

O'CONNELL, JOSEPH D. JR.

Joe O'Connell was director of the Office of Public Affairs of the International Broadcasting Bureau/Voice of America from 1989 until his retirement in 2007.

He entered the Foreign Service in 1970 and served overseas in Sao Paulo and Fortaleza, Brazil. He also served in various positions in the former U.S. Information Agency and the Department of State, including editor of a Portuguese-language version of a USIA magazine, desk officer for Mexico and Central America, and public affairs advisor in the Bureau of Human Rights at the Department of State. He also served for eight years as a speech writer, deputy director and acting director of USIA's Office of Public Liaison under agency director Charles Z. Wick during the Reagan Administration

Mr. O'Connell also served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Colombia. He earned bachelor's and master's degrees at the Pennsylvania State University and the University of Maryland respectively and underwent additional training in public administration at the University of Pittsburgh's Graduate School of Public and International Affairs.