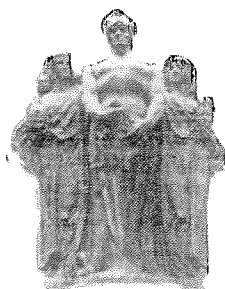


BROADCASTING AUTHORITY

**ANNUAL REPORT
AND ACCOUNTS**

1978 - 79



MALTA

BROADCASTING AUTHORITY

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

Covering the year ended

31st March, 1979

INTRODUCTORY

The need for public supervision and control of the broadcasting system is widely recognised and beyond question. In Malta, this responsibility is vested in the Broadcasting Authority which is a statutory body set up in 1961. The Authority's existence which is synonymous with the principle of editorial independence in broadcasting was enshrined in the 1964 Independence Constitution. It was affirmed again in the Government's Development Plan and was finally cemented into the foundations of Maltese media life by the 1974 Constitution of the Republic of Malta which received the approval of the overwhelming majority of Parliamentarians from both sides of the House of Representatives.

The Constitution states categorically that "there shall be a Broadcasting Authority for Malta." (see Appendix I). The Chairman and Members of the 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 Constitution precludes Ministers, Parliamentary Secretaries, members of or candidates for election to, the House of Representatives and public officers from being appointed members of the Authority. Furthermore, a member may be removed from office by the President acting on the advice of the Prime Minister only for inability to discharge the functions of his office or for misbehaviour. The legislators' intention to safeguard the position of the Authority and to ensure that broadcasting continues to develop democratically and on non-partisan lines is further brought out by the Constitutional definition of the Authority's main function. This is to ensure impartiality in respect of matters of political or industrial controversy or relating to current public policy. An associated function of the Authority is to fairly apportion facilities and time between persons belonging to different political parties.

Other functions and duties are placed on the Authority by the Broadcasting Ordinance. This legislation, enacted in 1961, requires revision since it has been glaringly obvious for many years that a number of weaknesses exist which must be corrected by amending legislation. For instance, the financial clauses in the Ordinance are meaningless. The powers conferred on the Authority are negative in character and several other provisions of the Ordinance are not in keeping with the spirit of the Constitutional provisions on broadcasting.

The provisions of the Broadcasting Ordinance relating to the responsibilities of the Authority in the entire sphere of radio and television broadcasting are translated in the Broadcasting Agreements (also entered into in 1961) as powers and rights of the Authority over its Contractor - The Telemalta Corporation with Xandir Malta as its broadcasting division. These Agreements too are outdated and in some sections inoperative. For example, under the terms of the Agreements, the Authority could produce its own programmes and should spend in each financial year the sum of £M35,000 on radio and television programming. These financial provisions give the Authority a much closer interest in programmes and the means to contribute positively towards programme improvements but with the reorganisation of broadcasting in 1975 funds for this purpose ceased to be available and the Authority reverted to its original role of a purely supervisory and regulatory body charged with safeguarding general broadcasting standards on behalf of the public.

In this role, the Authority confines itself to laying down policy and seeing that its policy is implemented - by indication and cooperation preferably, by enforcement if necessary. Guidelines are issued from time to time and these

PROFILE OF THE YEARThe Members of the Authority

By Government Notice No.577 published in the Government Gazette of 27th October 1978, the President of Malta, acting on the advice of the Prime Minister, in accordance with the provisions of Section 121(2) of the Constitution, appointed the following to be members of the Authority:

Mr Godfrey Craig - Chairman
Mr Renald Dalli
Mr Nicholas Debono
Dr Albert Manche, LL.D.
Mr Richard Matrenza, D.Pol.Econ.(Oxon.)
F.R. Econ.S.

The appointments were for a period of one year commencing from the 18th October, 1978. The Constitutional provisions on broadcasting specify that the term of appointment to the office of member of the Authority may be for a period of up to five years. It is further provided in the Constitution that a member of the Authority shall not, within a period of three years commencing with the day on which he last held office as a member, be eligible for appointment to or act in any public office.

Dr. Gerald Montanaro Gauci, LL.D. the previous Chairman of the Authority, retired in October 1978, on the expiry of his term of office. He had occupied this post for two years. The Authority wishes to place on record its appreciation for the services rendered by Dr. Montanaro Gauci during his period in office.

From April 1978 to March 1979 the Authority met for nineteen sessions. Throughout this period, the Authority's Secretary was Mr Antoine Ellul.

The Authority's Staff

During the year under review, the Authority's trained staff continued to be depleted due to the resignation, on emigration, of its Head of Programme Services. Internal arrangements were made by the Authority to fill the resulting vacancy on a provisional basis. At the end of the year, the total number of staff, employed by the Authority was ten of which three are fully occupied on programme monitoring duties.

The effect of the Authority's reduced activities had been felt since 1975 when the Authority ceased to be directly involved in programme production and this responsibility was centralised within Xandir Malta. Since its inception, the Authority had always promoted the production of public service programmes and, over the years, it had built up a nucleus of trained staff for this purpose. This included the Schools Broadcasting Unit which was also transferred en masse to Xandir Malta in 1975. However, since the personnel who make up this Unit were originally recruited on a contractual basis by the Authority, they were transferred on secondment to Xandir Malta and have remained so to date. Given the necessary financial support, the Authority would willingly reassume direct responsibility for the Unit thus relieving Xandir Malta, a commercial organisation, from the obligation to produce programmes in a specialised sector with which its commercial interests may be considered incompatible. During the year, the Authority made known to the Government its view on this matter.

In January, 1979 the Authority's staff signed a salaries reorganisation Agreement which concluded negotiations protracted over a five-year period and which in effect extended to the Authority a salary structure similar to analogous grades in the Civil Service. The Agreement which was signed on behalf of the Government by the Minister of Development was the first phase in a complex exercise with arrears backdated to February 1974. Total arrears paid out to the Authority's existing and former staff amounted to £M12,885. Phase two of this exercise should deal with proper job evaluation and the determination of a new salaries structure accordingly.

The Authority's office premises at Blata 1-Bajda are much too large and uneconomic to retain in terms of actual space requirements. The Housing Authority and the Lands Department have been asked to help in locating suitable alternative office accommodation.

Ministerial Broadcasts

There was one Ministerial broadcast during the year. This took place on the 17th May, 1978 and was delivered by the Hon. Danny Cremona, M.P. then Minister of Industry, Agriculture and Fisheries. The broadcast was on radio and television and lasted for approximately six minutes. The Minister spoke on Government measures relating to the African Swine fever which at the time, had afflicted the pig breeding industry.

Ministerial broadcasts are available at the Government's discretion subject to a maximum annual airtime of 240 minutes. There is no right of automatic reply to these broadcasts but the Authority considers on its merits each case for a reply which must be submitted in writing within forty-eight hours of the original Ministerial broadcast. During the year, the Authority rejected a request by MAM - The Medical Union to reply to a broadcast delivered on the 30th March, 1978 by the Minister of Health and Environment. The request for a reply was submitted to the Authority on the 9th May 1978.

Ministerial broadcasts are regulated by set guidelines which were reproduced in previous reports. In April 1978, the Authority wrote to the Administrative Secretary to establish a further guideline in its policy on such broadcasts. This was to the effect that except when important circumstances otherwise require, Ministerial broadcasts will not take place on the same day that a party political broadcast is scheduled for transmission. This arose from the fact that last year a 60-minute party political broadcast was followed by a 45-minute Ministerial broadcast and this upset the balance in the day's programme output. The Government and the Opposition party - the latter had complained about this case - were informed about the remedial action taken by the Authority to prevent as much as possible future similar occurrences.

In accordance with established practice, the Prime Minister broadcast on the 29th December, 1978 an end-of-the-year message to the nation. A similar broadcast delivered by the Prime Minister in December 1977 was the subject of legal proceedings instituted against the Authority by the

Nationalist Party. Legal action had been taken following the Authority's rejection of a claim for the right of reply. In its judgement delivered on the 9th October, 1978, the Court rejected the Opposition's claim for redress since it was held that, considered in its entirety, the Prime Minister's broadcast did not exceed the limits of tolerance especially when a certain degree of latitude should be allowed in such broadcasts to the nation in so far as Government activity during the year was concerned. The Court further held that it did not see anything wrong in references to what had been done over a period of years during the speaker's administration especially when unnecessary flattery is not resorted to during the broadcast. In its judgement the Court further stated that a reply would have been justified if the Prime Minister had compared his Administration's achievements with what had been done during previous Administrations.

Party Political Broadcasts

The apportionment of the annual series of Party Political Broadcasts is governed by the support gained by the Parties at the last General Election. Detailed arrangements, on the basis of time offered by the Authority, are made each year in consultation with the political parties represented in Parliament. These arrangements are reproduced as an appendix to this report.

The series of Party Political Broadcasts for the period under review is the same as for the previous year and consists of the following airtime and programme allocations:-

<u>Programme</u>	<u>Malta</u>		<u>Nationalist</u>	
	<u>Labour Party</u>		<u>Party</u>	
a) Press Conferences	2 x 60 minutes		2 x 60 minutes	
b) Political Conferences	3 x 60	"	3 x 60	"
	1 x 40	"		
c) Political Debates	4 x 45	"	4 x 45	"
d) Party Productions	2 x 15	"	2 x 15	"
	1 x 10	"		

The Authority, it will be noted, undertakes full responsibility for these broadcasts. This includes their organisation, allocation, production and direction, legal vetting, etc. In terms of the Broadcasting Agreements between the Authority and its Contractor, these are prescribed programmes provided by the Authority. The Authority accordingly pays its Contractor for the airtime employed and for the Contractor's technical facilities made available for the transmission of these programmes.

On the whole, this series of Party Political Broadcasts proceeded smoothly. The Authority's Legal Advisers minimised the occasional friction caused by the desire of participants to express themselves in terms more exuberant than that permitted by law. However, despite these precautionary measures, certain programmes gave rise to libel actions in which those responsible for the broadcasting media were needlessly involved. This was due to the fact that Section 23(d) of the Press Act, 1974 renders the broadcasting operator liable to criminal proceedings in cases of defamatory libel involving the broadcasting media. Furthermore, there is also the possibility of civil actions for damages. In the Authority's view, such liability should be excluded in the case of programmes such as the party political broadcasts series

which form part of schemes approved by the Authority or in other broadcasts of a strictly political nature in which the remedy of an authorised reply is involved. In making representations about the matter to the Minister of Justice, the Authority wrote that whilst it was logical and admissible for an aggrieved party to institute legal proceedings against the person directly responsible for any offending words or statements, it is difficult to justify similar proceedings being taken in such cases against "the manager or other person responsible for the broadcasting medium from which the broadcast was made". These representations were made to Government at the time that amendments to the Press Act, 1974 were being debated in Parliament but, unfortunately, the proposal put forward by the Authority was not included with the other amendments.

During the course of the year the Movement of United Teachers and MAM - the Medical Union applied to the Authority on separate occasions for the grant of the right of reply to certain statements made in party political broadcasts. These requests were not entertained. These broadcasts are meant to serve the interests of the political parties represented in Parliament. The Authority exercises no control over the contents of these programmes other than to ensure that they comply with the provisions of the law and any one party may utilize time at its disposal to reply to any of the proceeding broadcasts. The Authority considers that this scheme of broadcasts is self-balancing and statements made during such programmes do not attract the right of reply.

Another request received by the Authority in connection with this scheme of broadcasts was submitted by the local Communist Party which asked to participate for the purpose of

publicising its views on matters of political and national importance. The Authority did not accede to this request as, amongst other things, it ran counter to its consistent policy of allocating airtime for party political broadcasts on the basis of Parliamentary representation and in accordance with Parliamentary strength. The Communist Party is not represented in Parliament.

The Sound of Parliament

In last year's report the Authority ~~commented~~ favourably on Parliament's decision to allow the first direct radio transmission of a session in which the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition participated. On the 6th November, 1978 Parliament again exercised its ~~prerogative~~ this time to allow the television cameras within the precincts of the House for a direct transmission of a debate on Malta's foreign policy. This was followed on two other occasions - the 27th and 28th January 1979 - when Parliament was recorded and a deferred transmission took place on radio and Cable radio only. These broadcasts were in connection with the Budget and the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition took part.

To many broadcasters, the case for judicious Parliamentary broadcasting is evident. The case for television is that it would enable the public to see their political leaders in their own working surroundings and not just in contrived studio settings. If skilfully done and this has been the case so far - broadcasting the proceedings of Parliament will add to the nation's understanding of the way in which it is governed and of the problems facing those who govern it. This area of broadcasting has the potential to contribute to the evolution of a more fully informed Parliamentary democracy.

Programme Monitoring

The Authority has been engaged in the monitoring of programmes virtually since it was set up in 1961. A monitor's first and main task is to watch or listen to the programmes and offer a record of the selected programme area concerned, logging any untoward incident - a breakdown, a change in schedule, an apparent breach of the Broadcasting Ordinance or of the guidelines issued by the Authority. It is throughout a reporting function rather than an executive function and between the monitoring report and any action or reaction by the Authority there is a necessary and careful process of checking and evaluation of the original report and of the programme concerned. This notwithstanding, the role of the programme monitors is one of very special responsibility since they act as the eyes and ears of the Authority. Thanks to them the Authority is in a position to exercise vigilance over programmes and to take remedial action when necessary.

Two main qualifications are needed. Firstly, a knowledge of the requirements of the Broadcasting Ordinance for the observance of which the Authority is responsible and secondly, sensitivity of taste and soundness of judgement. The first qualification is an acquired professional one but it is useless without the second which might be described as an attribute of the intelligent 'man in-the-street'. It follows that the purpose of monitoring is two-fold; first to detect and report, briefly but accurately, any apparent breach of the Ordinance or other connected legislation; second, to comment, where comment seems called for, upon any material from the standpoint of an intelligent viewer or listener. In this latter category favourable comment is as acceptable as adverse criticism.

The Authority's relationship with Xandir Malta may, at times, have suffered because of the contents of these reports which are regularly made available to the Contractor. It is realised that this system is not perfect and efforts were being made at the end of the year to set up consultative programme committees to supplement the reports and to create a more harmonious atmosphere where the production function and the supervisory function could be exercised as a joint effort rather than in isolation. Lively day-to-day communication between the Authority and Xandir Malta during which the Authority impresses on the Contractor its awareness both of the defects and of the excellencies of the programme output is considered essential for the improvement of standards.

Programme Policy

The Broadcasting Authority is a public organisation which acts within the provisions of the Broadcasting Ordinance and the Constitution. There is a two-tier system of programme control which derives from the Ordinance itself - that is to say, from the requirement that programmes broadcast by the Authority are to be provided not by the Authority but by a Contractor - Xandir Malta which is a division of the Telecommunications Corporation. But the Authority has the ultimate responsibility for everything transmitted and it is this fact upon which all consultation and policy decisions is based.

The maintenance of impartiality and proper balance in matters relating to current public policy engaged the Authority's attention for a considerable part of the year. There were several instances where the Authority had to intervene. Early

in the year, the Department of Information requested Xandir Malta to mount a series of programmes on the reform of tertiary education. The reform itself was the subject of controversy and the programmes were meant to provide information on the workings of the newly introduced system. When the necessary details were provided, the Authority was not satisfied with the arrangements and requested modifications which were considered necessary in the public interest and in the interests of balance and impartiality and were meant to ensure wider and adequate representation of those sectors interested in the reform of higher education. After some initial difficulties had been dealt with, the Authority's directives were carried out.

Advance consultation between the Authority and Xandir Malta at the programme planning stage is essential if subsequent difficulties are to be avoided. Certain public sectors which from time to time request access to the broadcasting media are not fully aware of the Authority's legal obligations and tend to request the production of programmes without due regard to these obligations. A case in point was the series of programmes organised in connection with the 31st March 1979 National Festivities. Various contests for short novels, drama, essays, poetry, band marches, etc. were organised by the Ministry of Culture. At a later stage Xandir Malta was asked to broadcast all these entries to enable the public to register their vote for the eventual selection of the winning entry. This turned out to be a marathon exercise complicated by the fact that several entries were of a party political nature. Since the Authority is bound by law not to include in its programmes any matter "designed to serve the interests of any political party" it had to intervene as soon as it

became aware of the contents of some of the programmes. Legal vetting was resorted to and with the full cooperation of all those concerned it was possible to arrive at an adequate solution without infringing any provision of the law. As a result of this exercise, some entries had to be withdrawn and others modified to conform with legal advice. These difficulties might not have arisen with advance notice to the Authority and with the incorporation in the contest rules of proper safeguards for legal broadcasting requirements.

Current affairs programmes form an integral part of the programme schedules. Details about the output in this sector are given in a separate chapter of this report. In view of the primary importance which is attached to the observance of the impartiality requirements of the Ordinance, there was frequent consultation on points of difficulty arising from these programmes. The Authority has always made it clear and Xandir Malta fully understands the position that the broadcasting media unlike the newspaper industry cannot take sides on controversial public issues. This is not to say that such issues may not be dealt with in a lively and stimulating way, but it does mean that when they are dealt with, it must be in a balanced series of programmes or in individual programmes which are balanced within themselves.

The news coverage of Parliamentary debates is another sensitive area on which the Authority made its views known to the Contractor during the year. Such items must be of unquestionable news value, they must be brief and strictly related to the subject and their presentation must be such as to secure fair treatment to both sides represented in Parliament.

There are other areas of programming, perhaps less sensitive, but at times equally prone to public criticism besides those mentioned so far in this section of the report. Drama, especially teleserials in Maltese, is one of these. Teleserials are very popular with television audiences. They are transmitted at peak viewing times and public reaction on either of the two extremes is immediately evident. "Il-Madonna tac-Cocqa" by Guze' Diacono, serialised in eleven parts, provoked much comment both favourable and unfavourable. The serial was technically one of the best serials produced by Xandir Malta with effective dialogue and a high standard of acting although towards the end it suffered somewhat from over dragging. However the controversy arose over the religious and moral aspects of the serial. The Authority gave careful attention to this criticism in consultation with Xandir Malta but did not find sufficient grounds to use its statutory powers to limit this production.

The Authority does not feel it necessary to defend drama in which love and conflict, suitably presented, have their part. These elements are to be found in drama through the ages whenever human motives are depicted but vulgar scenes or violent action without discrimination or for its own sake are dealt with differently. This is a relatively new experience for local authors and scriptwriters who seek to express themselves through the medium of television. Whilst it may be impossible to require writers to renounce all intention to shock or disturb, they should keep in mind that tact and discretion is part of the presentation technique which influence audiences. The Authority believes that the aim throughout should be to move, not to offend.

Broadcasting Services not under Contract with the Authority

A contractual relationship exists between the Broadcasting Authority and the Telemalta Corporation which, through its broadcasting division, Xandir Malta, is responsible for the actual provision of programmes on behalf of the Authority. All the provisions of the Broadcasting Ordinance and the contract apply to Xandir Malta but the position with respect to other broadcasting Stations operating from Malta is quite different. These stations operate under licence from the Government and are not contracted with the Authority. The stations which, from time to time, were set up in Malta under these arrangements included the Central Mediterranean Relay Station, the British Forces Broadcasting Service, the Deutsche Welle Relay Station, Tivumalta Ltd., the Voice of Friendship and Solidarity and Radio Mediterranean. The Constitutional provisions on broadcasting and one section of the Ordinance apply to these broadcasting services.

Section 7A of the Broadcasting Ordinance extends the application of Section 7(2)(a), (c) and (g) to any sound and television broadcasting service provided in Malta. The subsections refer to religious sentiment, good taste or decency in programmes, the prevention of anything which might incite to crime or disorder or be offensive to public feeling or give offence to a living person; the preservation of accuracy and impartiality in news and the maintenance of impartiality in matters of political or industrial controversy or relating to current public policy.

In granting these licences, it has been Government policy to incorporate these safeguards within the terms of the licence. The Authority on its part and so far as possible monitors the programmes and investigates any complaints which

arise within the specific limits allowed by law.

Overseas Contacts

During the year under review, contact was maintained with international groups of broadcasting organisations including the European Broadcasting Union and the Commonwealth Broadcasting Association. The Secretary to the Authority attended the 29th Ordinary Session of the E.B.U. General Assembly which was held in Athens between the 30th June and the 3rd July, 1978. The Secretary also represented the Authority at the 12th Conference of the Commonwealth Broadcasting Association which was held in Mauritius in November, 1978.

Both conferences considered matters of interest to Malta such as the arrangements for joint (the Authority and Xandir Malta) Maltese Active Membership of the E.B.U. and the setting up of radio and television programme banks which had been proposed by Malta some years ago at the Commonwealth Broadcasting Conference. Many useful contacts were made during these visits and relations with a number of foreign broadcasting organisations were strengthened and new links forged.

PROGRAMME REVIEW

The Television Service

According to an independent audience survey carried out during October/November 1978, 247,000 people watch TVM programmes once every week. This figure represents 94% of the population aged 9 years and over. The figure shows an increase of 2% over the previous survey which was carried out in February 1977.

The daily average audience is estimated at 221,000 - an increase of 11,000 over the figure shown in the previous survey.

Local television serials and plays topped the list of popular programmes with a viewership of 209,000. Next in line come the two productions "Starsky & Kutch" 175,000 and "Staqsini Ghoxrin" 160,000.

Tuesday Cinema (142,000), Friday Cinema (137,000), Anthology (130,000) and Sunday Matinee Film (116,000) were the next most popular programmes on Television.

When resuming its Sunday afternoon transmissions in October 1978, TVM introduced a non-stop transmission scheduled between 1.00 p.m. and 11.00 p.m. This whole-afternoon transmission has been very well received and has thus afforded a continuous flow of programmes.

For the first time ever, TVM has broadcast live transmissions, with its two O.B units from two different localities, Senglea and Vittoriosa, on the night of 31st March National Festivities.

It also contributed extensively in the organisation and broadcasting of the "Konkors 31 ta' Marzu 1979", organised by the Ministry of Employment, Culture and Social Services.

Station Originated Programmes

Locally originated programmes occupied 51.74% of the total station output - an increase of 10% over last year.

Locally produced material included serialized drama, which attracted the highest audiences; cultural and educational programmes; musical and variety shows and News & Current Affairs programmes; family entertainment and religious programming.

Drama

Serialized drama continued to enjoy the highest number of viewers. According to the latest survey locally produced drama attracted an audience of 209,000.

TVM's first-ever live recording from the Manoel Theatre, with its Outside Broadcasting Unit, featured Eduardo de Filippo's masterpiece FILUMENA MARTURANO in Maltese, which was very well received. There were two other productions recorded from the Manoel Theatre, HOTEL COQ D'OR by Feydeau and BEJJI TA' L-EWWEL U TAT-TIENI by J.C. Bates. While the first two productions were broadcast on a weekly basis (one act a week) the three acts of the third work were broadcast in one evening. This innovation received very favourable comments and reaction.

The teleserial RUNDUVU by P. Xuereb had considerable adverse comments in the press and from viewers. This was mainly due to imperfect production and presentation. In view of such adverse critique the teleserial, originally meant to run for 5 weeks, was reduced to 3½ editions, the last 15 minutes was taken up by a discussion on the work and production.

Two of the most outstanding teleserials presented by TVM during the current year were: LELI TA' HAZ-ZGHIR by G. Ellul Mercer and IL-MADONNA TAC-COQQA by Guze' Diacono, which was by far the best production ever presented and which caused heated reaction among televiewers because of its realistic presentation and its poignant and effective dialogue and treatment.

The repeat treatment was sustained as a direct result of the positive public reaction to this popular local slot.

Sports

The one-hour Monday edition of SPORTS PANORAMA, "Analizi u Taghrif and the Friday 30-minute edition "Sports fi Tmien il-Gingha" and the Sports results features, continued on a regular basis.

The Monday edition retained its usual format and presented analytical views of the weekend sport events in Malta and abroad.

The Friday edition dedicated, as usual, its allotted airtime to comments on sports activities and a preview of the coming weekend meetings. Both editions underwent considerable improvement in presentation and content.

Furthermore, sports events had extensive O.B. coverage, mainly international football matches, gymnastics, tennis and waterpolo.

All through the final edition of the Football World Cup, Television Malta screened preview reports and up-to-date commentaries about the various phases of the competition. A special "Sports" edition was mounted immediately after the Argentina vs Holland final match. This programme replayed all the goals scored by the competing teams finishing off with the Argentinian triumph.

Since December 1978, Sunday afternoon transmissions flashed super-imposed up-to-the minute football results of the First and Second Division.

Outside Broadcasts

During the 31st March 1979 festivities Television Malta for the first time made use of two O.B. Units and transmitted live events from two different localities in Senglea and Vittoriosa.

A substantial increase of O.B. coverages was registered during the year under review. These included:

1. The Good Friday Procession from Zebbug.
2. The Carnival Festivities.
3. The 13th December show from City Gate - MILL-MALTIN
GHALL-MALTIN.
4. The Midnight Christmas Mass from St. Julian's.
5. The New Year's celebrations from Villa Rosa Tourist Complex.
6. The opening and closing of the C.S.C.I. from Tar 12-
Mediterran ghall-Konferenzi.
7. A series of 13 musical programmes L-GHANJA FIL-BERAE
recorded from different localities in Malta.
8. Recorded inserts on location from the new TV show
METRONOMU which started transmission in May 1979.

Language Courses

The courses in Arabic and French retained their previous format, with slight improvements. While the Arabic language course retained its previous slotting time, the French language course is now being transmitted between 5.30 and 6.00 p.m. outside the normal programme hours.

Both courses will run until the end of June.

Informative and Cultural

Informative programmes are strictly of a public service nature; cultural programmes include productions of scientific, medical, folkloristic, historical and the general kind.

Public service programmes varied in duration from 10 minutes to 30-minute magazines designed to provide information to the public. These programmes which were either produced solely by the Department of Information or in conjunction with TVM, or solely by TVM were:

TAET IL-LENTI - a series of 30-minute programmes produced by the Department of Information on social problems.

IL-METRIKA - a series of 10-minute programmes on metrication.

Other cultural and informative programmes included:

IL-KURA TAS-SNIEN

WINT IN-NATURA

MNEJN GEJ - which analysed the origin and derivation of Maltese surnames.

MINN WICC L-ART - a series of 15-minute programmes on gardening and animal husbandry.

IL-FORCINA - dealing with the most artistic statues in Malta.

RIH IN POPPA - on Malta's mercantile fleet since the arrival of the order of St. John, and

IZDA DAQSEK LIL HADD - on Maltese and international literature.

Under this heading one could mention as well a series of filmlets of Australian production, translated in Maltese on the art of driving and the transmission of 3 foreign documentaries on energy conservation.

Two other foreign productions also transmitted with a Maltese commentary were:

"Encyclopaedia of Wildlife" and
"The Living Body" and "Facts for Life".

Serious Music

The Manoel Theatre Resident Orchestra retained its monthly contribution between October and June.

IL-LEJLA GHAT-TEATRU a fortnightly programme presented and produced by Lino Gatt featured operatic and classical music, either on records or performed by local talent.

GMIEL IL-MELODIJA which was also a fortnightly programme presented and produced by Lino Gatt features classical, operatic and light music classified under different themes, namely: nature, patriotism, poetry and music from films, operas and musical comedies.

Television Malta also presented a one-off programme given by the young pianist Brian Schembri who played works by Schumann, Beethoven, Chopin and Debussy.

TLIET MITT SENA TA' MUZIKA MALTIJA was an Outside Broadcast from the Assembly Hall at the Old University, featuring vocal and instrumental works by old and contemporary Maltese composers.

Light Music & Entertainment

During the year under review TVM presented the following series of light music and entertainment, namely:

Skond id-Daqqaig-Zifna

Teledisco

L-Ghanja fil-Berah

Fil-Pruwa jizfnu n-noti, fil-Poppa l-Poezija
 Wiccek Wicc l-Angli tas-Sema
 Muzika Flora
 Malta Manta'79

Most of these programmes had one aim in mind, that of exploiting and presenting Maltese talent on screen.

Two programmes combined the musical element with either personal abilities or information. In MUZIKA FLORA the musical element ran concurrently with the presentation of flower arranging, and in ZMIEN IN-NAELA, ZMIEN IT-TANGO standard songs interspersed read-out reports from the Maltese Journal IN-NAELA which was published in 1909.

WICCEK WICC L-ANGLI TAS-SEMA, was by far one of the most sought after programmes in this category. It not only presented folklore singing in its two major elements, "tal-fatt" and "spirtu pront" but contained folklore dancing, local songs and recited "ghana".

TELEDISCO continued to enjoy high popularity with teenagers following improvements in its presentation, which included recorded top of the chart hits, provided mainly by the Sound Programme Department. "Teledisco" changed its slotting time on the schedule from early Sunday afternoon to 4.30 p.m. to alternate with the ballroom dancing programme "Skond id-Daqqa, z-Zifna".

Television Malta prepared several "ad hoc" musical programmes during the year. "Il-Milied it-Tajjeb Nann" - the idea originated from last year's programme "L-Ghid it-Tajjeb, Nann" wherein inmates from St. Vincent de Paule Hospital were invited to watch the programme in the studio and listen to reminescent tunes dear to them in their younger years.

Other "ad hoc" musical programmes included the recording in studio of a visiting Welsh Choir; Dancing from Hungary; a special programme on Elvis Presley as a tribute to the singer, a year after his death; the Police Jazz Group on New Year's Day and the organization of the local competition for the international World Disco Dancer Championship in London.

The series of light entertainment programmes were:
 Ghal fuq, Xbin?
 Staqsini 20
 Fl-Internationale.....
 Ejjew Nidhku Ftit

The first two quiz programmes proved very successful; "Staqsini 20" based on the well-known radio programme "20 Questions" managed to enter the top 10 list, while "Ghal fuq Xbin?" having a more cultural slant, followed closely.

"Ejjew Nidhku Ftit" which featured leading comedians and comediennes in Malta was originally intended to run for 13 weeks, but was cut short after the seventh edition because of poor response to it.

Children's and Young People's programmes

Children's programmes included various local productions on a weekly or fortnightly basis.

"Hbieb mill-Arka" was a 30-minute programme intended to create a conscience among children to know and love animals better. The programme which included information on the biological and social aspects of domestic animals had audience participation.

"Waqt li Toninu" was intended mostly for the very young. It was presented jointly by singer Carmen Vella and young Ivan Riolo on an impromptu basis, verging slightly on the Kindergarten element of teaching.

"Il-Hannieqa" was meant for the 10 to 13 year age group, paying special emphasis on entertainment and information.

"K'ise Hsir la Hikber" was a series of 13 programmes commissioned purposely by Television Malta for primary school children. The programme presented by a guidance official from the Department of Education, indicated the various openings and professions a child may have ahead of him in life.

Religious

The weekly programme "Djalogu" continued on a weekly basis.

During Holy Week a series of spiritual thoughts for the occasion were transmitted.

During the latter part of 1978 TVM covered all major religious events either live or recorded. These included:

- the death and funeral of Pope Paul VI and Pope John Paul I;
- the election and enthronement of Pope John Paul I and Pope John Paul II.

For the two enthronement ceremonies Television Malta sent producer Charles Arrigo to give a live commentary in Maltese of the events.

Imported Programmes

Imported programmes accounted for around 49% of the total station output, a decrease of 10% over last year and consequently an increase in locally originated productions.

Imported programme material included serialized drama; documentaries; musical variety and comedy shows; adventure series; cinema films; cartoons and TV Movies.

In the documentary category Television Malta continued to acquire some of the most renowned series produced during recent years, namely: "Before the Ark", "World in Action", "Gates of Asia", "Encyclopaedia of Wildlife" and "Horizon".

50% of this imported material was translated in Maltese, among them a series of short Australian documentary programmes on the "art of driving" and "Wilderness" a 6-part series of 30' programmes on nature study.

Other translated material included an 18-part series of 15-minute programmes entitled "The Living Body". The series dealt exhaustively with information on the human body and was broadcast during early evening immediately following the children's programmes.

Other major foreign documentaries which were translated in Maltese, with information and culture in mind were: "In the lap of the Gods", "I Hadrian", "10 Days that Shook the World" and "Goreme".

Prestigious serialized drama was represented by "Hard Times", "Love for Lydia" and "Lillie".

The 13-part serialized drama "Lillie" by far attracted the highest number of televiewers over the other drama productions. It recounted the turbulent story of Lillie Langtry an unknown girl from the island of Jersey who reached the pinnacle of the British society during the Victorian age.

Adventure series which accounted for 8% of the total transmission output, retained their normal high percentage of viewership. Programmes in this category covered detective, police, suspense, science fiction and adventure themes in such series as "Van der Valk", "Project UFO", "Fantastic Journey", "Charlie's Angels", "Classics Dark and Dangerous", "Tales of the Unexpected", "The Professionals", "Cannon", "Sweeney" and "Starsky & Hutch".

The series most widely acclaimed were "Starsky & Hutch" with 178,000 viewers; "The Professionals" 105,000 and "Charlie's Angels".

Special attention was paid at the auditioning stage of programmes in this genre, to exclude violence as much as possible.

Children's Programmes

Children's programmes featured popular and modern cartoons and animated series; dramatised stories and educational programmes.

The series "Animated Classics" (13 x 60') consisted of various classical works in world literature, among them "Treasure Island", "Ivanhoe", "Swiss Family Robinson", "Moby Dick", "Christmas Carol" and "Robinson Crusoe". Each programme was preceded by a short biographical introduction in Maltese on the author himself and his work.

A similar introduction in Maltese to another English production preceded the adventure maritime story "The Doombolt Chase". Such introductions are being done to enable young Maltese viewers to follow better the story and have a firmer grasp of technical words and phrases used in the relevant screen script.

The series "The Little House on the Prairie" retained the highest viewership as the most popular adventure series, closely followed by "Hunter's Gold" and "Big Blue Marble".

This year, being the "Year of the Child" Television Malta is producing a series of 3 programmes in Maltese with special emphasis on the rights of the Child as proclaimed in the Declaration of the Human Rights. Concurrently weekly editions of children's programmes illustrate various aspects of the International Year.

The informative and educational category was widely represented by such series as "The Story Behind the Story" (archeology and history); "Magic of Music" (elementary information on the sound of music); "It's Fun to Read"; "Big Blue Marble" (on international folklore and customs) and "Under the same Sun" (classical folk stories from the five continents).

Since the introduction of video cassette equipment, programme planners are now in a better position to contract newer and more sophisticated productions for children with special emphasis on programmes of educational, informative and entertaining nature.

Importation by TVM of foreign productions for children has decreased by 5% and substituted by local programmes.

Music & Entertainment

In the comedy, variety and light music category, the following programmes deserve special mention:

Dave Allen at Large; Are you Being Served; Love Boat; Top Secret Life of Edgar Briggs; Oh Father and Many Wives of Patrick.

Variety and music programmes included:

Shang-a-Lang and The Wolfman Jack Show.

Cinema features and TV Movies occupied an average of 6 hours airtime per week and retained their previous high placing in the popularity poll. The following audience figures emerge from the last survey: Tuesday Cinema 142,000; Anthology 130,000; Friday Cinema 137,000; Sunday Matinee 116,000.

This year's long list of films included such box office hits as: "The Touch"; "The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie"; "Sun Valley Serenade"; "Sunflower" and "The Lion in Winter".

For the first time in TVM's history a foreign film of Chinese production was dubbed in Maltese. This first-ever effort was well received, though admittedly it was far from perfect. Two more foreign films, this time of Hungarian origin are envisaged for similar limited dubbing.

The Sunday Matinee feature films came to a stop on March 25, when afternoon transmissions ended to be resumed in October, 1979.

The Sound Broadcasting Services

Following the withdrawal of the English Service on Cable Radio Two and its replacement by the National Programme of Radio Malta in January 1978, schedules were revised so that the respective networks offer a particular type of programme to meet a particular range of interests, and provide the listener with a wider choice of programmes throughout the day.

Cable Radio, undeniably a house-bound service, now includes matter which calls for some concentration and imagination, hence the high percentage of spoken word and serious programmes as compared to light and pop which is 60% to 40%.

Radio Malta National (Cable Radio Two) with an estimated set-count of over 90,000 can be followed in cars, taxis, buses, shops, markets, sport arenas, beaches, streets, industrial complexes and homes. The flexible nature of a radio service favours the younger generation and the 67% of musical entertainment reflects the diverse forms of pop, rock and disco sounds of today, spinned by a team of dj's who have become household names. The remaining airtime is carefully allocated to provide a service of information, culture and education to the people.

The new development policy of the two National Networks widened the range of their output, and though continuously under review, prompted a most favourable public reaction. The success of the revised programme structure reflected highly on the radio listenership survey conducted by an Independent Company, M.A. Ltd. on behalf of Zandir Malta in November 1978.

The report, which was published in January, 1979 confirmed the steps taken by the programme planners, as can be judged from the following major features of the findings:-

Daily average listenership:-

Radio Malta National/Cable Radio 2	159,000
Cable Radio One	123,000

The total daily listenership on Radio and Cable Radio thus registered 282,000, representing more than two thirds of the total population (aged 9 years and over) of these Islands.

The following is a brief selection of the audience figures:

Radio Malta National/Cable Radio Two

Discobolo/Sport	87,000	listeners
L-Aqwa fl-Ingilterra	83,000	"
Antenna	78,000	"
Karusell/Sport	72,000	"
Ferrovija Muzikali	61,000	"

Cable Radio One

Quiz (il-partita)	63,000	listeners
Il-Mara Maltija	59,000	"
L-Avukat	59,000	"
It-Tabib	54,000	"
Fejn Tmur il-Qalb	51,000	"

Whilst the survey provided encouraging results, numerous letters from listeners also backed the new programme format.

Other significant developments during the year in review were the introduction of a four-hour daily English service on Radio Malta Three (International) to compensate for the withdrawal of similar transmission formerly carried on Cable Radio Two, and the establishment of "Radio Mediterran", which went on the air for the first time on both short and medium wave band in November 1978.

National Radio (Cable and Radio Malta)

Children's programmes

Broadcasts for children were aimed and provided a source of enrichment and entertainment. Programmes were specially devised to cater for different age groups whilst the themes within the framework continued to aim at developing the children's imagination and sense of creativity. Their fluency in written and spoken communications, character, formation and interest in the outside world.

To encourage public speech and conversation, a quality seldom found in children of these Islands, a weekly forty-five minute series "Dawra Durella" was introduced during which children between the ages of four and ten were invited to the studios and interviewed at random on various subjects relevant to their ages and interests.

The "International Year of the Child" was constantly kept in mind and promoted during the weekly schedule which was formulated as follows:-

Monday	- Readings from Maltese Literature for children	(all ages)
Tuesday	- Dawra Durella	(4 to 10 years)
Wednesday	- L-Irgiel u n-Nisa t'Ghada	(12 to 15 years)
Thursday	- Kid-Dinja Madwarna	(all ages)
Saturday	- Drama	(all ages)
Sunday	- Magazine Programme	(all ages Cable Radio/Radio Malta Nat.)

Special features were also inserted in the programme schedules to coincide with seasonal events, and National or International commemorations.

Magazines and documentaries

This sector again covered a wide range of subjects and continues to attract audiences of many thousands. Much hard work is put into the preparation of these series, and the importance devoted to such programmes is aligned to the scope and ultimate objectives, namely that of providing listeners with a progressive outlook on general world events, and the formation and diversification of attitudes.

Subject matter dealt with in depth during the past twelve months included History, Geography, General Knowledge, Science and Technology, the Occult, Maritime History, Maltese Arts and Crafts to mention a few.

To coincide with the "March 31 1979" celebrations, six documentaries were mounted each dedicated to services and establishments vital to the economy, stability and industrial growth of the Maltese Islands. Those assessed were the Telemalta Corporation, Sea Malta, Air Malta, the National Tourist Organisation, EneMalta and the Dockyard.

Other noteworthy documentaries produced for broadcast on specific occasions were descriptive of "Telecommunications Day", "Good Friday", "Christmas in Europe" and the deaths and elections of two Popes recorded during the year under review.

Talks - quizzes - discussions

The criteria and responsibilities of the media in the Magazine and Documentary sector, also applies to this division of programming where broadcasting has a general and broader value to the educational purpose of the community, and the

successful pattern operated in the past was maintained.

General information was shaped in either unit or discussion form, carried in regular series such as the daily programmes for the housewife, or broadcast as independent features. Experts in diverse fields including the public services, were invited to talk on wide ranging subjects and topics of the moment..

The National Networks catered for listeners from all walks of life and age groups. The overall structure was an assembly of information on health, gardening, farming, motoring, house decoration, legal matters, science, cooking, dressmaking, building, philately, psychology, the Arts, Theatre, Religion, higher education, safety measures at home and on the job, the environment and every other theme whether of general or minority interest.

Series worthy of mention were "Bieb Miftuh", "Ix-Xjenza llum", "Madwarna", "Mill-Plateja", "Flinkien", "Mis-Sillabul-Malti" and "Minn Fomm Missirijietna".

"Il-Partita", a quiz series based on the traditional pastime "Bocci", attracted mass audiences which the audience survey estimated at 63,000.

Music

Popular and Light

"Pop" music programmes continued to attract the masses, especially on Radio Malta National/Cable Radio Two, a station which specialises in the projection of the diverse forms of popular music and the latest trends in rock, country, soul and the disco sounds of today were adequately highlighted.

This brand of melody is undoubtedly the preference of the majority of the Station's audience and adjacent outlets which were independent of the straight d.j. show and indicative of the ever-changing record scene, rendered presentations more colourful.

In addition to weekly airings of best selling records in the U.S.A., Britain and Italy, in line with the current trends, a Saturday morning "disco" hit parade was introduced together with a two-hour Monday night spin of "progressive rock" to cater for an ever-increasing band of enthusiasts.

Whilst Radio Malta National/Cable Radio Two concentrated on the trendy music of today, the traditional, nostalgic and sophisticated-classics of yesteryear were abundantly included in the schedules of Cable Radio One in the series like "Snin tad-Dcheb", "Kanzunetti Antiki Taljani", "Mill-Puritani għall-Broadway", "Meta l-Orkestri kienu Orkestri", "Broadway Jibqa Jafulhom", "Il-Bandisti" and other programmes devised in tribute to artists and musicians who helped build today's massive show business industry.

The interests of the minority were also safeguarded through an appreciable output of Jazz, Operetta, records from the International hit parade and three 17-week series of strict dance-tempo music which helped in the revival of ballroom-dancing.

Every available form of Maltese Music was given prominence from "Ghana" and pop, to the ever-popular brass bands. In addition to the Cable Radio One concerts featuring Maltese and Gozitan Band Clubs, and in collaboration with the Band Clubs Association, a weekly thirty-minute series was launched on Radio Malta National/Cable Radio Two with the best of the current local "band-marches" in a programme titled "Festa".

Holy Week was commemorated with the usual concerts of "Funeral Marches" which were broadcast by local Bands via the two National Networks.

Xandir Malta was represented by Mary Spiteri at the Slovene International Song Contest organised by Yugoslav Television at Celje in early October. Her vocal talents, grace and warm personality were highly applauded during the preliminaries and final nights and Xandir Malta's presence at the Contest provided an added boost to Maltese artistic capabilities at International levels.

Serious Music

The re-alignment of programme schedules prompted an increase of this category of output on Cable Radio One. "Composer of the Week", broadcast daily from Monday through Friday, was the main vehicle used to create awareness and appreciation of accepted masterpieces and the works of present day composers. Conductors were also given their due and highlighted in a seventeen-week series aptly titled "Taht il-Baketta ta'....". Established Concerts and recitals which are broadcast on Mondays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays covered almost the complete classical repertoire. The music was produced from gramophone records and recordings from overseas stations. Visiting virtuosos and Maltese instrumentalists were also featured in studio recitals or recordings made direct from Concert Halls or Cathedral organs. Violinist, Inez Vella, and German organist, Wilhelm Krumbach, being two examples.

A series discussing new classical record releases also proved highly popular.

In the opera sector the series "The Story of Opera in Malta" was continued, whilst listeners' choice of arias and scenes from Operas proved very popular outlets on Sundays and Mondays.

Full length operas broadcast on Thursdays and Fridays featured both the popular and lesser known works. The playbill included "Tosca", "Suor Angelica", and "Gianni Schicchi" by Puccini, "La Favorita" and "Lucia di Lamermoor" by Donizetti, "Ernani" and "Il Trovatore" by Verdi, "La Gioconda" by Ponchielli, Massenet's "La Navarraise", "Fedora" by Giordano and Bizet's "Il Pescatore di Perle".

Literary programmes

An appreciable percentage of the speech output is accorded to Maltese literature. Most popular in this sector is the daily readings in thirty minute episodes by Charles Arrigo and Twanny Scalpello. These two personalities were augmented by Anton Grasso, an author who specialises in "spine-chilling" writings and his two seventeen-week runs caused quite an impact.

Foremost Literary Societies were again allocated airtime and their contribution in this field is indeed encouraging.

An important addition to this sector was the recitation of "epics" in verse, a form which had never been exploited on radio before. "Minn Misrah il-Ghana" actually surpassed all expectations, and the pre-planned one term series was extended due to popular demand.

Commemorative programmes were mounted on the death of foremost Maltese author Guze' Galea and to mark the 150th Anniversary from the birth of Leo Tolstoy.

Sport

Flexibility and immediacy, two of radio's main assets, were exploited to the full throughout the year, to reflect the best in local and foreign sport. All major events were covered, and broadcasts were not limited to football; Volleyball, hockey, boxing, billiards, Gymnastics and archery were also fully reported.

In addition to the daily evening sport programmes and week-end direct reportage, whenever possible national and international competitions involving Maltese teams, athletes and individual contenders at both National or Club level were justifiably accorded special coverage.

Worthy of mention were broadcasts connected with the European Nations and U.E.F.A. Cups, the International Waterpolo Competition, International Tennis Tournament, the Middle Sea Race, Amateur World Snooker Championships, and, of course, the World Cup Football Championships held in Argentina between June 1 and June 25, 1978.

All events organised by the Ministry of Works and Sport were covered in interview, report and commentary and direct transmissions of matches played between parastatal formations and visiting football teams from China, Italy, Libya and England were broadcast in full.

An added feature was a weekly 34- programme series titled "Mid-Djarju ta' Sportiv" in which Maltese Sport personalities of yesteryear were invited to reminisce informally on their past achievements and compare the brand and technique of sport today with the mode of play and conditions of days gone by.

Radio drama

Radio Drama continues to attract the masses, however, the recent survey indicated a slight drop which could have been caused by the continued and constant rise of Television audiences especially on a Sunday Night, the time when the first transmission originates. The repeat on Thursday afternoons attracted 48,000 people compared with the Sunday listenership of 23,000. The times of broadcast are being reviewed to again attract the widest audience possible.

With the exception of two, all plays broadcast between April 1978 and March 1979 were written by local authors. Thrillers were again in abundance, and whilst writers are being urged to turn out a more varied output the drama panel are examining foreign works with a view to adaptation and translation for inclusion in the playbill.

Worthy of mention was a translation of Goldoni's "La Locandiera" which had earlier been performed on stage by the students of the Manoel Theatre Academy of Dramatic Art. It was in three parts and each act was transmitted on consecutive Sundays.

The number of plays broadcast during the year was 51.

Seven serials totalling 52 episodes were also aired. Two of these "Boccadoro" and "Gojjelli w Brillanti" were adaptations of foreign works. The former based on a well-known novel by Raffel Sabatini and the latter on an English comedy series.

Drama broadcasts provided some 680 acting roles during the year under review.

Outstanding broadcasts

The 31st March, 1979 celebrations were covered extensively. Besides the special features and documentaries related to the occasion, some of which were mentioned earlier on in this report, direct transmissions and commentaries of the official festivities were broadcast on the national media including the Farewell Concert featuring the Massed Bands of the Royal Marines and the Armed Forces of Malta at the Manoel Theatre, a musical extravaganza staged by foreign and local talent at Freedom Square, the Sports Festival at the Marsa, the Water Festival at the Grand Harbour, the Flag Raising Ceremony and laying of bouquets in homage at the "Monument tal-Helsien", Pontifical High Mass from St. John's Co-Cathedral, the departure of E.M.S. London, the festivities held in Gozo and Libyan Leader Colonel Muammar Gaddafi's address to the people of these Islands.

Other broadcasts worthy of mention were the Carnival commentaries in May 1978; special programmes to mark the death of Pope Paul VI on August 6, 1978, the enthronement and eventual death of Pope John Paul I on September 3 and September 28 respectively, and the enthronement of Pope John Paul II on October 22, 1978. Both enthronement ceremonies were direct

from the Vatican with commentary in Maltese from Rome by Charles Arrigo. Direct and deferred relays of parliamentary debates on November 6, 1978 and Saturday and Sunday, January 26 and 27 respectively; Republic Day Celebrations on December 13, 1978; the official opening of the Mediterranean Conference Centre on February 11, 1979 and the opening Ceremony of the C.S.C.E. Meeting of Experts on February 13, 1979.

Appeals for charity

As in former years Cable Radio One broadcast the customary appeal on behalf of the Community Chest Fund on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. The total amount received in response again broke all previous records at £M7,800.

Radio Malta Two Musical

This all music service featured a wide-ranging balance of programmes to F.M. listeners on 87.9 MHz in the VHF Band.

The output represented:-

88.9% of light and popular music

10.2% of serious music

0.9% News

Transmissions start at 0600 and ended at midnight.

Radio Malta Three - International

Programmes originating from this Station were increased in May, 1978 and the service which until then, was exclusively in Italian, started transmissions in English, thus compensating to some extent for the withdrawal of the English Service previously relayed over Cable Radio Two.

Transmissions in Italian are from 0900 to 1400 whilst broadcasts in English follow from 1400 to 1800.

The daily schedules feature programmes of various categories which reach Xandir Malta from foreign Stations, information for the tourists and three news bulletins.

Radio Malta Three transmits on 756 kHz in the medium wave.

External Services

"Malta Calling"

The weekly service in the German language was discontinued in November 1978 and the available air-time of sixty minutes was therefore totally employed for transmissions in English. The programme content incorporates a digest of the week's Malta News, interviews related to topics of the moment, historical and touristic information and musical inserts.

Weekly transmissions are directed to Northern Europe on 9670 kHz (21 meters) in the short wave, on Saturdays from 0700 to 0800 GMT.

Radio Mediterran, which was launched on November 23, 1978, transmits for an hour daily from 1800 to 1900 GMT in English, French and Arabic and is radiated in both the medium and short wave bands. This informative service comprises news and cultural items relating to Mediterranean Countries and their peoples.

Wavelengths are as follows:-

Medium: 1557 kHz, 193 meters

Short: 5960 kHz, 49 meters

Lehen Malta

A daily service in Arabic, which was broadcast in the medium wave, was discontinued in April, 1978, to make way for Radio Mediterran.

Additional Notes

Xandir Malta Studios were made available to foreign correspondents who came to Malta to report on the C.S.C.E. Meeting of Experts.

During the twelve months ending March 31, 1979 the number of subscribers to the Cable Radio Service was 48,225 whilst the total number of sets stood at 59,051.

The 23,119 broadcasting hours registered during the period under review were transmitted via the following services:-

Cable Radio One	6,240 hours
Radio Malta One/ Cable Radio Two	6,552 "
Radio Malta Two	6,552 "
Radio Malta Three	3,640 "
External Services	135 "
<hr/>	
Total:	23,119 hours
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The main news bulletin on TV, commands an average audience of 153,000 an increase of ten percent over the year before. This increase in viewership is due to the new pattern devised for the thirty-minute bulletin. The formula introduced in January 1978 and adopted on a regular basis towards the latter part of the year under review, blends the day's news with features and commentaries, designed to give more explanation and background information. Human stories, cultural items and sports events are featured in the last part of the bulletin.

During the year there were a large number of notable coverages. These included:-

- a. The events marking the end of the British Military presence on the Island.
- b. The meeting of experts of the CSCE on the Mediterranean.
- c. The Prime Minister's visit and address to the Council of Europe in Strasbourg.
- d. The Prime Minister's visit to Libya, where he addressed the Libyan people.
- e. The subsequent approval by the General Congress of the People's Committees of Financial aid to Malta.
- f. The death of two Popes and the election of their successors.
- g. The assassination of Italian statesman, Aldo Moro.
- h. The visits to Malta by President Gaddafi and the Chinese Vice-Premier, Keng Piao.
- i. The military aircraft crash at Luqa and the route bus accident in Sliema.

Many visiting and local personalities were interviewed for television during 1978/1979, including the Hungarian Foreign Minister, Frigyes Puja; The Austrian Primate, Cardinal Koening; The Soviet dissident, Andrei Amalrik; the Vice President of the European Union of Christian Democrats, Kai Von Hassel; the Kuwaiti Minister of Health, Abdel Rahman Al Awadi; the secretary general of the U.N. Economic Commission for Europe, Janos Stanovic; the last Commander of the British Forces in Malta, Admiral O.N.A. Cecil; the Deputy Director General of UNESCO, Frederico Mayor; and Miss World 1978, Mary Stavins.

Foreign News

The past twelve months were pregnant with important foreign events and developments, some of which, directly or indirectly, with a bearing on Malta.

It was the year of three Popes; of hope, fear and dissension in the Middle East; of changes in China and its outlook. It was the year of the killing of Aldo Moro; of the Iran Revolution; of the death of Houari Boumedienne of Algeria. It was the year in which the oil crisis worsened and measures were taken to cut consumption. It was the year of the test-tube baby and the World Cup.

Xandir Malta sought to give wide coverage to all major events and other occurrences on the international scene and to present them to viewers and listeners with background information and analysis.

The information and detailed examination were largely based on reports filed by various agencies from Western and developing countries, and on monitored material relayed by foreign stations.

In the compilation of news bulletins, special attention was paid to events which occurred in those countries with whom Malta is closely connected by ties of culture, trade, friendship and other relationships.

Xandir Malta continued to rely heavily on films supplied by the international news film organisation, VISNEWS, to illustrate foreign news. The annual footage supplied by Visnews totalled 130,000.

In July 1978 another film source was tapped for the first time on a regular basis. This was the European television service of the German news organisation, DPA, who supplies an average of nine hundred feet of film weekly.

Discussion Programmes

With a view of reflecting the plurality of opinions and ideas of a growing society, the exponents of opposing factions and schools of thought were brought into the studio and eventually into the homes of listeners and viewers. Discussion programmes are broadcast regularly, every Saturday and Sunday on Cable Radio, and fortnightly on television. It should be noted that the ~~impartiality~~ requirement laid down by law refers to current public policy as well as to matters of political or industrial controversy. Due impartiality is therefore required in dealing with any matter of current public policy even though the matter may not be the subject of active controversy at the time.

Some of the issues open to discussion during the past year are given in the following sample list of subjects:-

The Pension Scheme

The Development Plan Supplement

Import Controls and Import Substitution

Malta and Europe
 1979: The Challenges Ahead
 Towards Economic Viability for Malta
 Malta and Libya
 Malta in Foreign Mass Media
 Free Expression in Malta
 The Tertiary Education Reform
 Occupational Health and Hazards
 The textile Industry
 Water Shortage
 The 1979 Budget
 Terrorism
 The Oil Crisis
 Alternative Sources of Energy
 Who will succeed Pope Paul the Sixth?
 Is There Need for Reform in the Law Courts?
 Iran
 Measures to Curb Traffic Accidents
 The Rehabilitation of Convicts
 The Special Repatriation Scheme
 The Protection of the Consumer
 The Camp David Agreement
 The Killing of Aldo Moro
 The Meeting of Experts of the CSCE on the Mediterranean
 Housing (Decontrol) Ordinance, 1959.

Parliament

Parliament continued to be a major source of news. The debates in the House are given ample coverage in the TV programme, "Il-Lojla fil-Parlament", which is broadcast every night when Parliament is in session. Similar reports are broadcast direct from the Palace on Cable Radio 2 and Radio Malta, with a repeat on the following day.

The reports which were compiled by a pool of seven correspondents, were generally objective and of good standard.

The parliamentary highlight during the year under review was the debate on Malta's foreign policy which was broadcast live on November 6, 1978.

The Budget speech was presented to the House of Representatives on January 15 by the ~~then~~ Minister of Finance, Dr. Joseph Abela. Special broadcasts were made on the day to keep the public abreast with the policy and measures which Dr. Abela outlined in Parliament. At the end of his speech, the Minister of Finance gave an exclusive interview on television.

The Opposition's views on the Budget were spelled out by the Leader of the Opposition, Dr. E. Fenech Adami, in an interview which was broadcast on the day when he replied to the Budget Speech in Parliament.

Malta U Lil Hinn Minnha and "ad hoc" Programmes

The News Department of Xandir Malta looks towards its weekly magazine, "Malta u lil Hinn Minnha" as its banner carrier, and as such all producers contribute in one way or another towards the realisation of this programme.

The new production pattern has generated greater interest in the programme among the staff and has helped to improve the content and quality of the programme.

It has also given scope to deeper investigation of problems and issues, confronting communities in Malta and abroad. According to the findings of the market survey, the programme commands an average viewership of one hundred and five thousand.

During the year a number of special programmes, were successfully produced both on television and on sound.

One of these was a two-hour TV documentary "Mill-Kolonjalizmu għall-Melcien Shih" dealing with Malta's links with Britain over a period of one hundred and eighty years. The documentary during the last week in March coincided with the end of the British presence on the Island.

Another two-part documentary was screened in April 1978, on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the event which led to the April 1958 disturbances in Valletta. The Prime Minister, Mr Dom Mintoff, was interviewed for the programme.

Other "ad-hoc" programmes dwelt on:-

- a. The textile Industry
- b. The Mediterranean Conference Centre
- c. The Apprenticeship Scheme.

News and Programmes in English

A news summary and a news bulletin are broadcast daily on the International Network of Radio Malta.

A Current Affairs programme, "People in the News", is broadcast every week on the same network.

The magazine is also incorporated in the programme, "Malta Calling", which is beamed on the short-wave. As such the programme deals with a variety of topical subjects which appeal to foreign residents in Malta and to foreign listeners.

It usually consists of interviews with four to six local and foreign personalities.

From February 13 to March 26, during the CSCE Conference, a short news bulletin in English was broadcast on TVM, after the main bulletin in Maltese.

Overseas Assignments

During the year, Xandir Malta's newsman had the opportunity to travel abroad on assignments or to attend international meetings.

The Head of News attended meetings of the Experts on the functions and the role of the Media of the Committee of the mass media of the Council of Europe. The meetings were held in Strasbourg in April and October, 1978.

In May 1978, another member of the staff, Mr Manwel Sammit, formed part of a delegation from Malta which attended a Commonwealth Communications Symposium in Nicosia, Cyprus.

In September 1978, Mr Tonio Portuguese was assigned to cover the Prime Minister's visit to the Council of Europe in Strasbourg.

Other members of the staff travelled to Damascus, Tripoli, Benghazi and Munich.

The following is a breakdown of the regular Current Affairs programmes on Sound and Television during the period under review:

TELEVISION

<u>Day of Broadcast</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Frequency & Duration</u>	<u>Average Audience</u>
Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday	"Mill-Parlament"	25 minutes	63,000
Thursday	"Malta u Lil Hinn Minnha"	35 minutes/ weekly	105,000
Tuesday	"Nithaddtuha"	40 minutes/ fortnightly	58,000

SOUND

<u>Day of Broadcast</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Frequency & Duration</u>	<u>Average Audience</u>
Monday to Friday	"Harsa Lejn"	25 minutes	14,000
Sunday	"People in the News"	15 minutes/ weekly	---
Monday to Sunday	"Mill-Gurnali"	10 minutes/ daily	8,500
Saturday and Sunday	"Diskussjoni"	30 minutes/ weekly	23,000
Sunday	"Mill-Ahbari- jiet tal-Gingha"	30 minutes/ weekly	24,700
Sunday	"Lil Hinn mix- Xefaq"	30 minutes/ weekly	62,000
Wednesday	"Fid-Dinja Illum"	15 minutes/ fortnightly	20,000
Thursday	"Stharrig u Fehmiet"	20 minutes/ fortnightly	20,000
Monday and Tuesday	"Minn Kullim- kien"	30 minutes/ fortnightly	22,000
Monday and Tuesday	"Wicc Imb' Wicc"	30 minutes/ fortnightly	22,000

The Schools Broadcasting Service

Sound and television broadcasts to schools during the period in review were as follows:-

	<u>SOUND</u>	<u>TELEVISION</u>
PRIMARY	181 broadcasts	62 transmissions
SECONDARY	53 broadcasts	134 transmissions
TRADE SCHOOLS	nil	20 transmissions

Subjects covered in Sound and TV broadcasts for primary schools were:- Religion, Maltese, English, Science, Social Studies, General Culture, Music and Drama.

Broadcasts for secondary schools were about Religion (Sound), General Culture, Geography, Civics and Guidance.

Transmissions for trade and technical schools dealt mainly with topics of direct interest to the students attending these schools.

Primary Schools

Sound broadcasts covering a variety of subjects for all age groups, except kindergarten, are faithfully and regularly followed in primary schools. In spite of the attractions of television, sound broadcasts have held their own and have become a useful fixture on the curriculum.

As in past years the most popular sound broadcasts were the Maltese quizzes for Year 5 and 6. These programmes - in which teams from two different towns compete against each other - are devised to focus attention on spoken Maltese.

On television the outstanding series for primary schools has been "KWIEKEB ZGEAR".

Each of the ten programmes consisting of Music, Movement and Drama was presented by Year 4 pupils, from a different school.

Programmes were built around the following themes:-

<u>Prog. 1</u>	A Fable (Paola Girls)
<u>Prog. 2</u>	Traditional Songs and Games (Xaghra M)
<u>Prog. 3</u>	On The Farm (Qormi G.St. Seb)
<u>Prog. 4</u>	Friends of the Children (Tarxien B.)
<u>Prog. 5</u>	Preservation of the Environment (Mosta G.)
<u>Prog. 6</u>	Traditional Vendors (Zebbug B.)
<u>Prog. 7</u>	Transport in Malta (Msida M)
<u>Prog. 8</u>	The Seasons (Hamrun G. Vic. Ave.)
<u>Prog. 9</u>	The Sea (Zejtun B.)
<u>Prog.10</u>	The International Year of the Child - Safety (Cospicua G.)

The programmes have been extremely well received not only for their refreshing approach but also because viewers were able to indentify themselves with the children taking part.

Secondary Schools

Five different series were transmitted for secondary school viewing - one series for each Form.

Perhaps the one which has received the highest rating was "L-Ahhar Cena" designed for those FORM V boys and girls who will be leaving secondary school at the end of the year.

The topics covered were:

1. Transition from school to work
2. Job opportunities
3. Requirements - I
4. Requirements - II
5. The Student-Worker Scheme
6. Rights and Duties of a Worker
7. Safety and Health of the Worker
8. Leisure

Teachers and students agree that programmes have been very useful not only for those who are pursuing further studies but also for those boys and girls who will soon be taking up a job.

Trade Schools

"Sengha U Hila" was the name of the series for Forms I of the Trade and Technical Schools.

Programmes were specifically designed not only to impress upon the students the importance of learning the practical as well as the theoretical aspect of a trade but also to convince them of the usefulness of the "academic" subjects which are taught at school.

Among the topics dealt with were the following:- the workers' contribution to the Island's economy, industrial hazards, functional design, standards, traditional and modern crafts and cooperatives.

The schools' response to these programmes has been encouraging.

Publications_

The School Broadcasting Unit continued to produce ancillary material for pupils, students and teachers. Three editions of NOTES in printed form were produced for all teachers in the Primary Schools, while five issues of the Young Listener for seniors (circulation 12,000) and the Young Listener for juniors (13,000) were published.

CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS REGARDING
THE 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 President, 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 President, 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 President, 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 sub-section (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.

Appendix II

PROCEDURE GOVERNING
PARTY POLITICAL BROADCASTS

General Rules

1. This scheme of Party Political Broadcasts consists of Press Conferences and Political Conferences, Debates and other programmes which may take the form best suited to the parties' interests.
2. All programmes referred to under this scheme are transmitted under the auspices of the Broadcasting Authority and, with the exception of the television programmes produced by the Parties themselves, will be transmitted on all media.
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 covers the period February 1979 to January, 1980.
5. Political Broadcasts will be held in accordance with a pre-determined calendar.
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 Telemalta Corporation (Xandir Malta Division), will accept any responsibility for any interference with or breakdown of the television service or the Cable Radio or radio services and cannot bind themselves to repeat any broadcasts that suffer as a result of such interference or breakdown.
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. Programmes in this series will be broadcast on Fridays at 8.30 p.m. Alternative timing arrangements may be made for summertime.
11. Provided adequate notice is given, the Authority will issue a Press Hand-Out and advance publicity on the broadcasting media will also be arranged.
12. This series of party political broadcasts will automatically come to an end on the date Parliament is dissolved.
13. In all political programmes where the Authority required 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.

14. 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.
15. The following arrangements are made for party political broadcasting during the period 1979/80.

CONFERENCES

General Rules

16. The section reserved for Conferences consists of 11 programmes and comprises two types of conferences - "Konferenza Politika" and "Konferenza Stampa".
17. Subjects and speakers for Conferences will be selected by political parties on an alternate basis.

18. The 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.
19. 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 Conference fairly and firmly, in order to ensure clarity at all times and a fair opportunity for all.
20. 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.
21. Questions should be brief and to the point.
22. Questioners may put one question and supplementary questions to the Speaker. The Chairman should endeavour to induce speakers to reply fully to the questions put to them whilst endeavouring to restrain questioners from interrupting during the course of the programme. The Chairman should also provide equal opportunities to representatives of the Press or of the political parties on the questioners' side.

23. The Conferences are pre-recorded at the Television Studios. All participants are to be at the Studios not later than half-an-hour before recording time. Unless otherwise directed by the Authority, recording will 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

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

Malta Labour Party	-	3 Political Conferences of 60 minutes each and one of 40 minutes
Nationalist Party	-	3 Political Conferences of 60 minutes each

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

Introductions	1 min.
Speaker's introduction	5 mins.
Question Time	48 mins.
Speaker's roundup	5 mins.
Closing	1 min.

In the case of the 40-minute programme, question time will be reduced to 28 minutes.

26. 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

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

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

PRESS CONFERENCES

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

Malta Labour Party: 2 Press Conferences of
60 minutes each

Nationalist Party: 2 Press Conferences of
60 minutes each

30. Press representation at each Press Conference will be as follows:

i) On a regular basis:

Allied Newspapers (1 representative)

Il-Hajja Press (1 representative)

Independence Press (2 representatives)

Union Press (2 representatives)

ii) On a roster basis:

The Bulletin
Lehen is-Sewwa
Mediterranean News

The Authority reserves the right to review the question of Press representation from time to time.

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

DISCUSSIONSGeneral Rules

33. The present series of Discussions is made up of eight political debates of 45 minutes each.
34. Discussions are transmitted from Xandir Malta Studios after pre-recording. All participants are to be at the Studios not later than half-an-hour before recording time. Unless otherwise directed by the Authority, recording will 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.
35. 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.

36. A Chairman will take charge of all debates and discussions in the series. A substitute Chairman may also be appointed.
37. 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

38. 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.

39. Debates will be conducted on the following lines:-

Chairman's introduction	1½ mins.
(1st Round)	
First Speaker (Party "A")	6 mins.
Second Speaker (" "B")	5 mins.
Third Speaker (" "A")	5 mins.
Fourth Speaker (" "B")	5 mins.
(2nd Round)	
First Speaker (Party "A")	5 mins.
Second Speaker (" "B")	5 mins.
Third Speaker (" "B")	5 mins.
Fourth Speaker (" "A")	6 mins.
Closing	<u>1½ mins.</u>
	<u>45 mins.</u>

40. 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.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES PRODUCED BY THE PARTIES

41. At the discretion of the parties, these programmes may vary from the straight talk to a more elaborate production.
42. These programmes will not be of more than 15 minutes duration and will only be broadcast on television.
43. A production script must be prepared and this is to reach the Authority's Offices typewritten and in triplicate not later than noon on the Wednesday before the day of broadcast except for programmes taken in interview form which may be unscripted. In all cases legal vetting will take place, in consultation with the parties concerned, at least 36 hours before the programme is due to be recorded. The Authority's decision will be final.
44. Those taking part or the person responsible for the programme must be at the television studios at 2.30 p.m. on the day of broadcast for the programme to be rehearsed and 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. Adequate notice has to be given to the Authority to allow for proper legal vetting and trailing on the broadcasting media.

46. The time allotted to each political party should not be exceeded and in the case of scripted programmes there must be no material deviation from the script. Speakers are allowed thirty seconds grace on each fifteen minute programme.
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 any other form.
48. These programmes will be assigned as follows:
- Malta Labour Party - 2 programmes of 15 mins. each
and 1 programme of 10 mins.
 - Nationalist Party - 2 programmes of 15 mins. each

The Authority retains full discretionary powers on the admissability or otherwise of any material proposed for inclusion in these programmes. 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 programme..

Appendix IIIANALYSIS OF TELEVISION PROGRAMMESTable 1. Breakdown of all Television Programmes

	Weekly Average Hours		%	
	1978/79	1977/78	1978/79	1977/78
News & Magazine Programmes	6.7	6.60	16.3	16.1
Talks & Discussions	.7	.27	1.7	.6
Political Broadcasts	.4	.50	.9	1.2
Ministerials and Right of Reply	.04	.08	.1	.2
Parliamentary Reports	.8	.42	2.0	1.0
Documentaries	3.3	.50	8.1	1.2
Feature Films	4.3	4.00	10.5	9.8
Religion	.8	.50	2.0	1.2
Schools	1.1	1.57	2.7	3.8
Adult Education	.9	1.00	2.2	2.4
Children's Programmes	5.3	6.00	13.0	14.6
Series Adventure/Classics	5.1	6.00	12.4	14.6
Family Comedy	1.5	4.00	3.7	9.8
Variety and Shows	1.5	1.50	3.7	3.7
Drama	.84	1.50	2.1	3.6
Arts and Literature	.6	.25	1.4	.6
Serious Music & Ballet	.6	.50	1.5	1.2
Folk Music	.8	-	2.0	-
Sports	2.5	3.00	6.0	7.7
Advertising	2.2	2.75	5.3	6.7
Miscellaneous	1.01	-	2.4	-
	40.99	40.94	100.0	100.0

Station originated
programmes

21.21 16.73 51.74 40.66

Appendix IVANALYSIS OF RADIO PROGRAMMESTable 1. Breakdown of Cable Radio OneLocally Originated Programmes

	Weekly Average Hours		%	
	1978/79	1977/78	1978/79	1977/78
News and Magazine Programmes	18.40	23.25	15.4	19.3
Talks & Discussions	6.21	5.17	5.2	4.3
Ministerials and Right of Reply	.02 .01	.10 .02	- -	.1 -
Religious Broadcasts	6.71	6.12	5.6	5.1
Schools	1.22	1.17	1.0	.9
Adult Education	5.64	4.79	4.7	4.0
Children's Programmes				
Informative	1.33	1.67	1.1	1.4
Entertainment	1.00	.50	.8	.4
Plays, Serials & Maltese Readings	9.19	7.28	7.7	6.0
Variety	.89	1.02	.8	.8
Quizzes & Panel Games	1.21	.35	1.0	.3
Sports	-	2.23	-	1.9
Serious Music	8.57	5.69	7.2	4.7
Light/Popular Music	49.28	52.03	41.1	43.2
Women's Programmes	3.61	3.75	3.0	3.1
Others	5.93	4.48	4.9	3.7
Political Broadcasts	.31	.31	.3	.3
	119.53	119.93	99.8	99.5
Foreign material used in News Magazines	.31	.56	.2	.5
	119.84	120.49	100.0	100.0

Table 2. Breakdown of Cable Radio Two/Radio Malta One

	Weekly Average Hours		%	
	1978/79	1977/78	1978/79	1977/78
News & Magazine Programmes	19.63	28.55	15.6	23.4
Talks and Discussions	1.66	5.12	1.3	4.2
Ministerials and Right of Reply	-	-	-	-
Religious Broadcasts	1.61	1.45	1.3	1.2
Schools	-	-	-	-
Adult Education	1.09	1.83	.9	1.5
Children's Programmes:				
Informative	-	-	-	-
Entertainment	.33	.28	.3	.2
Plays, Serials & Maltese Readings	4.04	7.73	3.2	6.3
Variety	-	1.17	-	1.0
Quizzes & Panel Games	-	.86	-	.7
Sports	2.49	7.60	1.9	6.2
Serious Music	3.77	5.15	2.9	4.2
Light/Popular Music	86.73	59.21	68.8	48.5
Women's Programmes	3.00	1.32	2.4	1.1
Others	1.34	1.70	1.1	1.4
Political Broadcasts	.31	.11	.3	.1
	126.00	122.08	100.0	100.0

Table 3. Breakdown of Radio Malta Two

	Weekly Average Hours		%	
	1978/79	1977/78	1978/79	1977/78
News & Magazine Programmes	1.17	1.17	.9	.9
Serious Music	13.02	13.15	10.3	10.5
Light/Popular Music	111.81	111.67	88.8	88.6
	126.00	126.00	100.0	100.0

Table 4. Breakdown of Radio Malta Three

	Weekly Average Hours		%	
	1978/79	1977/78	1978/79	1977/78
News & Magazine Programmes	5.82	1.17	8.3	1.7
Talks & Discussions	2.50	-	3.6	-
Religious Broadcasts	.25	-	.4	-
Adult Education	.67	.50	1.0	.7
Plays, Serials & Maltese Readings	.51	-	.7	-
Serious Music	5.26	.85	7.5	1.2
Light/Popular Music	54.90	67.15	77.1	95.9
Women's Programmes	.08	-	.1	-
Others	.91	.33	1.3	.5
	70.00	70.00	100.0	100.0

Table 5. Breakdown of Radio Malta Three
(Locally Produced)

	Weekly Average Hours		%	
	1978/79	1977/78	1978/79	1977/78
News & Magazine Programmes	4.14	1.17	5.9	1.7
Adult Education	.50	.50	.7	.7
Serious Music	1.88	.85	2.7	1.2
Light/Popular Music	47.09	65.87	67.3	94.1
Others	.91	-	1.3	-
Foreign material	54.52	68.39	77.9	97.7
	15.48	1.61	22.1	2.3
	70.00	70.00	100.0	100.0

BROADCASTING AUTHORITY

(Constituted under Ordinance XX of 1961)

ACCOUNTS

31st MARCH, 1979

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	4	Changes in Net Working Capital Position

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 notes thereon, give respectively a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Authority at 31st March, 1979 and of the deficit for the year ended on that date.

(Signed)

Diamantino, Manfre' & Co
Certified Public Accountants

Valletta Buildings
South Street
Valletta

Date: 10th July, 1979

BROADCASTING AUTHORITY(Constituted under Ordinance XX of 1961)BALANCE SHEETAS AT 31st MARCH, 1979

	<u>Notes</u>	£M	£M	<u>1978</u> £M
FIXED ASSETS	1 & 2		5,725	<u>7,567</u>
CURRENT ASSETS	3	7,573		3,732
CURRENT LIABILITIES	4	<u>76,576</u>		<u>55,009</u>
			(69,003)	<u>(51,277)</u>
			<u>(63,278)</u>	<u>(43,710)</u>
			=====	=====
Financed by:				
GRANTS	5		16,960	16,960
GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTIONS	6		<u>35,127</u>	<u>34,603</u>
			52,087	51,563
<u>Less:</u>				
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT				
- Adverse Balance			(115,365)	<u>(95,273)</u>
			<u>(63,278)</u>	<u>(43,710)</u>
			=====	=====

.....(Signed).....
 CHAIRMAN (G.A. CRAIG)

The Notes on Pages 80 - 82
 form part of these
 accounts.

.....(Signed).....
 SECRETARY (A.J. ELLUL)

on behalf of the Authority

BROADCASTING AUTHORITYINCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTTHE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1979

	£M	<u>1978</u> £M
INCOME		
Government Contributions from Licence Fees	50,835	38,000
Licence Fees from contracts	751	751
Ground Rents	51	51
Bank Interest (Net)	188	(191)
	<u>51,825</u>	<u>38,611</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Prescribed Programmes (Schedule 1)		
Incurred on Sound Broadcasts	3,349	3,406
Incurred on Television Broadcasts	7,864	8,468
	<u>11,213</u>	<u>11,874</u>
Administration Expenses (Schedule 2)	27,519	30,785
	<u>38,732</u>	<u>42,659</u>
	<u>13,093</u>	<u>(4,048)</u>
Cost of Fixed Assets acquired during the year	524	13
Shortfall in respect of prescribed programmes	23,787	23,126
Profit realised on Sale of Fixed Asset	(10)	-
	<u>(24,301)</u>	<u>(23,139)</u>
DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR	<u>(11,208)</u>	<u>(27,187)</u>
ADVERSE BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD FROM PREVIOUS YEAR	95,273	67,460
PRIOR YEAR ADJUSTMENTS (Note 7)	8,884	626
	<u>(104,157)</u>	<u>(68,086)</u>
DEFICIT CARRIED FORWARD	<u>(115,365)</u> =====	<u>(95,273)</u> =====

The Notes on Pages 80 - 82
form part of these Accounts

BROADCASTING AUTHORITYNOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS31st MARCH, 1979

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Depreciation of Fixed Assets.

Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of the assets over their estimated useful lives on a straight line basis at the rates shown below:

Freehold Land	Nil
Furniture, Fittings and Office Equipment	20 - 10%
Technical Equipment	25%
Studio Equipment	20%
Motor Vehicle	20%
Radio Malta -	
Furniture and Fittings	35 - 20 - 10%
Studio and Technical Equipment	25 - 20 - 10%

Debtors

Known Bad Debts are written off and provision is made for amounts known to be doubtful of recovery.

2. FIXED ASSETS

	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Depreciation</u>		<u>1978</u>
	£M	£M	£M	£M
Freehold Land	655	-	655	655
Furniture, Fittings and Office Equipment	8,079	6,884	1,195	1,210
Technical Equipment	10,657	10,553	104	203
Studio Equipment	8,119	8,119	-	-
Motor Vehicle	1,624	1,299	325	650
Radio Malta -				
Furniture and Fittings	1,438	1,332	106	212
Studio and Technical Equipment	19,963	16,623	3,340	4,632
	<u>50,535</u>	<u>44,810</u>	<u>5,725</u>	<u>7,567</u>
1978 -	<u>50,100</u>	<u>42,533</u>		

BROADCASTING AUTHORITYNOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS31st MARCH, 1979

3. CURRENT ASSETS

		<u>1978</u>
	£M	£M
Debtors and Prepayments	4,380	5,089
<u>Less:</u>		
Provision for Bad and Doubtful Debts	1,567	1,567
	<u>2,813</u>	<u>3,522</u>
Cash in Hand and at Bank	4,760	210
	<u>7,573</u>	<u>3,732</u>
	=====	=====

4. CURRENT LIABILITIES

		<u>1978</u>
	£M	£M
Creditors and Accruals	76,576	53,612
Bank Overdraft	-	1,397
	<u>76,576</u>	<u>55,009</u>
	=====	=====

Included in Creditors and Accruals is an amount of £M85,894 (1978 £M64,630) representing the Authority's Liability arising out of Broadcasting agreements for shortfalls in amounts payable towards the improvement of programmes.

5. GRANTS

These represent grants of Technical Equipment received from foreign Organisations.

BROADCASTING AUTHORITYNOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS31st MARCH, 1979

6. GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTIONS

These relate to Contributions from Wireless
Licence fees and are made up as follows:

		<u>1978</u>
	£M	£M
Amounts applied for capital purposes to date	33,664	33,140
Provision for loss or damage to films on hire	1,463	1,463
	<u>35,127</u>	<u>34,603</u>
	=====	=====

7. PRIOR YEARS' ADJUSTMENT

	£M
Arrears paid to present and former staff of the Authority in accordance with the staff re-organisation agreement dated 5th January, 1979 - Amount relating to prior years	11,105
<u>Less:</u>	
Shortfall in respect of prescribed programmes 20% of Arrears paid allocated to Expenditure on Prescribed Programmes thereby reducing Shortfall	2,221
	<u>8,884</u>
	=====

BROADCASTING AUTHORITY
EXPENDITURE ON PRESCRIBED PROGRAMMES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1979

Expenditure on Sound and Television Broadcasts is regulated by Clause 12 of an agreement dated 28th September, 1961 which stipulates an expenditure on programmes prescribed by the Authority as follows:

Sound Broadcasts	£M10,000
Television Broadcasts	£M25,000

The amount incurred during the year is as shown below:

		<u>TOTAL</u>		<u>SOUND</u>		<u>TELEVISION</u>
	£M	<u>1978</u> £M		<u>1978</u> £M		<u>1978</u> £M
Airtime and Studio Charges	4,229	4,074	1,336	1,161	2,893	2,913
Depreciation on Technical Equipment	104	104	52	52	52	52
Proportion of Overhead Expenses (Schedule 2)	6,880	7,696	1,961	2,193	4,919	5,503
	<u>11,213</u>	<u>11,874</u>	<u>3,349</u>	<u>3,406</u>	<u>7,864</u>	<u>8,468</u>
Liability for amount payable towards the improvement of programmes	23,787	23,126	6,651	6,594	17,136	16,532
	<u>35,000</u> =====	<u>35,000</u> =====	<u>10,000</u> =====	<u>10,000</u> =====	<u>25,000</u> =====	<u>25,000</u> =====

BROADCASTING AUTHORITY

ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1979

	£M	£M	<u>1978</u> £M
Audit Fee		350	350
Depreciation			
Furniture and Fittings	255		260
Office Equipment	254		201
Motor Vehicle	<u>325</u>	834	325
City Visits Abroad		451	-
Entertainment and Hospitality		193	70
Gratuities		462	2,765
Honoraria to Members		1,750	1,750
Professional Fees and Expenses		611	914
Maintenance and Repairs		172	125
Membership Fees - International Organisations		3,696	3,074
National Insurance Contributions		812	865
Postages, Telegrams and Telephones		1,251	892
Provision for Bad and Doubtful Debts		-	1,567
Rent		1,325	800
Rentals of Wired Sound and Television Sets		68	175
Stationery		366	249
Staff Superannuation Scheme		1,664	1,601
Subscriptions to Newspapers, etc.		140	176
Sundry Expenses		319	210
Transport		220	297
Wages and Salaries		19,148	21,205
Water and Electricity		167	250
Religious Broadcasting Honoraria		400	300
		<u>34,399</u>	<u>38,401</u>
Less:			
Amounts charged against prescribed programmes:			
Sound Broadcasts - 5.7% (Schedule 1)		(1,961)	(2,163)
Television Broadcasts - 14.3% (Schedule 1)		(4,919)	(5,503)
		<u>27,519</u>	<u>30,785</u>
		=====	=====

BROADCASTING AUTHORITY
CHANGES IN THE CASH POSITION
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1979

	£M	£M	<u>1978</u> £M
unds became available during the year as follows,			
Government Contributions	50,835		38,000
Sundry Income	<u>990</u>		<u>611</u>
		51,825	<u>38,611</u>
and applied to meet			
Expenditure on			
Prescribed Programmes	11,213		11,874
Administration	<u>27,519</u>		<u>30,785</u>
		(38,732)	<u>(42,659)</u>
leaving a balance of Income over Expenditure of (1978 Deficit)		13,093	<u>(4,040)</u>
From this balance is deducted			
Purchases of Fixed Assets (less Profit realised on sale of fixed asset)	514		13
Provisions for amounts payable in respect of prescribed programmes	<u>23,787</u>		<u>23,126</u>
		(24,301)	<u>(23,139)</u>
leaving a net deficit for the year of		(11,208)	<u>(27,187)</u>
The Deficit is decreased by			
Decrease in Debtors	709		(47)
Increase in Creditors	22,964		19,083
Retained Depreciation (including net book value of fixed assets sold)	2,366		2,900
Prior Years' Adjustments	<u>(8,884)</u>		<u>(626)</u>
		17,155	<u>21,310</u>
aving a net cash surplus (1978 Deficit) for the year of		<u>5,947</u>	<u>(5,877)</u>

Continued

BROADCASTING AUTHORITY

CHANGES IN THE CASH POSITION (Continued)

ENDED 31st MARCH, 1979

The Net Cash Surplus for the year effected the Authority's Liquid Funds as follows:

	Cash and Bank Balances as at			1978
	<u>31.3.78</u>	<u>31.3.79</u>		
	£M	£M	£M	£M
Bank Savings Account	184	2,907	2,723	(2,610)
Current Account	(1,397)	1,851	3,248	(3,248)
Other	26	2	(24)	(19)
	<u>(1,187)</u>	<u>4,760</u>	<u>5,947</u>	<u>(5,877)</u>
	=====	=====	=====	=====

BROADCASTING AUTHORITY
CHANGES IN NET WORKING CAPITAL POSITION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1979

	£M	£M	<u>1978</u> £M
Cash Surplus (1978 Deficit)			
for the year (Schedule 3)		5,947	<u>5,877</u>
Decrease in Debtors	709		(47)
Increase in Creditors	<u>22,964</u>		<u>19,083</u>
		<u>23,673</u>	<u>19,036</u>
Increase in Net Working Capital		<u>17,726</u> =====	<u>24,913</u> =====