

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

May 27, 2005

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I am notifying the Congress of my intent to reallocate funds previously transferred from the Emergency Response Fund (ERF).

To promote democracy and freedom, \$7.7 million of ERF funds will be reallocated within the Broadcasting Board of Governors to support the operational costs of Arabic radio and television broadcasting to the Middle East.

The details of this action are set forth in the enclosed letter from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George W. Bush". The signature is stylized and cursive, with a large initial "G" and "W".

The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert  
Speaker of the House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Enclosure



The Director

**EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503**

May 27, 2005

The President  
The White House

Submitted for your consideration is a request to reallocate funds provided in P.L.107-38, the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Recovery from and Response to Terrorist Attacks on the United States, FY 2001, within the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG).

In order to provide continued support for increased Arabic-language radio broadcasting to the Middle East, and to support operations of the Middle East Broadcasting Network, *Al-hurra* television and Radio Sawa, the Administration proposes to reallocate \$7.7 million in Emergency Response Fund resources previously provided to BBG to establish a medium wave transmitter in Egypt. The transmitter was intended to broadcast Radio Sawa, the BBG's Arabic-language radio service, on an AM frequency across the region. BBG has been unable to negotiate an agreement with the Egyptian government, and to date no progress has been made on construction of this transmitter. Five medium-wave transmitters currently broadcast Radio Sawa throughout the region, from Cyprus, Rhodes, Kuwait, the UAE, and Djibouti.

The Administration now proposes that the funds be used to provide operational support to Radio Sawa and the Arabic television network *Al-hurra*. This reallocation was included and reflected in the FY 2006 Budget. Pursuant to P.L. 107-38, these funds will be made available 15 days after the transmittal of this request.

I have carefully reviewed this proposal and am satisfied that it is necessary at this time. Therefore, I join the Broadcasting Board of Governors in recommending this reallocation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Bolten", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Joshua B. Bolten  
Director

Enclosure

**REALLOCATION OF AMOUNTS PREVIOUSLY APPROPRIATED AND  
TRANSFERRED FROM THE EMERGENCY RESPONSE FUND**

**Available in 15 days:**

Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG)

International Broadcasting Operations.....\$7,700,000

This funding will provide for operational support to Arabic radio and television broadcasting in the Middle East.

This action is a reallocation of funds previously provided to BBG in November 2001 to establish a medium wave transmitter in Egypt. To date, no progress has been made on construction of this transmitter.