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**Foreign Broadcast  
Information Service**

# **NEWSLETTER**

*Edition 85-4  
1 July 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.*

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NEWSLETTER

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## TWA HIJACKING

From the beginning of the TWA hijacking crisis on 14 June, the Middle East bureaus were alert for reportage and comment from area public media. Nicosia and Tel Aviv bureaus maintained a 24-hour watch on Lebanese and Israeli radios for days and assisted their respective embassies with monitored information on critical developments in the ongoing hostage saga. The Wire Services Staff was in close contact with watch offices, in particular the State working group and OCPAS. Such consumers as the VOA Newsroom praised FBIS for its extensive coverage and timely reportage. FBIS filed a "CRITIC" on the dispersal of the hostages from the airplane, based on an initial report from a Lebanese radio controlled by the Druze faction. (C)

In response to a request from the office of Vice President Bush, a team of AG analysts and the Wire Services Staff prepared a world reaction report on the hijacking. The report was to be used in briefing books for the Vice President and Secretary of State Shultz. (C)

## RADIO MARTI

FBIS bureaus were notified when Radio Marti went on the air on 20 May, and in addition to reporting extensive worldwide reaction to the inauguration of the broadcasts, Panama and Key West bureaus maintained 24-hour operations for the better part of two weeks to report on the behavior of Cuban transmitters which could be used for jamming or counter-broadcasting. (S)

Key West observations of radio behavior alerted the Radio Marti Task Force to a potentially embarrassing situation, when it noted that Radio Marti was transmitting on, among other frequencies, 1420 kHz, which was an unannounced frequency and a surprise to VOA. Acting on the FBIS alert, the FCC determined that the Marti signal on 1420 kHz was a spurious radiation resulting from interaction of Marti's transmitters with a commercial broadcast station a mile away. FCC and VOA technicians worked with Key West Bureau in trying to correct the situation. (S)

## FBIS-BBC COORDINATION MEETING

The annual FBIS-BBC coordination meeting was held in the UK 29-31 May. BBC indicated that financial constraints may reduce the number of additional personnel it had planned to bring on board, but no serious impact on modernization is foreseen, with two new BBC monitoring dishes expected to be in service within the next two years. An FBIS-BBC committee to coordinate satellite monitoring was established. (C)

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## INTERNET PROGRESS

COMSAT Corporation has been selected as the contractor for the INTERNET project to represent FBIS in applying for a satellite transponder lease and to work with British Telecom Inc. and the Panamanian satellite authority to establish ground terminals and communications to the FBIS London and Panama bureaus. Contractor responsibility for the U.S. terminal remains to be decided. COMSAT has reserved a transponder and will present the FBIS case to the Intelsat Board of Governors. Assuming full approval in September, construction of ground terminals at the London and Panama bureaus will begin on 1 October 1985 with activation of Phase I of INTERNET on 1 October 1986. (C)

## BANGKOK ROSET

Construction of the Bangkok satellite monitoring site is proceeding on schedule, with concrete now being poured for the antenna base. The bureau has been informally notified that microwave frequency allocations will be granted soon by Thai communications authorities. (U/AIUO)

## MODERNIZATION STATUS

Lockheed Electronics Corporation has been selected as the contractor for the FBIS automated information handling and retrieval system. The selection was approved by the Agency Contract Review Board on 25 June, and the contract is expected to be signed soon. (U/AIUO)

## HEADQUARTERS DISH

Construction of the FBIS satellite monitoring antenna at Headquarters began the last week of June, with a targeted completion date of Labor Day. The antenna will be used to monitor Soviet and some European television. (C)

## TV CENTER DEVELOPMENTS

Four cruising monitor trainees in MOD are being cross-trained in television operations to provide adequate manpower for FBIS' expanding television operations, including handling of the "Five Cities" tapes, which are coming in regularly. MOD is moving to fill a total of six positions for the TV Center in Key Building and six positions to operate the Headquarters dish antenna. (C)

## WEST COAST REUNION

*The sixth annual reunion of FBIS retirees on the West Coast will be held in Santa Rosa this year on 21 September. Details can be obtained from*

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## NEWS FROM THE BUREAUS

HU YAOBANG At the request of the Department of State, Hong Kong Bureau  
INTERVIEW provided a full translation on a priority basis of a lengthy  
interview in a Hong Kong journal with Hu Yaobang, the  
General Secretary of the Chinese CP. The interview seemed to raise the  
possibility of PRC use of force to regain Taiwan. The department expressed  
appreciation for the rapid translation in a cable to FBIS and to its missions  
in Beijing and Hong Kong, noting that the FBIS response allowed State to counter  
misimpressions fostered by early wire service accounts. (C)

KOREA During the occupation of the USIS library in Seoul by protesting  
SIT IN students 23-26 May, the public affairs officer provided the  
students with material from Pyongyang radio supplied by Seoul  
Bureau hailing their protest, which illustrated to them the benefits their  
action gave the North. The bureau also assisted the embassy by  
providing a rapid translation of a letter to the student occupiers from  
the two most influential ROK opposition politicians. (C)

PHILIPPINES Discussions between Okinawa Bureau and U.S. Embassy officials  
SURVEY in Tokyo on measures to improve monitoring of Philippine  
radios in times of crisis have resulted in permission for  
FBIS to survey Philippine radio reception [redacted]  
[redacted] (C)

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LIBYAN "VOICE OF VENGEANCE" Broadcasts by the Libyan "Voice of Vengeance and Sacred  
OF VENGEANCE" Hatred" beamed to Morocco have been halted following  
Moroccan protests based on transcripts of some of the  
broadcasts filed by Nicosia Bureau. Ambassador Reed in Rabat had shown  
the transcripts of broadcasts inciting violence against the Jewish  
communities in Morocco to King Hassan on 17 April. On the 20th Hassan  
sent his interior minister to Libya to ask Qadhafi to stop the broadcasts,  
which were discontinued soon after. (S)

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*FBIS received warm praise in the new bestseller All Fall Down; America's Tragic Encounter with Iran by Gary Sick, the principal White House aide for Iran during the Iranian revolution and the hostage crisis. In a footnote he gave the following description of FBIS: "The Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS) is a service of the U.S. Government. This remarkable organization monitors ordinary commercial radio broadcasts throughout the world and provides almost instantaneous translations of important items, which are made available on a subscription basis to news organizations, research institutions and interested citizens, as well as the government. These reports provide an extraordinary wealth of timely information on political and economic developments around the world. The speed and accuracy with which complex texts were translated and transmitted never ceases to amaze me. Often, FBIS was the only source of information about what was going on in Tehran. The men and women of FBIS are among that large band of unsung heroes who do vitally important work but seldom receive any credit." (U)*

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## PRODUCTION GROUP NEWS

The CTS automated ACTS system, which attempts to prevent double translations of documents by maintaining a complete list of USG-sponsored translations, turned up over 10,000 duplicative articles during April at a cost savings of over \$1M. Savings topped the \$1M mark in May as well. Prior to automation of the system in mid-1983, savings were usually on the order of \$1M a year. Several more government offices, including the Congressional Office of Technology Assessment, Patrick Air Force Base, and the Armament Research and Development Center, have recently begun using the ACTS system. (U/AIUO)

The first steps toward establishing the S&T Center were taken on 1 April, when three NEAD Japanese and Chinese language officers became part of the UD Science and Technology Branch. Simultaneously, a third program was created in the branch--the Biological Sciences and Technologies Program--and the two existing programs were reconfigured and renamed: the Technology Program was renamed the Physical Sciences and Engineering Program, and the Science Program became the Communications, Computers and Electronics Program. Several ELAAD officers and an additional three NEAD IO's will move into the Center as soon as space becomes available. (U/AIUO)

Name changes for the other USSR Division branches and programs also became official on 1 April. The Foreign and National Affairs Branch became the International/Economic/Military Affairs Branch and the two branch programs are the International/Military Program and the Economics Program. The Nationalities Branch now is called the Internal Political Branch and its two programs are the Northern Republics and Southern Republics programs. The new names more accurately reflect the coverage areas of the components. (U/AIUO)

A 234-page JPRS reference aid, "Abbreviations, Acronyms, and Special Terms Used in the Hungarian Press," printed in 1978 was scanned through the Kurzweil optical character reader, a new piece of equipment delivered and installed in April, and copied to diskettes for ELAAD officers to update on an IBM PC. The scanning process took about 10 hours. (U/AIUO)

## SPECIAL SERVICES

James Murphy, Assistant Special Trade Representative for Europe and Japan, asked NEAD to provide periodic updates to a Foreign Press Note on Japanese plans for capital investments in the semiconductor industry. Mr. Murphy is currently negotiating this issue with Japan. (U/AIUO)

UD published a 539-page compilation of articles and speeches by Soviet leader Gorbachev over the past 25 years. Gorbachev is the first general secretary in recent times to come to power without having had his collected works compiled and published in the USSR. The material was collected from a variety of sources, ranging from the central press to an obscure agricultural journal. (U/AIUO)

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At the request of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board, ELAAD translated several Turkish press articles containing statements to Turkish prosecutors by attempted papal assassin Ali Agca. (U/AIUO)

A JPRS contractor completed a priority Chinese translation of 20,000-word biography of PRC rocket expert Qian Xuesen. The request was submitted by the Office of Science and Technology Policy of the Executive Office of the President. (U/AIUO)

### ANALYSIS GROUP ACTIVITIES

At the request of the NIO for the USSR, AG compiled a collection of Gorbachev statements on U.S.-Soviet relations and also provided copies of all Gorbachev statements on any topic since he became general secretary. A lengthier special memorandum of Gorbachev foreign policy statements has also been an item in high demand. (C)

Responding to a request from SOVA, which is trying to determine whether the USSR is now providing less public information on military exercises than in the past, AG provided issues of the Soviet military paper KRASNAYA ZVEZDA from 1967 and 1970. If the SOVA supposition is accurate, the papers will be used during negotiations in Geneva. FBIS is apparently the only organization in the U.S. Government that still has hard copy files of old Soviet papers. (S)

AG will be preparing bimonthly listings of Soviet comments on Arms Control Treaty violations for the next few months to pass to Senator James A. McClure (R, Idaho), who sits on the Senate Defense Committee. Senator McClure has asked for frequent updates on available Soviet comment in anticipation of a "heating up" of the issue during summer floor debates. (U/AIUO)

On 17 May a message from the U.S. Embassy in San Salvador requested that FBIS compile ASAP all published radio broadcasts reporting government atrocities in El Salvador since January. The request was to assist Embassy efforts to assess guerrilla claims of indiscriminate air and ground attacks against civilians. About 30 responsive items, retrieved by AG, were refiled to the Embassy. (C)

At the request of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board, AG Research Staff searched its files for any Soviet material on Poland, Pope John Paul II, or the Catholic Church during the period March-April 1981. Nothing was found on the Pope or the Catholic Church, but over 200 items were located on Poland and sent to the PFIAB. (C)

AG has supplied Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense Frank Gaffney with analyses of Soviet public statements on SDI and textual translations of noteworthy Soviet statements on the subject. The information will be used by Mr. Gaffney to prepare for a debate in Stockholm with Georgiy Arbatov. (C)

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Ambassador Goodby, head of the U.S. delegation to the Conference on Confidence and Security Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe (CDE), asked AG to prepare a comparative analysis of Soviet media reporting during the previous negotiating round earlier this year and during the current round. He also asked for a printout of statements by Soviet Ambassador Grinevskiy and all Soviet press commentary since January. (C)

At the request of INR, AG prepared a report on foreign reaction, concentrating on the USSR and Syria, to the recent Administration proposal to sell arms to Jordan. The report was for use by Secretary Shultz. (C)

The U.S. Embassy in Cairo expressed appreciation for an AG analysis of Egyptian treatment of Libya, prepared at its request, and asked for periodic updates. The Embassy believes that the Egyptians have taken a much more aggressive and hostile tone in their commentary on Qadhafi since the Sudan coup. (C)

In response to interest expressed by the NIO for the USSR in the Soviet assessment of the political strength of the Reagan Administration, AG examined Soviet public statements on the opposition to Administration policies within the United States and Soviet assessments of tensions within the Western alliance. (C)

## PERSONNEL NOTES

[redacted] who retired recently, was awarded the Intelligence Commendation Medal by the DDS&T at a ceremony on 20 June. (U/AIUO)

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FBIS officers had two articles in the Spring 1985 issue of Studies in Intelligence. [redacted] wrote on "Soviet Television: A New Asset for Kremlin Watchers," and [redacted] wrote on "Lost in Translation: Soviet R&D Clues." (S)

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## DEATHS

FBIS was saddened to learn that Paul V. Walsh, former A/DDI died on May 10 at his home in McLean. Mr. Walsh joined the Agency in 1952, was A/DDI for many years when FBIS was a part of the DI, and retired in 1980. (C)

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FBIS learned recently of the death of two retirees. [redacted] a long-time editor with FBIS, died in Virginia. [redacted] recently retired as a monitor from the Nicosia Bureau and a former employee of the Mediterranean Bureau, died of a heart attack in Cyprus. (U)

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## SPORTS FLASH!

Players from the Daily Report and Wire faced off in a softball game which took place during a family picnic on 23 June at [REDACTED] family farm in Gaithersburg. Player-manager of the Wire "Flashers" team, [REDACTED], made a strategic move by signing many of the top GS-ranked players. The gambit paid off, as the DR fielders mysteriously dropped a number of easy pop-ups hit by those who would later be surveying their PAR's. Still, the likes of [REDACTED] did manage two power blasts over the hedges in left field (which only counted for ground-rule doubles). After hitting one there himself, [REDACTED] switch-hit as a lefty next time up, aiming for the barn. Unfortunately, the shot hit a high branch of the tree in right field, and [REDACTED] had to settle for his second double. The DR's losing player-manager, [REDACTED], was able to strike out [REDACTED] later proved his worth when he robbed a sure extra-base hit by diving into the vegetable patch in short left.

[REDACTED] later celebrated his victory by jumping into the garden birdbath. The two teams retired to the restful pursuit of nonstop volleyball and other sundry athletic and imbibitional activities. (U)

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