

Administrative-Internal Use Only

6 June 1983
MJN 8312

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service
THROUGH: Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT: Monthly Report--Jordan Bureau--May 1983

I. GENERAL

Conclusion of the long-awaited agreement between Lebanon and Israel generated voluminous reaction during May, and by the end of the month seemed to be the cause of greater regional tension rather than less. Immediately following the successful negotiation of the agreement, Secretary of State Shultz paid an overnight visit to Amman on 7-8 May to brief King Husayn on it. The secretary won assurance of Jordanian support during his brief visit, but the agreement was immediately denounced by the Syrians. Throughout the month Syrian officials and media issued a steady stream of statements and propaganda hostile to the agreement and its supporters, and Syrian envoys fanned out across the Arab world to round up support for their position. By the end of the month, tensions were rising as it seemed less and less likely that the Syrians would withdraw their forces from Lebanon, the condition set by the Israelis for implementation of their part of the agreement. Syrian military maneuvers and an attempt by the Syrian Air Force to intercept Israeli reconnaissance planes over Lebanon contributed to the uneasy feeling.

In an apparently related development, the month also saw the beginning of a mutiny within the main faction of the PLO, Yasir 'Arafat's own Fatah movement, when several officers stationed in Lebanon's Biqa Valley rebelled against what they saw as 'Arafat's too moderate policies. The mutiny was continuing and apparently growing more serious at the end of the month.

In Amman, reaction to the month's events, specifically to the Lebanon-Israel agreement, took a sudden turn to violence one night when two bombs exploded at "soft" American targets, the offices of the American-Arab Insurance Company and those of the American Friends of the Middle East. Although there were no injuries and damage was moderate, no one could help but see the parallel with the more tragic Beirut Embassy bombing.

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II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. Pursuant to discussions at the Bureau Chiefs Conference, Jordan Bureau assumed coverage of the Lebanese factional radio of Major Sa'd Haddad, Voice of Hope in English and Arabic, on 9 May.

2. Following a 26 May AFP report that Turkish armed forces had crossed the border into Iraq, the Bureau began an open watch on Baghdad media and, the next day, began checking the twice daily Arabic broadcasts from Ankara. On the evening of the 27th, Baghdad radio and INA reported a statement issued by the Iraqi Foreign Ministry indicating that Iraq had had advance knowledge and had given its approval of the Turkish operation, which was said to be against "outlawed armed groups" who had been attacking people in the border region, including some Turkish soldiers.

B. Lateral Services

1. At the request of the Embassy Political Section, the Bureau provided a special file of FBIS material on the Middle East to Secretary Shultz' party during his 7-8 May overnight visit to Amman.

2. A Voice of Lebanon report filed by Nicosia Bureau that Soviet Embassy personnel were leaving Beirut and that those in Amman and Damascus might soon follow, was called immediately to the attention of the Embassy by duty editor [redacted]. On the basis of the report, high ranking Embassy officer wasted no time in contacting the Soviet Embassy in Amman to seek clarification.

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C. Technical

Modification of the Bureau's Extel ROs to enable to editors to monitor "pinkie coding" performance was completed in May. The modified machines print a # symbol to represent the "blank" capitalization code.

III. ADMINISTRATION

Personnel

1. Teletype operators [redacted] received PSIs on 1 May.

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2. [] veteran translator for the Embassy Political Section, entered on duty on 1 May as Jordan Bureau's newest trainee monitor. [] brings the monitoring team back to full strength. STAT
STAT

3. The Bureau is continuing efforts to recruit another monitor to replace senior monitor [] who transfers to Cyprus in July. The resume and test results of a promising candidate interviewed by Tel Aviv Bureau Chief [] were received during the month, and Tel Aviv has been asked to arrange for more extensive testing. However, new restrictions on emigration from the West Bank, recently imposed by the Government of Jordan, cast some doubt on whether or not the Bureau will be able to hire this candidate, regardless of the results of the additional test. STAT
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IV. VISITS

To the Bureau

1. [] C/FEB, with contract engineers [] 11-14 May, for phase II of the INTERNET study. STAT
STAT

2. [] Nicosia Bureau Technician, 30 May-3 June, for familiarization. STAT

From the Bureau

Deputy Chief [] to London Bureau, 26 May, for familiarization and consultations in conjunction with private travel. STAT

[] STAT

Chief, Jordan Bureau

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JORDAN BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR MAY 1983

TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH: 259,458
 TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH: 100,359
 TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH: 835

II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE: ARAB- PRESS PUBLI-
 CASTS AGENCIES CATIONS
 (MINUTES OR ISSUES PER WEEK) 6300 19455 68

III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:
 (PUBLISHABLE WORDS PER MONTH)

AMMAN			
AMMAN AMMAN IN			
ARABIC		0	
CLANDESTINE (IRAN AND IRAQ)			
(CLANDESTINE) VOICE OF IRAQI KURDISTAN IN	1820		
ARABIC			
(CLANDESTINE) VOICE OF IRAQI REVOLUTION IN		0	
ARABIC			
EGYPT			
CAIRO MENA IN			
ARABIC		0	
FRANCE			
PARIS RADIO MONTE CARLO IN	20360		
ARABIC			
PARIS AL-MUSTAZBAL IN			0
ARABIC			
PARIS AL-NATAN AL-'ARABI IN			3710
ARABIC			
IRAQ			
BAGHDAD VOICE OF THE MASSES IN			
ARABIC	1770		
BAGHDAD VOICE OF PLO IN			
ARABIC	27640		
BAGHDAD DOMESTIC SERVICE IN			
ARABIC	6940		
BAGHDAD INA IN			
ARABIC		23930	
BAGHDAD INA IN			
ENGLISH		2270	
BAGHDAD AL-JUMHURIYAH IN			
ARABIC			0
BAGHDAD ATH-THAWKAN IN			
ARABIC			0
ISRAEL			
JERUSALEM IN			
ARABIC TO THE ARAB WORLD	3830		
JERUSALEM DOMESTIC TELEVISION SERVICE IN			
ARABIC		0	
JERUSALEM AL-FAJR IN			
ARABIC			800
JERUSALEM AL-FAJR IN			
ENGLISH			1430
JERUSALEM AL-NITHAQ IN			
ARABIC			100
JERUSALEM AL-QUDS IN			
ARABIC			1320
JERUSALEM ASH-SHA'B IN			
ARABIC			160
JERUSALEM AT-TALI'AH IN			
ARABIC			320
JORDAN			
AMMAN DOMESTIC SERVICE IN			
ARABIC	19800		
AMMAN DOMESTIC SERVICE IN			
ENGLISH			0
AMMAN DOMESTIC TELEVISION SERVICE IN			
ARABIC			2870
AMMAN DOMESTIC TELEVISION SERVICE IN			
ENGLISH			0
AMMAN PETRA-JNA IN			
ARABIC			1800
AMMAN AS-SUBUR IN			
ARABIC			1870
AMMAN AKHBAR AL-USBU' IN			
ARABIC			260
AMMAN AR-RAY' IN			
ARABIC			2770
AMMAN SAHIF ASH-SHA'B IN			
ARABIC			1100
AMMAN JERUSALEM STAR IN			
ENGLISH			0
AMMAN JORDAN TIMES IN			
ENGLISH			2500
LEBANON			
BEIRUT VOICE OF LEBANON VOICE OF HOPE IN			
ARABIC	1220		
BEIRUT VOICE OF LEBANON VOICE OF HOPE IN			
ENGLISH			110
QATAR			
Doha QNA IN			
ARABIC			470
SAUDI			
KHARTOUM SUNA IN			
ARABIC			16430
KHARTOUM SUNA IN			
ENGLISH			2120
SYRIA			
DAMASCUS DOMESTIC SERVICE IN			
ARABIC	63560		
DAMASCUS DOMESTIC TELEVISION SERVICE IN			
ARABIC	12050		
DAMASCUS SAHA IN			
ARABIC			19330
UNITED KINGDOM			
LONDON REUTER IN			
ENGLISH			6020