

# War of the Ether

## Radio propaganda during the Cold War

Room 127, Humanities and Social Science Building, University of Reading

Friday, 3 December 2010

Provisional programme

9:30-10:00 Registration and Coffee

10:00-11:00 Keynote address

The BBC World Service and the Cold War: Respect for Audiences brings Down Walls. The strange Case of the Battle for who interprets the National Interest.

Jean Seaton, School of Media, Arts and Design, University of Westminster

Chair: Jon Bell, Department of History, University of Reading

11:00-12:30 Panel 1: Speaking to the allies

Chair: Tony Shaw, Department of history, University of Hertfordshire

'Whispering in French': BBC broadcasting, 1946-1959

Hilary Footitt, School of Languages and European Studies, University of Reading.

VOA, the BBC and the RAI's Western Choice. British and American International Broadcasting in Italy, 1945-1957

Simona Tobia, Research Fellow, School of Languages and European Studies, University of Reading.

12:30-1:30 Lunch (room 142)

1:30-3:30 Panel 2: Speaking to the enemy

Chair: Linda Risso, Department of History, University of Reading.

Cultures of Diplomacy: Cold War radio and the Hungarian Uprising, 1956

Alban Webb, Centre for Research on Socio-Cultural Change, Department of Sociology, The Open University

Radio Free Europe, Radio Liberty and Émigré Politics

Marsha Siefert, Department of History, Central European University, Budapest.

Thinking, publishing and broadcasting 'Europe': The early mission of Radio Free Europe and its effect on featuring European Tamizdat

Friederike Kind-Kovacs, Südost-Institut, University of Regensburg.

3:30-4:00 Coffee

4:00-5:30 Panel 3: Germany

Chair: Ute Wölfel, Department of German, University of Reading

Germany Talks Back: Listeners' Letters to the BBC from Cold War Germany

Patrick Major, Department of History, University of Reading.

Captive Audience? GDR-Radio in the Mirror of Listeners' Mail

Christoph Classen, Centre for Research on Contemporary History, Potsdam.

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### Notes and Information

#### **Registration**

There is no registration fee.

All participants must register via email with Jacqui Fletcher ([j.l.fletcher@reading.ac.uk](mailto:j.l.fletcher@reading.ac.uk)) by Friday, 26 November 2010. Thank you.

Lunch and coffee break will be provided free to all speakers, moderators and participants.

#### **How to find us**

The conference will take place on the University's main campus, Whiteknights. All panel sessions and coffee breaks will take place in room 127 in the Humanities and Social Science Building (number 1 on the map of Whiteknights Campus).

Lunch will take place in room 142.

Directions: <http://www.reading.ac.uk/about/find/about-findindex.aspx>

Map of Reading: <http://www.reading.ac.uk/maps/docs/Readingandunicolour.pdf>

Map of Whiteknights Campus: <http://www.reading.ac.uk/maps/docs/whiteknightscolour.pdf>

By bus: bus number 21 or 20 from Market Place or the Rail Station. Get off at Whiteknights-Main Entrance.

By cab: you should ask the cab driver to drop you off outside the Main Reception Building (Whiteknights House, number 27 on the map) and then walk to the HUMSS Building.

By car: You must contact Jacqui Fletcher ([j.l.fletcher@reading.ac.uk](mailto:j.l.fletcher@reading.ac.uk)) in advance and ask for a parking permit (free of charge). If you are using a 'sat nav' or 'GPS' navigation system, please use RG6 6UR postcode in order to navigate to Whiteknights Campus.

#### **Contact Information**

For registration, general queries, parking permits and directions,

Jacqui Fletcher:

[j.l.fletcher@reading.ac.uk](mailto:j.l.fletcher@reading.ac.uk); 0118 378 7343

For any academic-related question,

Linda Riso:

[l.risso@reading.ac.uk](mailto:l.risso@reading.ac.uk)