

MEMORANDUM

TO: CARL STOVER
FROM: ALFRED DE GRAZIA
DATE: APRIL 4, 1979
SUBJECT: PLURALISM IN ARTS-SUPPORT GROUPS

Reading the exchanges and listening to the discussion relating to jurisdiction of the Business Committee for the Arts and Cultural Resources, I cannot but marvel at the issue.

Even if the two groups were practically identical and fiercely competitive, it wouldn't matter. The vast area of business and the large universe of arts groups are by no reasoning, no matter how fantastic, to be viewed as the sole preserve of a single group, even if such a group showed itself to be ~~superbly~~ ~~effective~~. No company can be limited to the calls of one salesman. No group has an innate right to be protected from competition; art support in the independent sector could well employ a dozen or a hundred groups.

If the two groups here concerned were ordinary corporations instead of non-profit corporations, C/R could sue BCA for punitive damages arising from this flagrant attempt to monopolize the field.

I say all of this without prejudice; the case would be the same whether BCA or CR were the more effective and intelligently operated group.

12 July, 1979

To: Carl Stover
From: Al de Grazia
Subject: Report on meetings at Chateau Klingenthal and
Strasbourg, France, June 21-5, 1979.

1. This report is in two paragraphs, one assuming Cultural Resources perspectives as of May, 1979 and the second assuming possible changed CR perspectives. The remarks are amplified by external personal discussions with French, British, Germans, Italians, and Dutch not covered by the authorized trip.
2. The meetings at Klingenthal (Goethe Foundation) under Interphil auspices were more productive of interesting encounters than in programmatic. Taking the 9 countries of the European Economic Community and the 21 countries of the Council of Europe together, there is nothing resembling in size, complexity, and drive the cultural network that operates in the equivalent size and population embraced by the United States. Participants at the conference look upon such operational cultural unity as highly desirable, but are at a loss as to how to plan, initiate, and organize a European network. They see this inadequacy as costly, because the need for a European identity to cope with their transnational economic and social problems is urgent, and a transnational enhancement of cultural ties would help build this identity.

Without adequate resources for its own tasks in America, it is probably not possible for Cultural Resources to lend a hand either in developing Euro-American collaboration in cultural philanthropy or in continuous counselling of Pan-European groups on the effective development of their private potential philanthropic resources. My memorandum to you on the subject of a Strasbourg office, together with a draft proposal for ICA consideration on the same subject would seem to be viable, after observing first-hand the mood and present condition of European counterparts. Hence, should CR wish to advance such a proposal for ICA or other funding, given the complicated present circumstances, it can do so confidently, in the light of my survey. Countess Anne Sforza, widow of the former Secretary-General of the Council of Europe, is fully prepared to participate in such an undertaking and owing to her background experience and her present influence in the European Movement, in a unique position to set up and direct the work of the

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office. A commitment of as little as \$ 35,000 for a year is enough to exercise this plan.

3. Broadening the perspective of CR and looking towards a self-supporting operation, a Public Interest Lobby for American-European Cultural-political Cooperation is a distinct possibility. The aim of such an office would be to strengthen European identity while strengthening Euro-American cultural ties. This engagement would be very important to America, for the energy crisis is rapidly moving towards splitting the Atlantic Alliance. The cultural links become important as the economic links undergo increasing stress. Hostility and indifference to the U.S.A. are common attitudes at all European national, social, and cultural levels today. There is a feeling that the U.S.A. will not and cannot do anything to relieve the European economic predicament, and therefore the political, social, and military predicament. In fact, any government funding of this Public Interest Lobby, much of whose attention would be devoted to the newly elected nine-country 410 person European Assembly, would be counter-productive. Foundation and multi-national corporate funding would be required. A distinguished European Board can be assembled for this purpose, and the American and European Boards coordinated by a Committee from both sides. Again I believe that Countess Sforza could be of great help in running this group. In this case, both CR America and CR Europe would be operating politically and controversially as the cultural policies impinge upon social, political, ecological, and military policies. An independent private public-interest structure such as this would probably achieve some remarkable results. I do not underestimate the obstacles to the public interest lobby concept; I offer it as a CR capability, in the unlikely event that some funding source should occur. Again, a small monetary commitment of \$ 30,000 to \$ 50,000 would be adequate to test this idea of intelligence and advocacy of Euro-American cultural integration.