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OFFICE MEMORANDUM UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chiefs, Field Bureaus

DATE: 16 March 1949

FROM : Chief, FBI

SUBJECT: Letter of Instruction for February 1949

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I. General Information

a. Attached hereto is a recently completed survey of consumer reaction to the FBI unclassified Daily Report and Unpublished Items.

b. [redacted], Deputy Chief, FBI, paid a visit to London, Cairo, and Cyprus. On his return he assumed additional duties as Acting Chief, East Coast Bureau.

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c. Personnel changes in February are listed as follows:

1. New Employees:

[redacted] - Editor
[redacted] - Monitor

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2. Transfers within FBI:

[redacted] - Editor from Washington to West Coast
[redacted] - Editor from Washington to London
[redacted] - Editor from London to Cairo

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3. Transfers out of FBI:

[redacted] to Office of Reports and Estimates

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d. [redacted] Property and Supply Clerk, is on temporary duty at Skizma to assist in setting up property records at that Bureau.

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e. Activation of the new station on Cyprus is expected 15 April 1949, and tentative plans for interim operations on Skizma are being laid.

f. It is expected that FBI Headquarters will move to its new location in April.

g. FBI is requesting authority to separate the Soviet and Satellite material from the European Daily Report, and to publish same under separate cover beginning on or about 1 May 1949.

h. During February the "B" wire was placed in operation for two additional hours daily. Hours of operation now extend from 0600 to 1600, Mondays through Fridays.

This document part of classified integrated file. NAME CHECK required prior to individual classification action.

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i. The daily file of Far Eastern and Latin American material going to DMC has increased to 20,000 words.

j. Our efforts to get classified background material released for field dissemination have failed.

k. An IAC committee is working on standardizing the transliteration of names, particularly from Slavic and ideographic languages. Suggestions from FBI viewpoint would be appreciated.

l. The practice of printing the classification (above "Restricted") in red on CIA publications has been discontinued. Since all classifications are now printed in black, you are cautioned against confusing highly classified documents with "Restricted" and unclassified matter.

II. Operational Information

a. In recent instances, requests for comment upon proposals or practices have either been overlooked by Bureau Chiefs or deferred for so long a time that second requests were required. Bureau Chiefs are cautioned against negligence in this respect.

b. Occasionally, significant information breaks in out-of-the-way places. For example, the only report received here on an important broadcast said to have been made by the transmitter of the Azerbaijan Democratic Party was from Santiago, Chile. In another instance Masala sent in an item picked up on LRI, Buenos Aires, 2100 hours, 9 March, citing a cable dispatch from Warsaw "revealing" that "the National Defense set-up within the Soviet Cabinet has been reorganized and will, henceforth, be under the direct supervision of [redacted]". This was the first intimation received here in Washington of the recent significant changes within the Soviet hierarchy. This type of coverage, while rather unusual and outside the normal routine, indicates good judgment and alertness on the part of field editors. While it is probable that Washington may receive the information from more logical sources, this should not deter the editor from sending the item along.

c. Sometimes field bureaus receive a rather cryptic message to be on the alert for a vaguely described item likely to be broadcast, or reported to have been broadcast, by "X" transmitter. The Cairo Bureau was recently asked to check back on Rasallah broadcasts to determine whether Rasallah had ever broadcast "X" statement. Their answer, which was in the negative, proved to be of intelligence value and was much appreciated by the authorities concerned. Another example, a message was sent to Caversham alerting them for a significant broadcast from a certain transmitter at certain times. Security reasons required that the message be worded with care and it was duly transmitted to Caversham in spite of certain discrepancies which were,

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of course, recognized by the home office. The tip proved worthless, but FEIB would have been in a very awkward position if something sensational resulted and we had taken no action on the tip. Therefore, keep in mind that instructions to the field are not arbitrary and that headquarters has many sources of information which cannot immediately be shared with field bureaus, and that immediate compliance with instructions, however mystifying they may appear, will improve our service.

d. Tokyo: Watch for information on repatriation of Japanese officers, hospital members, or other trained observers from Soviet-controlled areas. Are there any late developments concerning 14 Japanese Army Officers brought back a few weeks ago? APT and REUTERS reported the story February 21, but no information could be found in JIJI and KYODO as received here.....Continue to send us Voice of South Viet Nam (Republic-Controlled) in Annamite.....An uneven flow of Korean material is noted. Also, there are times when items of minor value seem to be given precedence over more important material. However, this may be the result of translation lags.

e. Karachi: We appreciated your APT item in French sent March 3. Up to that time we had no definite indication of Fridi's implication in revolt attempt....Your text material out of Karachi was used to good advantage. We would like to build up Pakistan coverage....At the end of long item on drafting of the Constitution, March 27, Pasteur said that more of Liaquat Ali Khan's speech was "coming in," but, to date, it has not been received. We find Wellington in English Horse of slight value. For example, your long H10041 on New Zealand horse race betting cannot be deemed useful information.

f. Beijing: Please watch for resumption of AMTARA....In regard to Australia, we are not interested in minor internal developments. Emphasis should be placed primarily on Pacific Defense, Communist activities, major internal policies, policies of international significance, important economic information (wheat, wool, trade having specific bearing on British economy), Antarctic activity, developments involving fissionable materials, significant information on Pacific Islands, etc.

L. K. WHITE

Attachment

Distribution:

London Bureau
Mediterranean Bureau (Cairo)
Mediterranean Bureau (Cyprus)
West Coast Bureau
East Coast Bureau
Hawaii Bureau
Tokyo Bureau
Osaka Bureau

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I. ANALYSIS OF CONSUMER REACTION TO FBIB UNCLASSIFIED DAILY REPORT

A. Consumer evaluation of the product:

	<u>Indispensable</u>	<u>Of considerable value</u>	<u>Of value</u>	<u>Of some interest</u>	<u>Questionnaires sent</u>	<u>Questionnaires Recd.</u>
<u>Journalists and Newspapers</u>	26	26	6	2	62/60	
<u>Radio Commentators</u>	1	4	0	1	8/6	
<u>Govt., Quasi-Govt., & Authorized Non-Govt., Recipients</u>	8	19	2	1	36/30	

B. Failure of consumers to respond:

1. Newspapermen:

Drew Pearson
 Madeline Carr. The National Herald

2. Radio commentators:

Edward Hart, Washington Radio Productions
 Gilbert Kingsbury, Station WWDC

3. Govt., quasi-Govt. and authorized non-Govt. recipients:

OP-323-M-35, Dept. of Navy
 Harold Bergman, Joint Committee on Atomic Energy
 Consultant, Slavic History, Library of Congress
 Florence Reynolds, Food and Agriculture Organization, UN
 Library, International Monetary Fund
 Dept. of Security Council of Affairs, UN

4. Action to obtain a response from these clients continues.

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C. Comments of prominent journalists re FBIB Daily Reports:

1. Andre Visson, The Readers Digest: "I am anxious to emphasize that I consider your news of Foreign Radio Broadcasts one of the greatest services to the American Press, and I often find that even your reports of broadcasts in Western European countries give a broader picture of public opinion in those countries than one gets from reading the daily paper."

2. Donald J. Gonzales, United Press: "Because of Soviet censorship, this is one of the few means of keeping track of the zigs and zags in Soviet policy."

3. Melvin K. Whiteleather, Philadelphia Evening Bulletin: "--indispensable. We regard this material as the most valuable over-all source of foreign information available to us."

4. Will Lissner, New York Times: "The Daily Report contains information needed in my work which I can't get anywhere else."

D. All clients replying to questionnaire requested continuance of service.

II. ANALYSIS OF CONSUMER REACTION TO FBIB UNPUBLISHED ITEMS

A. Consumer evaluation of the product:

Indispensable	- 0
Of considerable value	- 4
Of value	- 3
Of some interest	- 0

B. Consumer response:

1. All clients responded to the questionnaire.
2. The Dept. of Agriculture requested discontinuance of this service.

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