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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, FBIS

FROM : Chief, Tokyo Bureau

SUBJECT: Progress Report for May 1964

DATE: 9 June 1964

I. GENERAL

- A. Developments at the construction site east across the street from the Annex confirmed the plan change for the Mitsui skyscraper. Building in progress terminated at the same height as the Embassy Annex, and the site behind it formerly occupied by the Peers Club (Union Club) was razed to make way for the thirty story building. The construction law change has not yet been promulgated.
- B. The delegation of authority to Bureau Chiefs to approve Foreign Service local severance pay plans arrived most timely, as the first Embassy meeting on this subject occurred the same day. Study is in progress by the Embassy as to the most suitable type of local plan, and there is little doubt such a plan will be inaugurated shortly since severance pay is a strongly established concept in Japan, closely related to retirement programming.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. To obtain processing time for Tokyo's Mandarin monitor, limited coverage of seven Moscow Mandarin broadcasts was transferred to Hokkaido Bureau on a trial basis. Hokkaido will summarize and list commentaries, while Tokyo will retain processing responsibilities in close coordination with Hokkaido. This arrangement will be reviewed with the Chief, Hokkaido Bureau during his upcoming TDY at Tokyo Bureau.
2. Reception of Hanoi Japanese has improved, and the 0930 and 1230 casts have been placed on priority III coverage. They will be covered in event of critical developments in Vietnam or of special issues arising between the DRV and Japan.
3. Despite leave and reduced Mandarin capability, publishable production was 267 items and 102,000 words in May, aided by the progress of the new Japanese monitor Gross production was 196,250 words, and weekly hours monitored were 268.1.

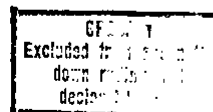
50X1

B. Communications

1. Allcated circuits showed a decided improvement in May, TWA outage dropping 17% to the 42% level. As the DCA regional officer

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agreed with the Bureau opinion that improvement should be more marked according to propagational recovery recently, he undertook to study the matter to insure that nothing is being overlooked which is working to FBIS disadvantage.

- 2. Air Force Communications Group initiated a monthly monitoring check of tributary traffic, and congratulated RUAPBI Tokyo Bureau for having the best record (least discrepancies) of any tributary in the Tokyo area.

C. Technical

- 1. Due to inherent deficiencies in TV images for photography purposes, the Bureau has conducted an extensive trial program to find means for improving photographic quality. A separate report is being forwarded the Chief, Engineering Staff, with information copy to the Chiefs, FOS and L&R Staffs. ✓
- 2. The transistorized amplifier and wiring for the new monitoring position (voice) no. 10 was completed 14 May.

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

- 1. [redacted] departed Tokyo 30 May after completing 60 days of TDY as acting administrative officer. 50X1
- 2. Teletype technician [redacted] was given a complete physical examination at Harajuku Clinic by order of the Bureau Chief following an allegation that an Embassy technician (USIS) became seriously ill and had a cerebral hemorrhage from overexposure to cleaning fluid of the trichlorethylene type, similar to that used by FBIS. A gas mask and rubber gloves have been put into routine use, as a precautionary measure. The examination showed that [redacted] liver has improved over the previous examination, and no other possible effects were detected. A subsequent medical finding on the USIS employee discounted any relationship with the cerebral hemorrhage, but recognized liver damage possibilities. Bureau ventilation of the teletype maintenance room will be improved. 50X1

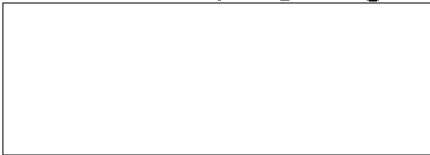
B. Buildings and Grounds

- 1. With Headquarters approval, lease S-29-FBO-821 was entered into effective 1 June for new quarters for the [redacted] family in close proximity to Tachikawa Base facilities. This lease is optional after expiration of the Heidemann contract in one year. Notice of cancellation of lease 681 was submitted in compliance with lease provisions to be effective 1 July, since the Embassy could find no takers for the house despite serious housing problems. Negotiation is in progress for lease 629, expiring 24 July. 50X1

Attachments:

Forms 217, 217a, 56-76.

cc [redacted]



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GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

COVERAGE CHANGE REPORT		TYPE		BUREAU		DATE (Month and Year)	
		MONTHLY RECAP		TOKYO		MAY 1964	
COUNTRY	LANGUAGE	CITY		TIME GMT	DAYS BROADCAST	DAYS COVERED	RATING
<u>DELETIONS</u>							
NONE							
<u>ADDITIONS</u>							
Vietnam(N)	Japanese	Hanoi	IS	0930-1000	Daily	Daily	Fair 4
Vietnam(N)	Japanese	Hanoi	IS	1230-1300	Daily	Daily	Fair 4
<u>MODIFICATIONS</u>							
USSR	Mandarin	Moscow	IS	0515-0545	Daily	Daily	Poor 4
USSR	Mandarin	Moscow	IS	0545-0615	Daily	Daily	Poor 4
USSR	Mandarin	Moscow	IS	0830-0900	Daily	Daily	Fair 4
USSR	Mandarin	Moscow	IS	0900-0930	Daily	Daily	Fair 4
USSR	Mandarin	Moscow	IS	0930-1000	Daily	Daily	Fair 4
USSR	Mandarin	Moscow	IS	1000-1030	Daily	Daily	Fair 4
USSR	Mandarin	Moscow	IS	1030-1100	Daily	Daily	Fair 4
(were all priority 2)							