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**Foreign Broadcast
Information Service**

NEWSLETTER

Edition 85-1
1 January 1985

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NOTICE

Field Bureaus are reminded that copies of this Newsletter should be destroyed after reading by U.S. Staff employees. This Newsletter is not to be retained in field bureaus.

NEWSLETTER

1 January 1985

ROSET, INTERNET PROGRESS

The year 1984 was a significant one for FBIS satellite monitoring, and 1985 promises to bring further progress in modernizing FBIS collection. The inauguration of the high-capacity, two-dish ROSET (Receive Only Satellite Earth Terminal) facility in Panama was the beginning of the second generation of FBIS satellite monitoring, following the initial ROSET installations in Britain and Okinawa. Already the Panama installation has discovered numerous unique transmissions of media material, and promises to significantly enhance our ability to monitor foreign television. At the same time, negotiations are continuing with the Thai Government for installations of a Panama-type ROSET at Bang Ping, where FBIS shares an antenna field with Thai Government agencies. Although the Middle East ROSET is currently on hold due to budget limitations, FBIS hopes to have funds for this facility restored in a future budget.

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INTERNET, the high-capacity communications system that will link FBIS ROSET bureaus and enable the transmission of live video to Headquarters, is also moving forward. Phase I of INTERNET will link Caversham and Panama with Headquarters; initial steps are being taken in FY 1985, with completion of Phase I projected for FY 1986. Other phases of INTERNET are scheduled for future years.

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LIVE FOREIGN TV AT LANGLEY

In 1983 FBIS proposed a domestic monitoring facility that would, among other things, enable FBIS to monitor foreign television live from satellites in the Washington area. At about the same time a commercial study was made to determine the value of foreign television for intelligence purposes, proposed by FBIS and managed by ORD. Although the domestic monitoring facility was eliminated in the budgetary process, both ROSET and INTERNET aspects of FBIS Modernization have received support by higher management, and during the past year numerous DI analysts began taking increased interest in foreign television. A DI television users working group was formed. In early December 1984 the D/FBIS was asked by five DI office directors to provide live foreign television at Langley, from monitoring of satellites. A study is now being conducted to determine the feasibility of providing such service, which would be compatible with eventual deliveries of television through the INTERNET system.

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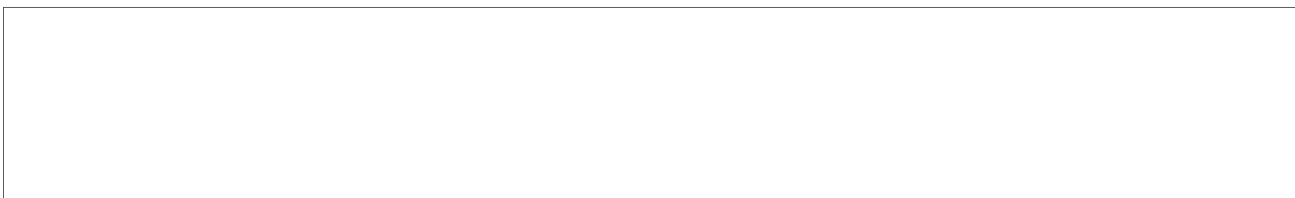
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COVERAGE OF KUWAITI AIRLINER HIJACKING

The Wire Services Staff provided key Community watch offices-- particularly a State Department working group at the State Operations Center--exhaustive coverage of events surrounding the hijacking of a Kuwaiti airliner to Tehran. The open watch on Iranian and Kuwaiti media instituted by the London Bureau/BBC and Gulf Bureau permitted Wire editors to relay primary source reports within an hour of broadcast to OCPAS, State, and the White House Situation Room. Official Iranian announcements carried by Tehran radio and the Iranian News Agency frequently preceded Western press agency reporting by 1 to 2 hours. In phone calls to the Wire Service on 9 December, the State working group and White House Situation Room expressed thanks for FBIS' timely coverage of the crisis, noting the paucity of information from other sources. 25X1

ROSET SCOOP

FBIS ROSET monitoring scored a clean scoop on 21 December when the death of Soviet Defense Minister Ustinov was revealed in a Soviet press transmission monitored at Caversham. SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA carried the first official Soviet announcement on Ustinov's death on page one, which was spotted in the monitored facsimile transmission. The item was filed by London Bureau at 1713 GMT; the first TASS report was transmitted by TASS at 1754 GMT. A check of watch offices indicated that this was the first official word from the Soviets to reach the U.S. Government in Washington, so far as we could learn. There had been rumors of Ustinov's death earlier in the day from Western press agencies. 25X1



FBIS CHRISTMAS PARTY

For the first time in many years, an FBIS-wide Christmas party was held at Headquarters on 20 December. More than 175 FBISers attended the fete, held in the 4th floor Conference Room and hall at Key Building. Somewhat unusual door prizes from garage and basement, as well as gargantuan quantities of food and drink, added to the festivities. 25X1
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NEWS FROM THE BUREAUS

NICOSIA, AMMAN SECURITY

On 4 November Nicosia Bureau picked up from Beirut Voice of Lebanon a report on an Islamic Al-Jihad threat to carry out an operation against U.S. interests in the Middle East within the following 48 hours. This resulted in an immediate State message to all Near Eastern and South Asian posts citing the FBIS report and recommending they take appropriate precautions.

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As a result of the threat and fears that U.S. facilities in Cyprus might be targeted, the Embassy in Nicosia recommended that the Bureau reduce to skeleton staffing 4-7 November. FBIS area emergency coverage procedures were implemented, with London, Gulf, Amman and Tel Aviv bureaus assuming much of Nicosia Bureau's coverage. Other bureaus in the area, following coordination with Embassy security officials, sent home nonessential personnel, but were able to remain fully operational.

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PHILIPPINES RECEPTION SURVEY

At the request of several key consumers, FBIS is looking at additional ways of improving coverage of the Philippines. As part of this effort, the chief, Okinawa Bureau, accompanied by an NSA representative, visited Clark AFB for discussions 12-15 December. He met with U.S. mission and military officials to plan for improved radio coverage of the Philippines. Arrangements were made for a reception survey early next year looking at the option of crisis coverage from USG-controlled premises, including sites outside Manila.

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PANAMA SATELLITE MONITORING

In its first week of satellite monitoring, the newly operational ROSET at Panama Bureau viewed eight satellites ranging from the 14 degree west GORIZONT (Soviet) to the 104.5 degree west ANIK (Canadian). Television programming from the Soviet Union, East Europe, France, Spain, Canada, and Latin America has been identified. Radios monitored on satellite thus far include broadcasts from the USSR, Brazil, France, Peru, Canada, and Greenland. Press agencies found include not only the expected Cuban PRENSA LATINA, TASS, and some 13 European agencies, but also a Nicaraguan press agency (ANN) and material from Salvadoran and Guatemalan opposition press agencies being carried over the circuits from Hamburg to Havana on INTELSAT. The scanning of satellites for media material is continuing.

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NEW CONTRACT WITH AFP

After months of negotiation, FBIS signed a contract on 11 December with the French Press Agency (AFP) for worldwide coverage of the agency at the bureaus. AFP is a major source for fast-breaking news, especially in Francophone countries, and is also a useful alert mechanism.

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IVORY COAST USE OF FBIS PRODUCT

The Abidjan bureau chief met recently with the chief of the Ivory Coast Press and Information Service, who told him that FBIS was the "only source" of general foreign press reporting for the Ivorian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The ministry is interested in quicker receipt of the bureau file which is given the Ivory Coast Government as part of the original agreement allowing FBIS to set up a bureau in the Ivory Coast.

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SPECIAL SERVICES

+ Key West Bureau dubbed and forwarded to J-2/COMUSFORCARIB a copy of an 18 October broadcast by Havana television of an 8-minute video report of military-naval maneuvers by Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces held in central and western Cuba in May and June. J-2 intended to use the videotape for briefing Rear Admiral Hedges, U.S. Forces Caribbean commander, as some of the military equipment shown is relatively new to the Cuban inventory.

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+ USIA/Radio Marti project staffers have asked Key West Bureau to supply them with duplicates of its taping of Havana television.

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+ In November Hong Kong provided an unusual number of ad hoc services to Consulate offices not normally served. A PRC media report that China had discontinued production of certain chemicals which had been making their way into illegal drugs in the United States was provided to DEA. Several PRC and Hong Kong media reports on business developments were of special interest to the Foreign Commercial Service. The bureau responded to queries from both INS and the Consular Section on media reports on Vietnamese and Chinese refugee and immigration issues.

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+ At the request of the MBFR delegation, Austrian Bureau's Hungarian team translated interviews by Ambassador Glitman and his Soviet counterpart which appeared on Budapest television's "Periscope" program. The delegation provided the Bureau with a tape of the interview broadcast on Budapest TV 2, which is not monitorable in Vienna.

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+ Special delivery of Tel Aviv Bureau's Hebrew file was arranged from 16 to 18 October to help USIS meet an early morning deadline for a media reaction report on Secretary Weinberger's visit.

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+ Panama Bureau maintained close liaison with local embassy consumers on the selection and processing of material covering the 11 October inauguration of President Nicolas Ardito Barletta. At embassy request, the bureau filed to Secretary Shultz' plane a report of a speech by General Noriega. The Secretary was en route to Panama for the Barletta inauguration. [redacted]

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+ Panama Bureau's dedicated lines to Central America were employed twice in November to provide reciprocal assistance to two of the U.S. embassies where the remote sites are located. On 1 November the bureau relayed to the U.S. Embassy in Tegucigalpa a Managua radio recording of the text of a Nicaraguan Defense Ministry communique condemning overflights of the country by U.S. SR-71 aircraft and stating that the aircraft were based on Honduran airfields. On 13 November the bureau provided the embassy in Managua with the Spanish-language text of an IPS report claiming that the FSLN had asked all U.S. citizens to leave Nicaragua. [redacted]

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+ On 27 October, Acting Charge George Lambrakis alerted Swaziland Bureau personnel to televised speeches by Swazi Prime Minister Bhekimpi and two other leaders. The British High Commission, which had originally alerted Lambrakis, asked for and was given a copy of the 6-tape finished item. Neither embassy has any staff officer with Siswati capability, the reason the bureau's capabilities are relied on. [redacted]

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+ Swaziland Bureau began coverage in late November of South African television, fulfilling a longstanding request of the U.S. Embassy in Pretoria. [redacted]

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+ Paraguay Bureau helped USIS set up the mission's "U.S. election night headquarters" at the Binational Center to cover the results on 6 November, providing equipment as well as technical manpower and advice. USIS expressed appreciation particularly for the contributions made by the bureau's technicians as well as by a teletypist and driver. [redacted]

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VISITS, BRIEFINGS

Paul Drew, director-designate of Radio Marti, USIA, and Art Manning, VOA Matathon relay facility chief, visited Key West Bureau on 25 October for discussion of possible FBIS support of the Radio Marti project. [redacted]

On 21 November, two staffers from the House Foreign Affairs Committee, accompanied by a State Department escort officer and two embassy officials, visited Panama Bureau. The Congressional staffers were looking at security of U.S. installations in Latin America. [redacted]

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Cdr James Haney, Navy reservist attached to J-2, COMUSFORCARIB, visited Key West Bureau on 16 October for orientation. [redacted]

[redacted] from the embassy's Political Section, visited Panama Bureau on 2 October for a review of bureau operations. [redacted]

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Col Han Doo Sik and Maj Ernest J. Comer, both from Headquarters Detachment, ROK/U.S. Combined Field Army, visited Seoul Bureau on 16 November for a briefing and tour. []

High Wycombe Base Commander Major Todd visited London Bureau on 23 October for familiarization. []

Wing Commander John David, new UK air attache to Hungary and Romania, was briefed by the London deputy bureau chief on 24 October. []

Ron Boggs, new chief of the Hong Kong INS office, visited Hong Kong Bureau on 24 October. []

Eugene Dorris, new Consulate economics officer recently reassigned from Beijing, visited Hong Kong Bureau on 6 November, and John Tkacik, deputy chief of the Consular Section visited on 19 November. []

David Gibson, an analyst in the USIA Office of Research, visited Gulf Bureau on 5 October for a tour and briefing. []

David Cox, new deputy director of the State Department's Office of Southern Cone Affairs, visited Paraguay Bureau on 5 October for a briefing. []

Staff Sergeant Arevalos and Sergeant Benner, 6990th Electronic Security Group, Electronic Combat Center, Kadena AB, visited Okinawa Bureau on 2 October to discuss videotape services to their unit. []

John Dickerson, of the DOD Special Representative's office, Torii Station, and visitors Dianne Masden and Ms. Helmer, for DOD Spec Rep Yokota AFB and 5th Air Force CSG, visited Okinawa Bureau on 17 October for orientation. []

Col Walter L. Cressler, Commander, U.S. Army Field Station Okinawa, visited the bureau on 31 October for orientation. []

The chief and deputy chief of the embassy's Political/Military Section visited Austria Bureau on 8 November. []

PRODUCTION GROUP DEVELOPMENTS

Numerous Production Group division and FLASC officers participated in providing rapid translations of several versions of the manual on "Psychological Operations in Guerrilla War" for the Office of the Inspector General. This was done in support of the White House-requested investigation of the origin of the manual. []

Many Production Group officers and JPRS independent contractors cooperated in completing translation of a 1,243-page Italian indictment of Agca's accomplices in the attempted assassination of the Pope. []

On 28 November, ELAAD translated into French a letter from the DCI to [] the same day. []

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On 25-28 October, [] of ELAAD attended the First International Congress of the Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences in Toronto where he presented a paper on the relationship between colloquial and standard Czech. []

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All FOUO material on China, previously published infrequently in four separate JPRS reports, has been merged into a single series in a move designed to considerably decrease the time lag in consumer's receipt of this material. The first issue was published in October. []

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ANALYSIS GROUP ACTIVITIES

REORGANIZATION

Effective 19 November, the Middle East Branch was transferred to the China/Third World Division in the Analysis Group organizational structure approved by PMCD. China/Third World Division thus encompasses the China, Third World, and Middle East branches. USSR/Europe Division's purview will include Soviet domestic policy, Soviet foreign policy, and East Europe. []

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AUTOMATED PROJECTS

While continuing its pilot project with SAFE to define requirements for an automated storage and retrieval system, Analysis Group is also moving ahead on a variety of individual file segments that will operate relatively soon on ODP computers and later be integrated into a more comprehensive system. Design Specification and other documentary material was completed in November and programming is now under way on contract for a Foreign Commentators System targeted for on-line testing in the spring of 1985. As a start, this system will convert into electronic form information on Soviet and Polish commentators currently maintained on cards as well as data on North Korean and Egyptian commentators. Other countries will be added as resources permit. The file will record each commentator's position and title, specialty, articles authored and where they may be found. The information will be printed out quarterly, in easily readable format, for distribution to interested FBIS field and headquarters components and to consumers. []

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Other files scheduled for automation include an indexing system that will computerize the FBIS China Index, produced on cards for AG and now in demand elsewhere in the China analysis community. AG's USSR/Europe Division is developing a pilot index of certain Soviet political materials in response to an NIO requirement. The computer program will be designed to accommodate this and other material. Also under way is an upgrade of the PASKEY system, which will enhance search capabilities and permit incorporation of a new PASKEY file on East Europe. []

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Chief, Research Staff [redacted] AG's ADP coordinator, is overseeing these projects and working with the contractors. [redacted] and USSR analyst [redacted] have also been working with an ORD contractor developing an advanced text-search technique--in the sphere of Artificial Intelligence-- that may presage a future generation of an FBIS storage and retrieval system. This contractor is using PASKEY disarmament codes and an electronic file of FBIS raw copy to attempt to identify, through "rule-based retrieval," thematic passages that cannot be retrieved in a conventional keyword system. Results so far have been remarkably promising, bearing in mind that sophisticated computer search capability of this kind is far from state-of-the-art. [redacted]

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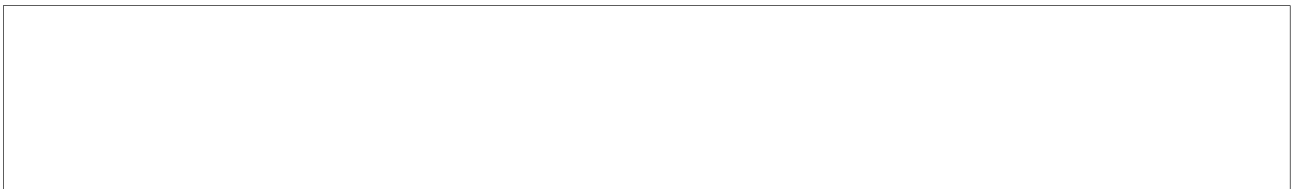
SPECIAL SERVICES

[redacted] chief of the China/Third World Division, briefed the DDS&T and S&T office directors on 11 December on analysis of Chinese media. [redacted]

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Ambassador Jack Scanlon, who will head the U.S. delegation to the CSCE "Cultural Forum" in Budapest, asked AG for information on the Soviet position on the conference. AG passed on to him a number of Soviet commentaries and arranged for future Soviet material on the conference to be transmitted directly to the delegation. [redacted]

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Two TRENDS articles were supplied to the Arms Control Intelligence Staff at its request to assist in assessing the Soviet reaction to the President's reelection and the Soviet arms control posture. [redacted]

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In December, a TRENDS article on Moscow preparation for arms talks was sent to Secretary of State Shultz, who was in Brussels attending a NATO Foreign Ministers conference, and another article on Pakistan was sent directly to Secretary of Defense Weinberger. A condensed version of the latter article was also included by DDI/NESA in its Afghan sitrep. The Cuban portion of a November TRENDS article was reprinted in DDI/ALA's Latin America Review. [redacted]

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MOD MOVE

The Monitoring Operations Division moved into new quarters on the 6th floor of Key Building on 10-11 December. The cruising training room has also been moved to the new area. Television equipment, which previously shared the old training room, now has a separate room of its own. This should accommodate the expected increase in activity when MOD's new television standards converter goes into regular operation. [redacted]

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PERSONNEL NOTES

AG retiree [redacted] was presented the Intelligence Medal of Merit at a ceremony on 13 November. The presentation was made by the Executive Director, [redacted]

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[redacted] retired from Production Group, was presented the Career Intelligence medal at a ceremony on 28 November by DDS&T Evan Hineman. [redacted]

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[redacted] who retired recently after an Agency career of 29 years, was awarded the Intelligence Commendation Medal on 22 December. The presentation was made at [redacted] request in a small ceremony in the FBIS Director's office. [redacted]

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[redacted] SA/Ops, was awarded an Exceptional Accomplishment award on 29 November for his work in developing and implementing the foreign national wage program. The presentation was made by ADDS&T James Hirsch in a directorate ceremony. [redacted]

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