

S-E-C-R-E-T

25 April 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR: Bureau Chiefs

SUBJECT: Letter of Information

GENERAL

1. CPSU Congress Coverage: The London Bureau's well-organized and expeditious handling of TASS and Moscow radio materials on the 23d CPSU Congress proceedings from 29 March through 8 April enabled the FBIS Wire Service and the USSR/EE Daily Report to provide consumers with exceptionally prompt and thorough coverage. London's efforts were complemented by the Austrian and Mediterranean Bureaus' contribution of amplifications and texts of many of the delegates' speeches. The complete proceedings of the congress and related materials were published in 14 Daily Report supplements which totaled 425,000 words. A final index to the supplements was published 27 April. Advance copies of all congress material received in Headquarters were forwarded to high-level consumers by special messengers.

Moscow radio reported the congress proceedings to world listeners in 54 languages and to domestic and European audiences via all USSR radio stations, the Soviet Central television network, Intervision, and Eurovision. (FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

2. Indonesian Crisis: Despite its limited Indonesian staff, the Okinawa Bureau was able to provide full coverage of Djakarta radio's entire domestic output during the March crisis period. Western press service transmissions from Djakarta and Singapore and ANTARA casts in morse were exploited to supplement Djakarta and regional radio reports of the tense events leading up to the violent student demonstrations and the subsequent radical realignment of political forces in Indonesia. The bureau was commended by the BBC for its thorough coverage. (FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

3. Special Services: The Okinawa Bureau provided the Commanding General, 3d Marine Division, and the 1st Counterintelligence Team, Fleet Marine Force I/MAC, with tape recordings of a statement on Hanoi radio purportedly made by a U.S. Marine captured by the Viet Cong. The Okinawa and Saigon Bureaus supplied military requestors with tapes of alleged statements by the two U.S. pilots broadcast by Hanoi radio. A letter from the CO, USAF 6315th Operations Group at Naha, commended the work of Okinawa Bureau monitors who translated into Thai, Vietnamese, and Korean a pamphlet on emergency procedures for the C-130. (CONFIDENTIAL)

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Group 1
Excluded from Automatic down-
grading and declassification

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4. Research Services: A speechwriter on Vice President Humphrey's staff was supplied with Liberation Front radio comment attacking South Vietnam labor leaders. Agency and State Department components were given information on such subjects as notes exchanged between the CFR and Indonesia, the volume of Peking broadcasts about Japan and Thailand, Peking propaganda treatment of the Burmese "White Flag" communists, the beaming of Chinese Communist polemical articles, content and beaming of Soviet comment on the recovery of a U.S. nuclear bomb from the Mediterranean, and Soviet propaganda treatment of Fidel Castro's 13 March speech and Cuban delegate Armando Hart's CPSU Congress speech. RPD also answered many queries from high-level consumers about Peking's reaction to the Congressional hearings on Communist China. (CONFIDENTIAL)

5. Lateral Services: During March the Saigon Bureau began providing JUSPAO with carbons of communist broadcast materials and the USIS mission in Vientiane with Pathet Lao program summaries. According to information received by the Saigon Bureau Chief, material supplied by the Okinawa and Saigon Bureaus to the American Embassy, Bangkok, are redistributed to the American consulates in Udorn and Chiangmai and to all regional USIS PAO's. In mid-April, with Headquarters' concurrence, the Saigon Bureau began direct wirefiling of the Saigon-Cholon press review to USIA, Washington. In response to the Mediterranean Bureau's effort to provide the American Embassy in Teheran with more material from the clandestine National Voice of Iran, the embassy cabled the bureau its appreciation for the "excellent coverage." Upon request, the embassy at Cairo is receiving wider coverage of Cairo radio's Voice of Palestine. During a recent visit by the Chief of the Key West Bureau to Miami, recipients of FBIS material there stressed the importance of FBIS reporting on Cuba, particularly the refugee evacuation and the recent spy trial in Havana. Recipients of the FBIS-monitored WHO epidemiological bulletin now total 36. (CONFIDENTIAL)

6. Use of FBIS Materials: FBIS-monitored items cited in recent State Department and embassy cables included AFP and other reports that Guinea was massing troops on its border with Ivory Coast, a Moscow radio assertion that a hydrogen bomb lost by the United States in Mosquito Bay, Panama, was causing radiation sickness among Nicaraguans, and a Mogadiscio radio attack on Kenya President Jomo Kenyatta which U.S. Ambassador Thurston brought to the attention of the Somali Prime Minister Abdirazak as an example of broadcasts which harm Somalia's image abroad.

Ten percent of the items appearing in the OCI Digest during March were based wholly or in part on FBIS-monitored materials. (CONFIDENTIAL)

7. Briefings and Visits: U.S. Ambassador Taylor Belcher and Mr. Renos Solomidhis, GOC Minister of Finance and Acting Minister of Communications and Public Works, visited the Mediterranean Bureau 29 March for a briefing and discussions with the bureau chief. American employees of the bureau held a

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buffet supper for members of the University of Texas Chamber Singers who performed in Kyrenia 15 March under State Department auspices. Maj. Gen. Kanshi Ishikawa, Commander of the 2d Wing, Japanese Air Self-Defense Forces, was briefed on operations at the Hokkaido Bureau 15 March. On 27 March the DCM in Tokyo, John K. Emerson, and the American Consul in Sapporo, William Clark, visited the Hokkaido Bureau following a luncheon at Kuma Station. Several naval intelligence officers from COMKWESTFOR recently visited the Key West Bureau for familiarization, and military personnel from DIA, the Navy's SOUTHCOM in Panama, and 5th Air Force, Fuchu, Japan, received briefings at Headquarters. (FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

8. Saigon Situation: The Saigon Bureau kept a close watch on the Hue and Da Nang radios following their takeover by students calling themselves the "Popular Struggle Force for Revolution." The Embassy was kept informed of current developments, including strongly anti-American and anti-GVN statements, by phone and through special copies of monitored material. As during past crisis periods, Vietnamese troops were stationed around the U.S. Embassy and its annex. To help Saigon Bureau cope with the extra work of covering dissident-controlled radios and staffing difficulties stemming from the Ky regime's temporary imposition of an early evening curfew in Saigon, the Okinawa Bureau temporarily took over some of Saigon's coverage.

During the first week of March the Saigon Bureau chief visited Vientiane and Bangkok to test Thai/Lao monitor prospects. (CONFIDENTIAL)

9. Mediterranean Bureau Developments: After discussions with local government officials, the American Embassy informed the State Department that it hoped by late April or early May to conduct serious negotiations with the Government of Cyprus leading at least to an exchange of letters spelling out the American radio stations' new status and establishing the conditions for their continued operation.

There were no concrete developments in the question of a Karavas bypass which might encroach on the monitoring station, but the Cypriot Acting Minister of Communications and Public Works indicated in talks with U.S. officials that a bypass will be necessary. The minister also said that, regardless of the outcome of the bypass question, FBIS would eventually have to make way for a projected coastal highway around the island. Plans to extend and complete church-owned buildings at Moutti, on the north side of the bureau's antenna field, appeared to pose no threat to the bureau operation. (SECRET)

10. Caribbean Bureau Progress: Construction of the Caribbean Bureau's operations building by the Arden Construction Company began on 21 April. (UNCLASSIFIED)

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11. Cuban Coverage: Between 9 and 16 March the Latin America Daily Report published 120 pages of materials on the Havana trial of alleged U.S. agents and a 35-page Castro speech processed jointly by the Key West and East Coast Bureaus. The 72-page Latin America book of 14 March was the largest published in recent years. Audio tapes of the trial were provided by Key West Bureau for two Agency consumers. The bureau also obtained and sent to Headquarters on a priority basis editions of the Cuban Communist Party organ Granma containing the trial proceedings. (CONFIDENTIAL)

12. May Day Slogans: An analysis of Soviet May Day slogans for 1966 was published in Radio Propaganda Report CD. 266, issued 19 April. The report notes among other things the "demotion" of slogans on the CPR and Albania and deletion of references to implementing the CPSU Program adopted at the 22d Congress under Khrushchev. The presence of greetings to Syria for the first time, indicating approval of the new Baathist government, and the dropping of post-Nkrumah Ghana from the ranks of countries struggling for "social progress" are also noted. (CONFIDENTIAL)

13. Field Trips and TDY: Editorial Division Chief [redacted] 50X1
visited the West Coast, Panama, Caribbean, and Key West Bureaus 8-30 March on
an inspection trip. Tokyo Bureau Chief [redacted] was on TDY at the 50X1
Okinawa Bureau 28-31 March for briefings and discussion of mutual problems
with bureau staff officers. Executive Office [redacted] visited the Systems 50X1
Development Corporation in Santa Monica, California, and the Stanford Research
Institute at Menlo Park to look into possibilities for independent research to
increase FBIS operational efficiency in general, and in the case of SRI to
review progress on work already being done there on automating editing and
publication of the Daily Report. SRI is making encouraging progress in
developing procedures based on cathode-ray tube display of computer-stored FBIS
material. (FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

14. FBIS Anniversary Party: Some 225 persons, including many former FBIS employees and their wives from points as far away as Chicago and North Carolina, renewed old friendships at a cocktail party held in the Fort Myer Officers Club on 15 April to mark the 25th anniversary of FBIS. (UNCLASSIFIED)

15. Vietnam Casualty Information: The following supplements instructions contained in the 24 March Letter of Information: All information on U.S. military casualties in Vietnam should be addressed to BUPERS, Washington, D.C. (RUECH); USAF Military Personnel Center, Randolph AFB (RUWTFJA); ONI, Washington, D.C. (RUECW); and Code DNA, Washington, D.C. (RUECEM). While emphasis should be on Vietnam casualty information, all of these consumers have a continuing interest in specific information about or statements by U.S. servicemen in any overseas area. (CONFIDENTIAL)

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FIELD OPERATIONS AND ENGINEERING

16. Trans-Atlantic Communications: To protect London-Washington communications during the 23d CPSU Congress, FBIS arranged with DCA for the temporary upgrading of restoration priorities assigned to London Bureau's two allocated cable circuits. The cutting of one cable by a trawler off the U.S. coast on 31 March resulted in a 15-hour loss of one circuit, which was rerouted via a cable from France, but the other two circuits were not affected. (CONFIDENTIAL)

17. London-Frankfurt Circuitry: After months of negotiation with DCA, FBIS in mid-April obtained an allocated military circuit between Croughton, England, and Pirmasens, Germany, to replace the previous commercial link with the common-user relay. An estimated \$17,000 a year will be saved through the new arrangement. (CONFIDENTIAL)

18. Bangkok Communications: Tentative arrangements have been made with DCA and the State Department to provide communications for the projected Bangkok Bureau. It is planned to use an allocated circuit between Bangkok and Saigon, where traffic will be relayed to Washington by the direct cable and to lateral addressees via the common-user circuit. (CONFIDENTIAL)

ADMINISTRATION

19. Entertainment Vouchers: In preparing entertainment vouchers particular care should be taken to insure that only the word "operational" is used to describe the purpose of the entertainment. (CONFIDENTIAL)

20. Regulatory Issuances: The following regulatory issuances have been disseminated: (SECRET)



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1. Administrative Message References: The bureau or Washington symbol should be used when referring to a previous message in the body of an administrative message. Thus "RE PR200" or "FURTHER WA100" leaves no doubt as to the origin of the message cited, whereas "REUR 100" or "REOUR 200" is easily confused by garbles and is particularly ambiguous when a message is addressed to more than one recipient.

2. Photo Display: Headquarters now has a display board for photographs of FBIS installations, housing areas, or any other subjects which are of interest to employees. Again bureaus are requested to submit appropriate photographs for display.

3. Home Leave Address: Employees returning to the United States should as soon as possible provide Headquarters with an address and telephone number where they may be reached during home leave.

4. Travel Messages: Messages requesting travel orders and proposing itineraries for PCS transferees should be addressed to the Chief, Administrative Staff, instead of to the Director.

5. Language Training: Wives of Staff personnel overseas are encouraged to acquire at least a courtesy knowledge of the language of the host country. Costs incurred for language study at Embassy or other organized language courses will be reimbursed by FBIS.

PERSONNEL

6. New Employees

Assignment

Teletypist, Editorial Division
Teletypist, East Coast Bureau

50X1

7. Reassignments

From

To

Watch Officer
East Coast Bureau

Watch Officer
Caribbean Bureau

50X1

Editor
Editorial Division

Senior Editor
Caribbean Bureau

Teletypist
Editorial Division

Teletype Supervisor
Caribbean Bureau

Editor
Editorial Division

Editor
London Bureau

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8. Separations

From



Editor, East Coast Bureau

50X1

Watch Officer, East Coast Bureau (Retired)

9. Safe Driving Awards: Okinawa Bureau drivers



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received letters of commendation and cash awards for accident-free driving in 1965.

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Acting Director, FBIS