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29 October 1981

[Redacted]

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EO/DDS&T
Room 6E45 Hqs.

For the report to the DDCI.

DDS&T/FBIS [Redacted] (29Oct81)

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Distribution:

- 0 - Addressee
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- 1 - Subject File
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[Redacted]

AD/FBIS

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Key

[Redacted]

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FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICEDaily Report Automation

MIDAS, the FBIS Daily Report and Wire Service automation system, is running only a few weeks behind schedule. Phase I of the program, originally scheduled to be operational by 31 March 1982, will provide for automating the Wire Service, which serves major watch offices in the Washington area, and two of the eight volumes of the published Daily Report; Phase II will complete the system for all eight volumes. Software problems, and the late delivery of a device which interfaces the MIDAS message handling system with the worldwide AUTODIN network, have pushed the Factory Acceptance Test on Phase I to late February 1982, and the operational date to mid-May 1982. Construction is already underway on the 11th Floor of the Key Building to prepare the site for the automated system. The text processing subsystem is on its original schedule and is already producing excellent quality test pages utilizing a phototypesetter at the CIA printing facility. FBIS expects to initiate Phase II in FY 1982 and complete the automation in FY 1983.

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Swaziland Bureau

FBIS Executive Officer [redacted] on TDY in Swaziland, has located several possible sites in Mbabane for the new bureau. An FBIS technical team is en route to check out the site possibilities to determine which will provide the best reception of area radios. [redacted]

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Central America Remote System

For years, poor radio propagation in Central America made it virtually impossible for FBIS to monitor radios of the area from its existing bureaus. But beginning in 1979 the introduction of a system that involves the remoting of broadcasts over leased phone lines to the Panama Bureau, and more recently the installation of remote-tuning devices to control radio receivers in the embassies from the Panama Bureau, has produced excellent coverage of public radios in the area. The improvement in the quantity of information processed from these broadcasts can best be illustrated by comparing the average monthly output in wordage, by country, from 1979 to 1981: El Salvador, from 1,000 to 32,000; Guatemala, from 1,200 to 14,000; Honduras, from virtually nil to 16,000; and Nicaragua, from 26,000 to 130,000. [redacted]

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~Peking Embassy Request

The U.S. Embassy in Peking asked the FBIS Analysis Group, in a cable dated 27 October, to prepare a report for the Embassy on treatment of Stalin recently in the Chinese media, and to provide a judgment as to whether this has current significance for developments in China.

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Terrorism Documents

FBIS has asked the Human Resources Committee/IC Staff to provide guidance for the Intelligence Community in regard to the handling and processing of extensive holdings of foreign-language documents dealing with terrorism. These documents are held by a number of U.S. Government agencies; FBIS has estimated that State Department holdings alone would require six to a dozen multilingual officers for processing. The total magnitude of U.S. Government holdings is still not fully known, but it clearly would involve additional staffing, funding, and space for classified work. It is understood this problem will be referred to the Inter-Agency Committee on Terrorism.

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