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General

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STANDARD SOURCE LINES
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Foreign Broadcast Information Service

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A. GENERAL

a. Sourcelines identify the broadcasts and presscasts from which monitored material is taken. To make editorial copy more meaningful to readers, sourcelines should answer three questions:

Who was responsible for the statements made in the broadcast or presscast? (Sourcelines answer this implicitly, by naming the city of origin, and/or explicitly, by naming the broadcaster or press agency.)

For whom was the broadcast or presscast intended? (Sourcelines answer this by stating which language was used and, often, by indicating the target area or recipients.)

When was the material transmitted? (See paragraphs d and e.)

b. To assist the reader further, sourcelines distinguish telecasts from voicecasts, presscasts from broadcasts, clandestine services from regular ones, correspondents' dispatches from regular presscasts, and private network broadcasts from private local broadcasts.

c. FBIS monitors the output of many broadcasters and press agencies, each of which organizes its transmissions in a different way. The monitoring operation itself is widespread. These diversities tend to cause differences between sourcelines which should be similar.

To avoid such differences and to insure that each sourceline contains just those elements which enhance the understanding of the material by the reader, FBIS has set up standardized procedures for sourceline formulation. These procedures are outlined in the pages which follow.

d. Each sourceline includes a time, date, and bureau indicator in addition to the elements shown herein. The example:

London General Overseas Service in English

is understood to stand for:

London General Overseas Service in English 0000 GMT 6 June 1964--E

or a similar sourceline in actual copy.

e. The time shown for broadcasts is the nominal starting time of the program containing the material. For presscasts the time shown is approximately that at which the item was actually transmitted. Substitution of "0001 GMT" when "0000 GMT" is intended is not authorized.

It is essential that the date reflect Greenwich reckoning instead of that of the monitoring bureau.

(continued)

A-1

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A. GENERAL (continued)

f. The city at the beginning of sourcelines is the nominal regular origination point of the broadcast or precast. (For broadcasts this is the studio location.) The origination point may be a long distance from the site of the transmitter actually monitored.

When necessary for clarity, the name of the city may be followed by the name of the country, colony, or region in which it is located.
Examples:

Tumbes Peru Domestic Service in Spanish
Petropavlovsk Kazakhstan Domestic Service in Russian
Santiago Chile Radio Corporacion Network in Spanish
Jerusalem Israel Domestic Service in English

g. Each sourceline has an alternate form for use in editorial briefs. Brief forms are described in part E.

h. Sourceline spelling, punctuation and capitalization rules derive from Editorial Branch style.

i. Field editors are encouraged to include additional information about the broadcast or precast in subsourcelines when such explanations enhance understanding of the monitored material.

j. Sourceline formulation problems not covered in this manual should be brought to the attention of the Field Operations Staff.

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B. OFFICIAL BROADCASTS

1. General

a. Official broadcasts are those voice or television services which have program production under the acknowledged control of one of the following:

- the chief broadcasting component of a government;
- a quasigovernmental or semigovernmental corporation or institute;
- a governmental press agency.

(In all cases the ownership of the transmitters used is irrelevant.) Official broadcasts may be presumed to be in harmony with the basic policies of the government as a whole. Not all governmental broadcasts are official: the exceptions are considered in part C.

b. Certain private stations (particularly in Latin America) devote part of their broadcast time (regularly or in emergencies) to the transmission of official programs. At such times the stations lose their private character and the sourcelines are changed accordingly.

c. Sourcelines for official broadcasts distinguish between:

- services for domestic audiences and those for foreign audiences (a program for both generally is considered to be a domestic service);
- services controlled by press agencies and those controlled by other official broadcasters;
- radio programs and television programs.

On the other hand, sourcelines make no distinction between frequency modulation and amplitude modulation broadcasts.

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B. OFFICIAL BROADCASTS2. Voicecasts for foreign audiences

a. Official broadcasts for listeners outside the country of origin as a rule take sourcelines in the form:

 in to
Studio Language Target

Examples:

Moscow in Swahili to East Africa
Peking in Burmese to Burma
Paris in French to Indochina
Hilversum in Dutch to the Netherlands West Indies
Tokyo in Japanese to Australia and New Zealand
Cairo in French to Europe

b. Targets should be chosen so as to reflect best the broadcaster's probable intent. A distinction should be made between the physical beaming of a transmission (determined by the availability of antennas) and the target (where the intended listeners live). For many broadcasts these are not the same. For example, a transmission for Europe in several languages may include a period in Spanish. The sourceline should read "...in Spanish to Spain" not "...in Spanish to Europe". Similarly, a sourceline should read "in Burmese to Burma" not "in Burmese to Southeast Asia". Generally, when two interpretations of the target area, one broad and one narrow, are available, the narrow one will be used.

c. On the other hand, it is correct for sourcelines to read "...in French to Europe", "...in English to Africa", "...in Cantonese to South-east Asia", "...in Armenian to Europe", etc., when a language is widely spoken, or when a station is broadcasting to compatriots abroad.

d. Sourcelines for programs broadcast simultaneously to two separate targets (e.g., the United Kingdom and North America) should reflect both of them. When an enumeration of targets would make a sourceline too complicated, the targets may be abbreviated or recourse may be made to the procedure detailed in section 3 of this part.

e. The target may be either a political or a geographical area, whichever is appropriate.

f. The designation of a country, rather than one of its regions, as a target for international broadcasts is preferable (e.g., "...in Slovak to Czechoslovakia" instead of "...in Slovak to Slovakia".)

g. The beaming of a program may serve as a guide to the intended target in the absence of other information.

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B. OFFICIAL BROADCASTS

3. Voicecasts for vaguely defined foreign audiences

a. Alternate sourceline forms are available for instances in which it is not practical or not desirable to designate a specific target area:

____ International Service in ____
Studio Language

____ Overseas Service in ____
Studio Language

____ General Overseas Service in ____
Studio Language

____ External Service in ____
Studio Language

Examples:

London General Overseas Service in English
Melbourne Overseas Service in English
Bern Overseas Service in Portuguese
Cologne International Service in German
Lisbon Overseas Service in Portuguese
Ankara External Service in Turkish
Djakarta Overseas Service in English

b. These forms may be used when the specific target is not known, when a program is broadcast simultaneously to several broadly separated areas, when a program is diffused vaguely to any interested listeners abroad, or when a broadcaster is known to repeat programming in successive transmissions to several target areas.

c. The choice of International, Overseas, General Overseas, or External Service designations will depend on the broadcaster's own usage. In the absence of such an announcement, International Service will be used in the sourceline.

d. Use of European Service, Latin American Service, and similar area designations in sourcelines is not authorized.

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B. OFFICIAL BROADCASTS

5. Telecasts for foreign audiences

Official television broadcasts transmitted directly across an international boundary without relays in the target country are given source-lines in the form:

 Television in to
Studio Language Target

Examples:

Tallinn Television in Finnish to Finland
Bratislava Television in German to Austria

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B. OFFICIAL BROADCASTS

8. Exceptional sourcelines for domestic services

a. A special procedure is required to distinguish the Moscow oblast regional service from the Moscow home or Soviet Asian services. To the regular sourceline:

Moscow Domestic Service in Russian

add the subsourceline:

(Oblast Service)

b. An exceptional sourceline is used for "Deutschlandsender" broadcasts:

East Berlin Deutschlandsender in German to Germany

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C. SEMI-OFFICIAL AND PRIVATE BROADCASTS2. Directed voicecasts

a. Semi-official and private broadcasters usually transmit to any interested listeners within range and no target can or should be ascribed to their regular programs. When they depart from this routine, however, and address special programs to an area different from their normal service area (in particular, a specific foreign target or a remote troublesome province), it may be necessary to state the target in the sourceline in order to insure complete understanding of the item.

b. In some countries the official broadcaster sets up a special program for foreign listeners which states properly its point of origin but announces as if it were a separate broadcaster. Usually this is done to disclaim responsibility for program material. For such programs, which are treated as semi-official broadcasts, sourcelines should state target areas.

c. Sourcelines for directed voicecasts from semi-official and private broadcasters are in the form:

Studio Broadcaster in Language to Target

Examples:

New York World Wide Broadcasting System in Spanish to Cuba
 Caracas Radio Rumbos in Spanish to Cuba
 Quito Vox de los Andes in Russian to the USSR
 Cairo Voice of the Arabs in Arabic to the Arab World
 Cairo Voice of Africa in Hausa to West Africa
 East Berlin Radio Peyk-e Iran in Persian to Iran
 Taipei Voice of Air Force in Mandarin to China Mainland
 Swan Island Radio Swan in Cantonese to Cuba

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C. SEMIOFFICIAL AND PRIVATE BROADCASTS

4. Exceptional sourcelines for semiofficial broadcasts

a. A special sourceline is used for broadcasts from "Radio Volga":

Radio Volga via East Berlin in _____ to Soviet Forces
Language

b. Special sourcelines are used for broadcasts from the "Voice of the Soviet Homeland":

Voice of the Soviet Homeland in _____ to West Europe
Language

Voice of the Soviet Homeland in _____ to North America
Language

c. A special sourceline is used for broadcasts from the Chinese People's Liberation Army Fukien Front Broadcasting Station:

Fukien Front Station in _____ to Quemoy
Language

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C. SEMI-OFFICIAL AND PRIVATE BROADCASTS5. Voicecasts and telecasts on private networks

a. When two or more private voice or television broadcasters join to transmit a program simultaneously they lose their individual identities and assume the identity of the network. The network is considered to be a separate broadcaster even when its program style, personnel, and technical facilities are indistinguishable from those of its key station.

b. When a station changes from local to network programming, that change is shown in sourcelines by substituting the name of the network for that of the local broadcaster. If the name of the network does not include the words "Network", "Reseau", "Chaine", "Cadena", "Red", or "Circuito", then the word "Network" is inserted after the network name.

c. Sourcelines for broadcasts from private networks are in the forms:

Studio Broadcaster Network in Language

Studio Broadcaster Television Network in Language

Examples:

Panama City Circuito RPC in Spanish

Bogota Caracol Network in Spanish

Havana Cadena Oriental in Spanish

Mexico City Telesistema Mexicana Television Network in Spanish

Havana Television Revolucion Network in Spanish

d. When the individual stations separate from local programming the network is dissolved and sourcelines revert to the ordinary form.

e. Studios listed in sourcelines show the origination points of programs, not the location of transmitters on which they are monitored.

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D. PRESSCASTS

1. General

a. Material which press agencies transmit on morse, hellschreiber, or radioteletype generally is given sourcelines in the form:

City AGENCY in Language to Destination

Examples:

Moscow TASS in English to Europe
Brazilia AGENCIA NACIONAL in Portuguese to Brazil

- b. Recognized abbreviations may be used for the names of agencies.
- c. Names of press agencies are rendered in capital letters.
- d. The term press agencies as used herein refers to news agencies, information services, newspapers, and magazines which use radio circuits for the transmission of editorial material.

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D. PRESSCASTS

2. Interagency transmissions

a. Press transmissions from one agency to another take sourcelines in the form:

City AGENCY in Language to AGENCY City

Example:

Hanoi VNA in Vietnamese to NCNA Peking

b. Interagency transmissions may be inserted among items in a regular presscast or included with other traffic in a common-carrier circuit. In each case each dispatch requires special attention to insure that its sourceline correctly reflects its origin and destination.

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D. PRESSCASTS

3. Correspondents' dispatches

a. Regular presscasts from a main or branch office of a press agency reflect the policy of that agency. Dispatches from a correspondent to his agency, however, may reflect his own attitudes or local pressures upon him. A special sourceline form is used to identify correspondents' dispatches:

Filing Point Correspondent's Dispatch in Language to AGENCY City

Examples:

Peking Correspondent's Dispatch in Spanish to PRENSA LATINA Havana
Montevideo Correspondent's Dispatch in Russian to TASS Moscow
Taipei Correspondent's Dispatch in Japanese to NIPPON TIMES Tokyo

b. Correspondents' dispatches may be inserted among items in a regular presscast or included with other traffic in a common-carrier circuit. In either case each dispatch requires special attention to insure that its sourceline correctly reflects its origin and destination.

c. A dispatch may be relayed through several radio circuits and intercepted on any one of them. The identity of the circuit itself, the location of its transmitter, and the location of its contact station are of no concern in the formulation of sourcelines. Sourcelines show the point at which the dispatch is filed and the identity of its ultimate addressee.

d. The filing point of the dispatch need not correspond with the dateline of the item.

e. Press material transmitted from a branch office of a press agency to a main office or to a regional office at a higher level is regarded as a correspondent's dispatch since it is subject to editorial review at a higher level.

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D. PRESSCASTS

4. Clandestine presscasts

Sourcelines for clandestine presscasts are in the form:

AGENCY (Clandestine) in Language to Destination

Example:

LIBERATION PRESS AGENCY (Clandestine) in Vietnamese to South Vietnam

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E. BRIEF SOURCE LINES

Each sourceline has an alternate form which is used in editorial briefs. The brief form, which is enclosed in parentheses, is the same as the regular form except that prepositions and the word "Service" are struck out.

Examples:

Melbourne Overseas Service in English

BRIEF FORM: (Melbourne Overseas English)

Moscow in English to Eastern North America

BRIEF FORM: (Moscow English Eastern North America)

Brussels Domestic Service in French

BRIEF FORM: (Brussels Domestic French)

Peking NCNA in English to Europe

BRIEF FORM: (Peking NCNA English Europe)

Havana Correspondent's Dispatch in English to TASS Moscow

BRIEF FORM: (Havana Correspondent's Dispatch English TASS
Moscow)

Caracas Ondas Populares in Spanish

BRIEF FORM: (Caracas Ondas Populares Spanish)

Oggi in Italia (Clandestine) in Italian to Italy

BRIEF FORM: (Oggi in Italia/Clandestine/Italian Italy)