15,792</u>	
	Bank Balances			
259	On Savings Account	71		
(839)	Less: Current Account	(1,196)	(1,125)	
<u>24</u>	Cash in Hand		<u>33</u>	
<u>4,581</u>			<u>14,700</u>	
	<u>Deduct:</u>			
	<u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>			
4,381	Sundry Creditors and Accrued Charges		8,839	
<u>200</u>			<u>5,861</u>	
<u>23,397</u>	<u>NET CURRENT ASSETS</u>			<u>5,861</u>
=====				
	<u>TOTAL NET ASSETS</u>			<u>£M24,852</u>
				=====
	<u>Financed by:</u>			
16,960	GRANTS OF TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT RECEIVED FROM FOREIGN ORGANISATIONS			16,960
	GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTIONS FROM WIRELESS LICENCE FEES			
28,560	Amount applied for Capital Purposes to date		31,022	
1,463	Provision for Loss or Damage to Films on Hire		1,463	
<u>30,023</u>			<u>32,485</u>	
	<u>Less:</u>			
23,586	Debit Balance on Income and Expenditure Account (Page 3)		24,593	
<u>6,437</u>			<u>7,892</u>	
<u>23,397</u>				<u>£M24,852</u>
=====				=====
	The Notes on pages 4 and 5 form an integral part of these accounts			
 PROF. CARMELO COLEIRO JOSEPH G. GRIMA	
	CHAIRMAN		CHIEF EXECUTIVE	

REPORT OF THE AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF
THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY

We have examined the annexed Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account which are in agreement with the books and records kept by the Authority and have obtained all the information and explanations which, to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purposes of our audit. 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 and Income and Expenditure Account, read in conjunction with the note thereon, present respectively a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Authority at 31st March, 1975 and of the deficit for the year ended on that date.

Diamantino, Manfre^o & Co.,
Certified Public Accountants

Valletta Buildings,
South Street,
Valletta.

Date: 26th July, 1975

BROADCASTING AUTHORITY
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1975

Year ended
31.3.1974

£M		£M	£M
	<u>INCOME</u>		
63,000	Government contributions from licence fees		100,000
751	Licence fees from Contractors		751
51	Ground Rents		51
185	Bank Interest		183
108	Deficit on School Magazine		(217)
<u>64,095</u>			<u>100,768</u>
	<u>Deduct:</u>		
	<u>EXPENDITURE:-</u>		
	<u>Prescribed Programmes</u>		
15,491	Incurred on Sound Broadcasts (Note 1)	15,811	
10,803	Incurred on Television Broadcasts (Note 2)	13,032	
<u>26,294</u>		<u>28,843</u>	
	<u>Administration and Other Expenses</u>		
16,022	General Administration (Appendix 1)	19,948	
26,525	Radio Malta Operation (Appendix 2)	49,501	
-	Tokyo Song Festival	123	
-	Commonwealth B'casting Conference	898	
<u>68,841</u>			<u>99,313</u>
(4,746)	<u>EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR</u>		1,455
	<u>Less:</u>		
1,800	Cost of fixed assets acquired during the year		2,462
<u>6,546</u>	<u>DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR</u>		<u>1,007</u>
	<u>Add:</u>		
16,147	Adverse Balance brought forward from previous year	23,586	
	<u>Add:</u>		
893	Prior year adjustment for depreciation	-	
<u>17,040</u>			<u>23,586</u>
23,586	Adverse Balance carried forward (Page 1)		24,593
=====			=====

The notes on pages 4 and 5 form an
integral part of these accounts.

BROADCASTING AUTHORITY
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1975

1. Expenditure on Sound Broadcasts is provided for in Clause 12 of an Agreement dated 28th September, 1961 with Rediffusion (Malta) Ltd., which stipulates an expenditure of £M10,000 per annum. The actual amount incurred during the year was as follows:-

On programmes prescribed by the Authority

1973/74

£M		£M	£M
10,625	Salaries and Wages		10,986
568	Scriptwriters' and Actors' Fees		659
2,138	Airtime and Studio Charges		1,818
23	Records, Tapes and Publications		35
-	School Broadcasting Magazine		109
239	School Broadcasting Expenses		349
89	Maintenance and Repairs of Technical Equipment		-
	Depreciation on Technical Equipment	880	
	<u>Less:</u> Allocated to Television Broadcasts (Note 2)	440	
668			440
14,350			14,396
1,141	Proportion of Overhead Expenses (5.7%) (Appendix 1)		1,415
15,491			15,811
=====			=====

(Page 3)

BROADCASTING AUTHORITY
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1975
(Continued)

2. Expenditure on Television Broadcasts is provided for in Clause 12 of an Agreement dated 28th September, 1961 with The Malta Television Service Ltd., which stipulates an expenditure of £M25,000 per annum. The actual amount incurred during the year was as follows:-

On programmes prescribed by the Authority

1973/74

£M		£M	£M
134	Hire of Television Films	-	-
3,614	Airtime and Studio Charges		5,217
949	Educational Television		1,691
44	Production of T.V. Documentaries		-
153	Script Contributors' Fees		35
27	Sundry Expenses		49
(81)	Eurovision Song Contest		464
	Maintenance and Repairs of		
89	Technical Equipment		-
	Depreciation:		
667	Technical Equipment (Note 1)	440	
1,583	Studio Furniture and Equipment	1,576	2,016
7,179			9,472
2,865	Proportion of Overhead Expenses (14.3%)(Appendix 1)		3,560
10,044			13,032
	On contributions towards improvements		
	carried out by the Malta Television		
759	Service Ltd.		-
10,803			13,032
=====			=====

(Page 3)

BROADCASTING AUTHORITY
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1975

Year ended
31.3.74

£M		£M	£M
310	Audit Fees		310
	Depreciation:		
296	Furniture and Fittings	10%	246
125	Office Equipment	20%	144
593	Duty Visits Abroad		286
342	Entertainment and Hospitality		292
1,364	Honoraria to Board Members		1,421
254	Legal Fees and Expenses		250
-	Maintenance and Repairs		609
934	Membership Fees - International Organisations		1,792
30	Messengers' and Driver's Uniforms		43
217	National Insurance Contributions		312
663	Postages, Telegrams and Telephones		722
679	Rent of Offices and Studios		690
161	Rentals Wired Sound and Television Sets		315
307	Stationery		444
1,534	Staff Superannuation Scheme		1,655
87	Subscriptions to Newspapers, etc.		69
136	Sundry Expenses		265
406	Transport		1,230
11,473	Wages and Salaries		13,196
117	Water and Electricity		255
-	Religious Broadcasting Expenses		377
<u>20,028</u>			<u>24,923</u>

Deduct:

Amounts charged against programmes prescribed:

(1,141)	Sound Broadcasts - 5.7% (Note 1)	1,415
(2,865)	Television Broadcasts - 14.3% (Note 2)	3,560

		<u>4,975</u>
16,022		19,948
=====		=====

BROADCASTING AUTHORITY
RADIO MALTA - OPERATION
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1975

Year Ended

31.3.1974

£M		£M	£M	£M
	<u>INCOME</u>			
10,510	Advertising Revenue (See Note below)		31,159	
	<u>Less:</u>			
(1,513)	Commissions	6,684		
(123)	Talent Fees	302	6,986	
<u>8,874</u>				24,173
	<u>Deduct:</u>			
	<u>OPERATION AND ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES</u>			
250	Audit Fee		350	
7,471	Contributors' Fees		21,045	
1,207	Duty visits abroad		1,705	
	<u>Depreciation:</u>			
202	Furniture and Fittings		331	
2,645	Technical and Studio Equipment		3,490	
342	Entertainment and Hospitality		292	
600	Fees for audience research		-	
667	Fuel for Electricity Generation		2,702	
254	Legal fees and expenses		251	
1,026	Maintenance and Repairs		1,753	
113	Membership fees - International Organisations		227	
105	Newspapers and Publications		129	
-	New Studios - Adaptation		147	
994	Postages, Telegrams and Telephones		1,445	
568	Publicity Costs		640	
511	Purchase of Records		1,343	
704	Rent of Offices and Studios		010	
196	Stationery		709	
007	Staff Superannuation Scheme		027	
346	Sundry Expenses		156	
130	Transport		157	
15,946	Wages and Salaries		32,237	
235	Water and Electricity		511	
-	Music Programmes:- Cantasud Show			
	2nd Anniversary Show		1,537	
<u>35,399</u>				<u>73,674</u>
<u>26,525</u>				<u>£M49,501</u>
=====				=====

(Page 3)

Note: Radio Malta increased transmission during the year to 36 hours per day based on 3 stations. The music station started transmission on 1st May, 1974. Commercial advertising on the foreign service station commenced on 8th September, 1974.

BROADCASTING AUTHORITY
CHANGES IN THE CASH POSITION
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1975

<u>1973/74</u>				
£M	<u>Funds became available during</u>	£M	£M	£M
	<u>the year as follows:</u>			
	From:-			
63,000	Government Contributions	100,000		
1,095	Sundry Income (Licence Fees, Bank Interest, etc.)	768		
10,510	Advertising Revenue from Radio Malta	31,159		
<u>74,605</u>				131,927
	which were applied to meet:-			
	Administrative and other expenditure -			
	General (including prescribed programmes)	49,812		
42,316	Radio Malta	80,660		
<u>37,035</u>				
79,351				<u>130,472</u>
	Leaving a surplus on Income and Expenditure Account, of (Page 3)			1,455
<u>4,746</u>				
	<u>This surplus was reduced by:-</u>			
	Meeting underprovision for depreciation relating to the previous years	-		
893	Purchasing of Fixed Assets	2,462		
1,800	Financing an increase in Debtors	10,655		
<u>3,090</u>				
5,783				<u>13,117</u>
<u>10,529</u>	<u>And reduced by:-</u>			11,662
	Retaining Depreciation	6,668		
7,079	Increasing Creditors	4,458		
<u>36</u>				
7,115				<u>11,126</u>
<u>3,414</u>	Leaving a cash deficiency for the year amounting to			<u>536</u>
=====				=====
	The Cash deficiency for the year effected the Authority's liquid Funds as follows:-			
<u>1973/74</u>		<u>Cash balances as at</u>		
		<u>31.3.1974</u>	<u>31.3.1975</u>	
£M		£M	£M	£M
(5,794)	Decrease in Savings Account	259	71	(188)
	Increase (Decrease 1973/74)			
2,365	in Bank Overdraft	(839)	(1,196)	(357)
15	Increase of Cash in Hand	24	33	9
	Net balances at 31st March	<u>(556)</u>	<u>(1,092)</u>	
		===	=====	
	<u>Net decrease in liquid funds</u>			
<u>3,414</u>	<u>for the year</u>			<u>536</u>
=====				=====

BROADCASTING AUTHORITY
CHANGES IN NET WORKING CAPITAL POSITION
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1975

<u>1973/74</u>		
£M		£M
3,414	Cash deficiency for the year (Appendix 3)	536
	<u>Add:</u>	
36	Increase in Creditors	4,458
<u>3,450</u>		<u>4,994</u>
	<u>Deduct:</u>	
3,090	Increase in Debtors	10,655
<u>£M360</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease 1973/74) in Net Working</u>	<u>£M5,661</u>
<u>=====</u>	<u>Capital for the year</u>	<u>=====</u>