

2 December 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service

THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT : Monthly Report--Bangkok Bureau--November 1983

## I. GENERAL

1. Only now, with the merciful onset of dry, cool weather, is Bangkok beginning to recover from the effects of the October-November flooding. Water around some of the embassy housing complexes, including the apartment of editor [redacted] did not recede until late in the month, while some local and TCN employees are still using boats to travel from their homes. The estimates of losses from flood damage have been astronomical, and the bureau's employees have sustained their full share of the loss, from water damage to houses and cars to the added cost of maintaining regular schedules in the face of widespread deprivation and forced immobility. Many of the outer-lying areas are still under water, including sections of the road to the Bureau's [redacted] facility and the antenna field itself.

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2. In a particularly significant step for a country practicing strict neutrality, on 4 November Burma severed ties with the DPRK over the 9 October Rangoon bombing incident in which several South Korean ministers were killed. In the latter part of the month, the radio began carrying the transcripts of the resultant trial nightly, which has significantly added to the volume of and interest in Burmese coverage. Elsewhere in the region, the 23-29 November Commonwealth conference in New Delhi and political unrest in Bangladesh sharpened interest in South Asian coverage. Because of all these developments, the editorial staff "enjoyed" the opportunity to enhance its monitorial capabilities, as unexpected hospitalization, coupled with out-of-town leaves in the South Asian unit, decimated the monitorial ranks.

## II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

Bangkok and Okinawa bureaus dusted off the model used for last spring's New Delhi Nonaligned Movement summit to cover the 23-29 November New Delhi Commonwealth conference. Okinawa provided TV coverage support, while Bangkok maintained primary coverage from the radio. Most of the coordination occurred on the opening day when two bureaus split texting responsibilities for the leaders' addresses to speed processing.

B. Technical

1. The printers used for Vietnamese press coverage have been relocated back to the commo room to free space for a monitorial position.

2. The dehydrators used with the transmission lines [redacted] have been reconfigured until parts can be obtained for one of the units. The rains and high moisture level have put quite a strain on the dehydrators. No outage of service has resulted from the temporary reconfiguration.

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### III. ADMINISTRATION

#### A. Personnel

1. The 25 October-4 November recruiting trip which Deputy Chief [redacted] and South Asian Unit Chief [redacted] made to New Delhi and Madras netted six acceptable candidates for our new Tamil-Hindi-Urdu slot. The position has been offered to [redacted] of Madras.

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2. New Indonesian-Malay monitor [redacted] arrived in Bangkok with his wife on 27 November and entered on duty the next day.

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3. Former Vietnamese Chief [redacted] was promoted to the position of Chief Monitor effective 27 November. [redacted] was promoted to the position of Vietnamese Unit Chief on the same day.

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4. Editor [redacted] was promoted to GS-9 effective 13 November.

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#### B. Buildings and Grounds

The bureau's construction projects, focused mainly on creating monitorial positions for incoming personnel, were suspended during most of the month, as the contracted company was forced to abandon its premises to flood water. At month's end the carpenters were back on the job and have almost completed construction on consolidated copy and library shelves in the editorial room to free space for more monitorial positions.

### IV. VISITS

A. [redacted] of the Embassy's DAO/TLO Office visited the bureau on 23 November and was provided with an extensive list of times and frequencies for foreign-language programs being beamed into Thailand.

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B. Bureau Staff Engineer [redacted] visited Hong Kong on TDY 6-12 November to help move the bureau back to the [redacted] building, a project which brought praise from Headquarters for its efficiency.

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C. Okinawa editor [redacted] visited the bureau 10 November while on private travel.

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[redacted]  
Chief, Bangkok Bureau

## BANGKOK BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 1983

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	570,050 (517,790)
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	229,270 (237,250)
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	1,391 ( 1,357)

	<u>BROADCASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLICATIONS</u>
II. <u>INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:</u> (minutes or issues per week)	15,390 ( 15,390) min.	20,205 ( 20,205) min.	232.23 ( 232.23) issues

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

Melbourne Overseas Service in English	20,020 ( 13,490)		
Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English			1,290 ( 0)
Sydney THE BULLETIN in English			0 ( 0)
Sydney THE WEEKEND AUSTRALIAN in English			0 ( 0)

BANGLADESH

Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali	5,800 ( 290)		
Dhaka Domestic Service in English	8,190 ( 1,460)		
Dhaka BSS in English		3,880 ( 2,020)	
Dhaka SANGBAD in Bengali			0 ( 0)
Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English			780 ( 110)
Dhaka International Service in English	230 ( 0)		

BURMA

Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese	8,110 ( 10,120)		
Rangoon BOTATAUNG in Burmese			1,470 ( 0)
Rangoon LOKTHA PYEITHU NEZIN in Burmese			0 ( 0)
Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese			0 ( 0)
Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English			1,630 ( 1,170)

CHINA

Beijing in Cambodian to Kampuchea	0 ( 580)		
Beijing in Hindi to India	0 ( 0)		
Beijing in Malay to Malaysia	0 ( 0)		
Beijing in Urdu to India and Pakistan	0 ( 0)		
Beijing International in Bengali	0 ( 0)		
Beijing International in Burmese	350 ( 90)		
Beijing International in Indonesian	0 ( 0)		
Beijing International in Lao	0 ( 830)		
Beijing International in Thai	0 ( 0)		

CLANDESTINE

(Clandestine) Radio Kawthulay in Burmese to Burma	3,490 ( 2,770)		
(Clandestine) Radio Kawthulay in English to Burma	1,900 ( 0)		

	<u>BROADCASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLICATIONS</u>
<u>CLANDESTINE</u> (continued)			
(Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian	23,380 ( 27,370)		
(Clandestine) Voice of Malayan Democracy in Malay	0 ( 0)		
(Clandestine) Voice of The National Army of Democratic Kampuchean in Cambodian	6,180 ( 4,610)		
(Clandestine) Voice of The People of Burma in Burmese	550 ( 2,440)		
(Clandestine) Voice of the People of Malaya in Malay	1,600 ( 1,440)		
<u>HONG KONG</u>			
Hong Kong AFP in English		65,110 ( 32,470)	
<u>INDIA</u>			
Delhi General Overseas Service in English	3,150 ( 3,980)		
Delhi Domestic Service in English	47,530 ( 31,920)		
Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English		380 ( 490)	
Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English			610 ( 900)
Calcutta ANANDA BAZAR PATRIKA in Bengali			0 ( 0)
Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English			710 ( 930)
Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English			0 ( 0)
Delhi NATIONAL HERALD in English			0 ( 0)
Delhi PATRIOT in English			0 ( 230)
Madras THE HINDU in English			0 ( 0)
<u>INDONESIA</u>			
Jakarta International Service in English	2,980 ( 2,850)		
Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian	9,910 ( 5,650)		
Jakarta BERITA BUANA in Indonesian			0 ( 2,220)
Jakarta JAKARTA POST in English			700 ( 300)
Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian			0 ( 0)
Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian			0 ( 0)
Jakarta TEMPO in Indonesian			0 ( 0)
Jakarta THE INDONESIA TIMES in English			0 ( 2,190)
Jakarta Domestic Service in English	280 ( 300)		
<u>KAMPUCHEA</u>			
Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian	15,290 ( 20,690)		
Phnom Penh SPK in English		13,370 ( 8,370)	
Phnom Penh SPK in French		13,240 ( 18,620)	
		0 ( 0)	
		0 ( 0)	
<u>LAOS</u>			
Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao	27,420 ( 33,070)		

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	<u>BROADCASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLICATIONS</u>	
<u>LAOS (continued)</u>				
Vientiane KPL in English		23,030 ( 9,260)		STAT
		0 ( 0)		
		0 ( 0)		
		0 ( 0)		
Vientiane PASASON in Lao			0 ( 0)	
<u>MALAYSIA</u>				
Kuala Lumpur International Service in English	6,470 ( 10,070)			
Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English	3,220 ( 3,050)			
Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in Malay	0 ( 0)			
Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English			7,200 ( 10,400)	
Kuala Lumpur NEW SUNDAY TIMES in English			80 ( 0)	
<u>NEPAL</u>				
Katmandu External Service in English	730 ( 360)			
Katmandu THE RISING NEPAL in English			0 ( 0)	
<u>PAKISTAN</u>				
Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu	390 ( 900)			
Karachi Domestic Service in English	8,670 ( 9,490)			
Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu	5,690 ( 10,970)			
<u>SINGAPORE</u>				
Singapore Domestic Service in English	1,100 ( 4,180)			
Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English			1,800 ( 1,440)	
Singapore THE SUNDAY TIMES in English			0 ( 0)	
<u>SRI LANKA</u>				
Colombo International Service in English	3,230 ( 3,750)			
Colombo Domestic Service in English	500 ( 270)			
Colombo DAILY NEWS in English			0 ( 1,420)	
Colombo THE SUN in English			110 ( 910)	
Colombo WEEKEND in English			0 ( 120)	
<u>THAILAND</u>				
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Cambodian	0 ( 2,660)			
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English	3,470 ( 6,350)			
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Lao	0 ( 2,770)			
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai	4,130 ( 3,450)			
Bangkok Domestic Service in English	4,180 ( 2,480)			
Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai	3,420 ( 2,750)			
Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English			29,790 ( 42,520)	
Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English			3,270 ( 2,700)	

	<u>BROADCASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLICATIONS</u>
<u>THAILAND (continued)</u>			
Bangkok KHLET LAP in Thai			0 ( 0)
Bangkok LAK THAI in Thai			1,020 ( 0)
Bangkok MATICHON in Thai			2,080 ( 2,820)
Bangkok MATICHON SUT SAPDA in Thai			1,360 ( 2,380)
Bangkok MATUPHUM in Thai			5,350 ( 3,360)
Bangkok PATINYA in Thai			0 ( 1,850)
Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai			1,540 ( 4,600)
Bangkok SU ANAKHOT in Thai			570 ( 0)
Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai			430 ( 2,540)
Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English			28,970 ( 21,290)
<u>UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS</u>			
Moscow in Bengali to Bangladesh	0 ( 0)		
Moscow in Burmese to Burma	180 ( 0)		
Moscow in Cambodian to Kampuchea	580 ( 0)		
Moscow in Hindi to India	0 ( 0)		
Moscow in Indonesian to Indonesia	250 ( 0)		
Moscow in Lao to Laos	0 ( 40)		
Moscow in Thai to Thailand	0 ( 0)		
Moscow in Urdu to India	0 ( 0)		
Moscow in Urdu to Pakistan	0 ( 0)		
Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Indonesian	0 ( 0)		
<u>VIETNAM</u>			
Hanoi International Service in Cambodian	0 ( 0)		
Hanoi International Service in English	6,440 ( 7,030)		
Hanoi International Service in Thai	110 ( 3,560)		
Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese	54,220 ( 59,220)		
Hanoi VNA in English		16,340 ( 1,030)	
		0 ( 0)	STAT
Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese			6,590 ( 5,290)
Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese			26,030 ( 14,570)
Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese			17,980 ( 21,910)

NOTE: Figures in parentheses are from preceding month