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MBK-003
7 March 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service

THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group

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

I. GENERAL

The bureau's attention during February focused on two summit conferences--the Delhi Nonaligned summit and the Indochina summit.

Complex coverage arrangements for the coming 7-11 Nonaligned summit, which conceivably could involve all bureaus, were being laid, as possible, throughout the month. As of the beginning of March Delhi Radio had not announced its own program plans for the conference, while Delhi TV had indicated it would carry extensive coverage, a factor which brought Okinawa Bureau to the forefront of the primary coverage picture via its Roset coverage capability for Delhi Television. At the same time it was laying groundwork for coverage of the conference, Bangkok Bureau's South Asian section was also being kept busy with reports of mass acts of violence in India's Assam and in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

The long-awaited SRV-Kampuchea-Laos Indochina summit meeting -- the first since April of 1970 -- was held in Vientiane 23-27 February. The summit, which the bureau covered from all three sources, resulted in statements which have sought to recast the nature and permanence of Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea but which have not been seen as having changed the direction of Hanoi-Phnom Penh-Vientiane policies toward the Kampuchea issue.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. As of 14 February the bureau began coverage of the clandestine Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea radio, the Radio's programing thus far indicates it is a companion transmitter to the clandestine Voice of Democratic Kampuchea radio. The military radio broadcasts two Cambodian and one Vietnamese news and commentary casts. The two radios are not co-located. Our best guess has been that VODK is located in China, but our best reception of VONADK is on our antenna directed at Ho Chi Minh City, an indication that the radio may be in Kampuchea.

2. SSPT, The Thai Communist Party's Morse coded radioteletype press agency, has been off the air on known frequencies as of the scheduled 2 February newscast. Bureau queries to the Thai Government have not yet resulted in new frequencies or a status report on the transmitter. Although SSPT has been off the air for brief periods in the past, the present lull in coverage has been the longest since the transmissions were first monitored in late 1979.

3. After the problem was raised by the BBC, Bangkok, Okinawa and Headquarters standardized telegraphic code guidelines for Vietnamese personal names.

4. The bureau's nonreceipt of the November and December issues of the Vietnamese journal TAP CHI CONG SAN from Hong Kong prompted a check with Hong Kong Bureau on delivery of the paper. As the journal is not being sent registered pouch, Hong Kong was unable to trace the missing copies. The January issue of TAP CHI CONG SAN, however, was received at the bureau on 28 February.

5. On 17 February, the bureau informed Production Group that due to growing Vietnamese-language coverage commitments, Bangkok would be raising its selection horizons on basic Vietnamese press material which normally would be processed by Headquarters. The bureau had maintained a low selection threshold since May 1981 to help relieve pressure on Production Group's Vietnamese translators.

6. On 1 February BBC requested that Bangkok and Okinawa sample Vietnamese- and Chinese-language broadcasts of Vatican City Radio for material critical of Vietnam. Okinawa provided the coverage with backup recording of the Vietnamese program by Bangkok.

7. With the visit to [redacted] this month by Three Vietnamese monitors and an associate editor, the bureau's [redacted] familiarization trip program is complete. Efforts are now under way to ensure that all of the [redacted] boardmen have also toured [redacted] and become familiar with monitorial/ editorial procedures. STAT
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III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

1. The housing situation for American staffers appears to be brightening a bit with construction nearing completion for summer occupancy of apartment units under the Embassy's new consolidated housing program. A decision has already been made to upgrade the housing for the deputy chief, and prospects look good that the senior editor will also be moved into better quarters. The bureau is also working to hold some of the better units available for coming staffers this summer.

2. Editor [redacted] was promoted to GS-10 effective 6 February. STAT

B. Buildings and Grounds

1. Monitors in the Indonesian-Cambodian-Lao-Thai hall of the operations floor were reassigned offices on 1 February following the construction and occupancy of two new Indonesian monitorial booths. Efforts were made to ensure that sections remained together and that monitors had accommodations equal to those they were vacating.

2. The renovation of the executive offices was basically completed in February with the laying of new carpet, repainting, hanging of new curtains and reupholstering of chairs.

3. A 37-position telephone intercom system is being added to the bureau's present 9-extension intercom. The new system, which will include a direct line to [redacted] will replace the old talk-a-phone intercom system between the editorial room and the monitorial booths.

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IV. VISITS

A. Embassy Administrative Counselor Thomas Solitario and new Security Officer C. Richard May visited the bureau on 28 February for an introductory tour.

B. A communications net contract survey team conducted a survey at [redacted] 27 February - 6 March.

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V. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

A. On 4 February the FBIS tennis team traveled to Bang Saen campus of Sinakharinwirot University, the college where [redacted] teaches, for a university-FBIS invitational tournament. FBIS learned that the better Thai tennis players are outside the Bangkok area, losing decisively 5-2. This discovery was driven home on 5 March when a smaller FBIS team dominated a tournament in Bangkok among FBIS, JUSMAG, Aerothai, and the Army Prep School. [redacted]

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B. The bureau photographic club held its second contest early in the month. There were 52 entries in the contest, the theme of which was "flora," and which [redacted] for a montage of vari-colored autumn leaves (one wonders where he found them in Bangkok).

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[Redacted signature box]

Chief
FBIS, Bangkok Bureau

AEB:mk
Attachment: Production Report

BANGKOK BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 1983

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	652,430 (635,020)
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	223,020 (225,770)
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	1,461 (1,386)

	<u>BROADCASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLICATIONS</u>
II. <u>INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:</u> (minutes or issues per week)	15,095 (15,095) min.	20,085 (20,085) min.	200.23 (200.23) issues
III. <u>OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:</u> (publishable words per month)			

AFGHANISTAN

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English			0 (0)
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AUSTRALIA

Melbourne Overseas Service in English	20,120 (6,730)		
Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English			230 (0)
Sydney THE BULLETIN in English			120 (0)
Sydney THE WEEKEND AUSTRALIAN in English			0 (0)

BANGLADESH

Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali	1,730 (0)		
Dhaka Domestic Service in English	8,170 (4,800)		
Dhaka SANGBAD in Bengali			0 (0)
Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English			3,130 (190)

BURMA

Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese	6,000 (4,040)		
Rangoon BOTATAUNG in Burmese			0 (0)
Rangoon LOKTHA PYEITHU NEZIN in Burmese			180 (0)
Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese			0 (0)
Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English			2,270 (0)
Rangoon Domestic Service in English	360 (0)		

CHINA

Beijing in Bengali to India and Pakistan	0 (0)		
Beijing in Burmese to Burma	0 (400)		
Beijing in Cambodian to Kampuchea	2,590 (6,120)		
Beijing in Hindi to South Asia	0 (300)		
Beijing in Indonesian to Indonesia	0 (0)		
Beijing in Lao to Laos	250 (0)		
Beijing in Malay to Malaysia	0 (0)		
Beijing in Thai to Thailand	0 (0)		
Beijing in Urdu to India and Pakistan	0 (0)		

	<u>BROADCASTS</u>	<u>WIRELESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLICATIONS</u>
<u>CLANDESTINE</u>			
(Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian	27,730 (31,780)		
(Clandestine) Voice of Malayan Democracy in Malay	1,500 (4,610)		
(Clandestine) Voice of the People of Burma in Burmese	2,160 (410)		
(Clandestine) SSPT in Thai	9,240 (13,730)		
(Clandestine) Voice of the National Army Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian	6,790 (0)		
(Clandestine) Voice of the National Army Democratic Kampuchea in Vietnamese	2,830 (0)		
<u>HONG KONG</u>			
Hong Kong AFP in English		65,780 (45,950)	
<u>INDIA</u>			
Delhi General Overseas Service in English	6,240 (2,030)		
Delhi Domestic Service in English	46,380 (25,380)		
Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English		340 (4,680)	
Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English			2,190 (7,680)
Delhi NATIONAL HERALD in English			0 (1,470)
Delhi PATRIOT in English			860 (2,480)
Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English			0 (3,440)
Calcutta ANANDA BAZAR PATRIKA in Bengali			0 (0)
Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English			330 (1,030)
Madras THE HINDU in English			0 (0)
Delhi Domestic Service in Hindi	0 (300)		
Bombay PTI in English		690 (0)	
<u>INDONESIA</u>			
Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesia	9,760 (10,830)		
Jakarta ANTARA in English		7,670 (4,360)	
Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian			0 (0)
Jakarta THE INDONESIA TIMES in English			680 (1,740)
Jakarta OANA in English		3,980 (3,630)	
<u>KAMPUCHEA</u>			
Phnom Penh International Service in English	0 (0)		
Phnom Penh International Service in Thai	0 (0)		
Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian	40,620 (32,250)		
Phnom Penh SPK in French		33,460 (38,190)	
		0 (0)	
		280 (0)	
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<u>LAOS</u>			
Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao	21,280 (53,640)		
Vientiane KPL in English		12,060 (15,920)	
		0 (0)	
		0 (0)	
		140 (0)	
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Vientiane SIANG PASASON in Lao			0 (0)

	<u>BROADCASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLICATIONS</u>
<u>MALAYSIA</u>			
Kuala Lumpur International Service in English	6,770 (6,580)		
Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English	1,390 (1,800)		
Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in Malay	0 (0)		
Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English			530 (3,180)
Kuala Lumpur NEW SUNDAY TIMES in English			0 (0)
<u>NEPAL</u>			
Katmandu External Service in English	2,010 (1,070)		
Katmandu THE RISING NEPAL in English			80 (0)
<u>PAKISTAN</u>			
Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu	700 (680)		
Karachi Domestic Service in English	9,030 (10,040)		
Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu	13,630 (14,360)		
Karachi Overseas Service in English			
<u>SINGAPORE</u>			
Singapore Domestic Service in English	2,880 (2,380)		
Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English			0 (610)
Singapore THE SUNDAY TIMES in English			0 (0)
<u>SRI LANKA</u>			
Colombo International Service in English	1,800 (860)		
Colombo Domestic Service in English	580 (1,040)		
Colombo SUN in English			0 (1,040)
Colombo WEEKEND in English			0 (510)
Colombo Domestic Service in Hindi	0 (280)		
<u>THAILAND</u>			
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English	7,580 (7,380)		
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai	1,220 (2,450)		
Bangkok Domestic Service in English	1,830 (3,340)		
Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai	11,680 (14,740)		
Bangkok MATICHON in Thai			3,390 (2,690)
Bangkok MATUPHUM in Thai			7,570 (2,460)
Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English			38,720 (44,120)
Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English			51,020 (54,220)
Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai			6,260 (1,870)
Bangkok SU ANAKHOT in Thai			910 (1,450)
Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai			0 (1,950)
Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English			4,940 (3,990)
Bangkok DAILY NEWS in Thai			290 (0)

	<u>BROADCASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLICATIONS</u>
<u>UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS</u>			
Moscow in			
Bengali to Bangladesh	0 (0)		
Moscow in			
Burmese to Burma	140 (1,490)		
Moscow in			
Cambodian to Kampuchea	0 (0)		
Moscow in			
Hindi to India	890 (150)		
Moscow in			
Indonesian to Indonesia	0 (0)		
Moscow in			
Lao to Laos	0 (830)		
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 to Indonesia	0 (0)		
<u>VIETNAM</u>			
Hanoi International Service in			
Cambodian	0 (0)		
Hanoi International Service in			
English	5,240 (5,260)		
Hanoi International Service in			
Thai	1,000 (2,250)		
Hanoi Domestic Service in			
Vietnamese	73,700 (70,750)		
Hanoi VNA in			
English		0 (1,430)	
		0 (0)	
Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in			
Vietnamese			0 (0)
Hanoi NHAN DAN in			
Vietnamese			38,100 (36,480)
Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in			
Vietnamese			10,410 (2,150)

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NOTE: Figures in parentheses are from preceding month