The trouble lies in Belgrade's attitude towards what should constitute an embassy news bulletin. They believe in a "factual" bulletin à la E.E.C. which provides no explanatory comment to put across the British point of view. This is all very well if the news is clear cut and no explanation of the British attitude is required, but this is not always the case - wide the large amount of guidance which we pour out, and of which the Belgrade Information Office presumably makes little use. We have always maintained that their news service would be improved by a little
judicious angling where necessary, but they have
hitherto been afraid of running foul of the Yugo-
slav authorities by appearing to indulge in propa-
ganda. Surely the time has now come to be less tim-
crous. All recent reports from Yugoslavia confirm
that the Yugoslavs are now anxious for good relations
with this country, and we might well seize this oppor-
tunity for doing more to put over the British point
of view in world affairs.

We have in the past sent Belgrade copies of news
bulletins based on the L.P.S. produced by other posts,
to give them an idea of what they might also do.
Perhaps we could try this once again now. Budapest
is the only East European post producing a L.P.S.
bulletin now (which they still circulate at a pheno-
menal rate of 7,000 daily), but no doubt we could
muster some examples from posts in other parts of the
world, in the hope of giving them some new ideas on
the subject.

With regard to their paragraph 2, I thought a
qualified Morse operator could receive in any lan-
guage? Perhaps Mr. Jones will comment on this point.

P.C. Storey
31st August, 1950

I agree with the above.
The key to Belgrade’s
attitude is contained
in the sentence underline. What the
U.N. is, what their customers will
expect the ‘news’ (who wouldn’t) but
what we want the Information Office
in London to do is to supplement the news with
our angled comment. Para 4 shows
a limited appreciation of the U.P.S.
political programmes which are very
often extremely typical + a useful
form of guidance.

B. Anderson-Manning
31st August, 1950

The Belgrade area is not accepted as one
of the poorest areas for radio reception. No 670
ever had any difficulty in this side of radio
communication; the TANNYC pocket receiver is
received in this country without undue effort and
it is not regarded as a special feat of technique.
Belgrade has its ‘black box’ complex,
to “sit and forget” the apparatus. Equidistant
posts have also had training problems.
Action will be taken to supply a constant
voltage.