

MGF 005-82

6 March 1982

Memorandum for : Director, FBIS
 Through : Chief, Operations Group
 Subject : Monthly Report--Gulf Bureau--February 1982

I. GENERAL

In an effort to verify unconfirmed reports that Iran's Ayatollah Khomeyni had died, the bureau on the night of 16-17 February remained open throughout the night to maintain an open-speaker watch on Tehran radio. Numerous FYI's were filed during this period reporting on the radio's programming and behavior. The watch was called off a few days later, however, when Khomeyni himself took to the air ways to ridicule reports of his death.

Recruiting trips were made to Kuwait and Pakistan during the month. A possible Kurdish candidate was interviewed and tested in Kuwait with satisfactory results. During the trip to Pakistan a strong Baluchi candidate was tested along with a strong Farsi/Dari/Pashto/Urdu candidate. Separate reports on these candidates have been supplied to headquarters.

The bureau has also gotten into the business of processing material recorded at other bureaus and mailed to Gulf. In addition, we have assumed coverage of three Tehran newspapers formerly handled by the London PMU. We are currently processing Uighur tapes recorded in Islamabad as well as tapes of the clandestine Voice of Lebanese Armenians recorded for us in Nicosia.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Editorial/Monitorial

1. The bureau's coverage of Soviet Central Asia took another step forward during the month with the assumption of Tashkent Uighur coverage from Nicosia bureau. The Uighur broadcasts are recorded by the Islamabad unit and mailed to us weekly. We receive the tapes with only a 1-day time lag. Uighur is now the third language that our Central Asia monitor--former Medbuero Turkish monitor [redacted] -has mastered in the last 18 months. The other two are Azeri and Uzbek and he is also working on Kazakh. The man is truly gifted.

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2. Persistent rumors of Ayatollah Khomeyni's deteriorating health and possible death prompted the Bureau at mid-month to mount an open-speaker watch on Tehran Domestic Service and Tehran International Arabic. The watches were extended throughout the night of 16-17 February when Iran remained silent on Khomeyni's health or his whereabouts. The suspense eased somewhat on 18 February when a decree was issued in Khomeyni's name and disappeared completely when the Ayatollah finally put in an appearance after 2 weeks of self-imposed silence.

3. At the request of the BBC the Bureau began covering Tehran Domestic Service 0530-0630 GMT daily after the radio began using its shortwave transmitters to beam an hour-long program in Spanish at this time. The Domestic Service is heard here on mediumwave frequencies via relays in Shiraz, Ahvaz and Bushehr.

4. With the resignation of PMU's sole Persian monitor, the Bureau assumed coverage of the Tehran newspapers ETTEL'AT, JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI and KEYHAN. The papers are mailed from London. We receive them with an average delay of 10 days from date of publication. As anticipated, most perishable material is adequately covered by either Tehran radio or IRNA. However, in February we processed interviews and narcotics reports from the papers totalling 8,860 words.

5. In order to enable the BBC to grant its Dari and Pashto monitors some well earned leave time, we have assumed coverage of Kabul radio on Monday and Tuesday through 16 March. Program summaries for the two main Domestic Service newscasts at 1530 GMT in Pashto and at 1600 GMT in Dari are wirefiled to the BBC for use by its editorial department.

6. We also assumed coverage of the clandestine Voice of Lebanese Armenians radio during the month. This is new programming originating from the facilities of the clandestine Voice of the Arab Revolution radio. The programs focus on material reflecting the views of the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia--ASALA. The programs are recorded by Nicosia and mailed to Gulf Bureau. The time lag so far has been 5-7 days. The radio appears to be a productive source. So far we have been processing at least one item from each cast.

7. We returned coverage of the Moscow Urdu 1200 and 1300 and Beijing Urdu 1600 GMT broadcasts to Bangkok at the beginning of the month. We had been covering these casts for Bangkok for the last several months because of a shortage of Urdu capability there.

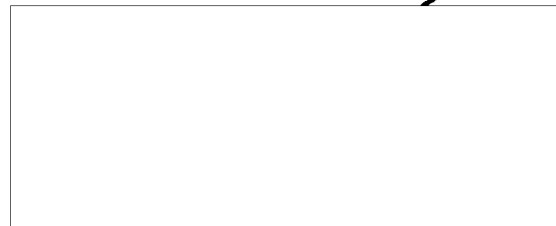
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B. LATERAL SERVICES

The hijacking of the Tanzania Airliner at mid-month prompted a great deal of interest here when the plane landed in Jidda for refueling. Concerned that the hijackers might divert the plane to Bahrain both the Ambassador and the Bahraini Minister of Information requested that we call them at home at any hour should such reports be monitored. However, the plane flew next to Athens.

III. VISITS

To the Bureau on 2 February: Mr Sheldon Krysz, Executive Director, Near East and Africa Bureau, Department of State.



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Bureau Chief

GULF BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 1982

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	254,690
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	101,830
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	706

	BROAD-CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI-CATIONS
II. <u>INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:</u> (minutes or issues per week)	12,035 mins.	6510 mins.	167 issues

III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:
(publishable words per month)AFGHANISTAN

Kabul in English to South Asia	2,730		
Kabul in Urdu to South Asia	1,720		
Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto	400		
Kabul Domestic Service in Dari	760		

BAHRAIN

Manama Domestic Service in Arabic	5,910		
Manama Domestic Service in English	0		
Manama Domestic Television Service in Arabic	4,130		
Manama WAKH in Arabic		34,840	
Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in English		650	
Manama AKBAR AL-KHALIJ in Arabic			2,980
Manama AL-ADWA in Arabic			1,990
Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English			610
Manama GULF MIRROR in English			580

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Manama SADA AL-USBU in Arabic			860

CLANDESTINE

(Clandestine) Voice of Lebanese Armenians in Armenian	7,170		
(Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Azeri to Iran	0		
(Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran	6,730		
(Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran	3,840		
(Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian	4,420		
(Clandestine) Ahvaz Voice of Al-Qadisiyah in Arabic	0		
(Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Islamic Revolution in Arabic	0		

IRAN

Tehran International Service in Arabic	22,440		
Tehran International Service in Russian	0		
Tehran International Service in Turkish	8,710		
Tehran International Service in Urdu	480		
Zahedan International Service in Urdu	150		
Tehran Domestic Service in Persian	4,090		
Tehran International Service in Pashto	140		
Abadan Domestic Television Service in Persian	0		
Tehran Domestic Television Service in Persian	0		
Abadan NIOC Radio in Arabic	1,460		
Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian	720		

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian	470		
Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian	1,730		
Tehran IRNA in English		1,480	
Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian	170		
Tehran Jomhuri-Ye Eslami in Persian			3,230
Tehran Ettela'at in Persian			4,360
Tehran Keyhan in Persian			1,270
<u>IRAQ</u>			
Baghdad International Service in Azeri	4,790		
Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic	310		
<u>KUWAIT</u>			
Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic			750
Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic			1,660
Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic			10,410
Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English			1,880
Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic			5,860
<u>LEBANON</u>			
Beirut ARARAT in Armenian			920
<u>OMAN</u>			
Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic	380		
Salalah Domestic Service in Arabic	2,050		
Muscat TIMES OF OMAN in English			0

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
<u>PAKISTAN</u>			
Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu	0		
Karachi DAWN in English			8,090
Karachi JANG in Urdu			1,280
Karachi JASARAT in Urdu			3,050
Karachi MASHRIQ in Urdu			220
Lahore NAWA-E WAQT in Urdu			1,530
<u>QATAR</u>			
Doha Domestic Service in Arabic	1,330		
Doha QNA in Arabic		10,450	
Doha AR-RAYAH in Arabic			870
<u>SAUDI ARABIA</u>			
Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic	520		
Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic	3,070		
Riyadh Domestic Television Service in English	0		
Ad-Dammam AL-YAWM in Arabic			1,060
Jidda AL-BILAD in Arabic			420
Jidda AL-MADINAH in Arabic			5,250
<u>UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS</u>			
Moscow in Dari to Afghanistan	620		
Moscow in Persian to Iran	6,290		
Baku International Service in Azeri	1,440		

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Tashkent International Service in Uzbek	4,580		
Yerevan International Service in Armenian	1,510		
Ashkabad Domestic Service in Russian	4,110		
Baku Domestic Service in Russian	0		
Tashkent Domestic Service in Russian	4,420		
Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian	740		
Dushanbe Domestic Service in Russian	3,610		
Tashkent International Service in Uighur	1,100		
<u>UNITED ARAB EMIRATES</u>			
Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic	5,550		
Dubayy Domestic Service in Arabic	540		
Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic		8,060	
Abu Dhabi AL-FAJR in Arabic			340
Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic			2,750
Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I in Arabic			530
Ash-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic			3,470
Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic			5,130
Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English			2,530

Attachment A

ENGINEERING REPORT--GULF BUREAU MONTHLY REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 1982

Equipment received: Hewlett-packard Voltmeter Model 400E
 sn 1208A28024.

 Typewriter. Remington Model 150.
 10EA

Equipment Transferred: None

Projects: Strung long wire antenna at ASU.
 Bearing 040. Length approximately
 150 feet. Results of antenna
 reception capabilities are being
 ran at this time.