

MNC-5120
06 August 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service
THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT : Monthly Report--Nicosia Bureau--July

I. GENERAL

A. The bureau chief travelled to Frankfurt, Germany, in early July to discuss a variety of security issues that cropped up in preparing the final draft plans for the new bureau. A number of revisions were made to the plans, which were then forwarded to FBIS Headquarters and R.E.C.D. for review and approval. Headquarters advised at month's end that the plans had been approved with minor revisions.

B. The hot season in Nicosia, which usually begins in mid-July, is proving much hotter than normal. Several news stories in late July heralded the fact that Nicosia was recording the highest temperatures of the world's capitals, with temperatures exceeding those of such garden spots at Bahrain, New Delhi, Djakarta and Bangkok. At month's end, we were experiencing readings of 105°F in the shade almost daily.

C. A small ceremony was held at the bureau on 30 July to mark Senior Arabic Monitor [redacted] retirement after 36 years of service. [redacted] was presented with the FBIS Retirement Medal, plus letters of appreciation from the Director, FBIS and the bureau chief.

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II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. Beirut Domestic Service's broadcasting facilities came under attack twice in July. On 5 July, the radio itself reported that a "bomb" had been thrown at the station's building. However, no damage was noted, and the station maintained its regular programming. On 21 July, the Phalangist military's clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported that Beirut Domestic Service had suspended transmission after having been struck by a rocket. The radio remained unheard until early on 22 July, when it resumed its transmission with a report on the attack, citing "enormous" damage to its facility in Ra's Bayrut and praising station personnel for remaining on duty to repair equipment.

2. Seasonal improvement in reception permitted the addition to coverage of three television programs on 8 July: two from Cairo (a roundtable discussion on current issues and a "spotlight" program on world and regional news) and one from Beirut (also a roundtable program on current events). We are recording the three programs from Limassol for delayed selection and processing.

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3. A radio identifying itself as the Voice of All Lebanon From the South was monitored with fair-poor reception on 12 July. The bureau has continued to observe the station's announced experimental broadcasts via our remote facility at Pissouri, though reception is hampered by strong interference from a Syrian transmitter.

4. Cairo television announced on 21 July that a third TV channel would begin experimental transmission. Bureau observed both station identification and test card pattern for the new station on the same day from Limassol, but no audio announcements were monitored.

5. Greek radio and television employees staged two 3-hour strikes on 19 July in protest against taxation disparities. Normal programming was resumed upon conclusion of the second strike.

6. The bureau has laid on ad hoc coverage of Beirut Television whenever we have a report of a suicide car bomb attack. The decision was made after it was learned that the station occasionally broadcasts prerecorded interviews with the bombers, usually during the evening news of the day the attack was carried out. But we have not picked up any of the interviews thus far.

B. Technical

1. CYTA's problems with a radio tower at the Lara remote site, which delayed the transfer of our remote equipment from Kili to Lara, were resolved on 6 July. We have conducted our final pre-installation survey, and expect to complete the move in late August or early September.

2. The Cyprus Foreign Ministry has approved the installation of a new beverage antenna, to improve reception of Lebanese transmitters, at the remote site in Pissouri; we are now working with CYTA to erect it.

3. Equipment received: One Digitech Word Generator Model DT-113 and one Digitech Telegraph Signal Analyzer Model DT-613, both from Paraguay Bureau.

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

1. Editorial Trainee, [redacted] arrived on 3-month TDY on 1 July.

2. Bureau Chief, [redacted] went TDY to Frankfurt, Germany, 30 June-5 July in connection with the bureau relocation project.

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3. Senior Editor, [redacted] arrived PCS on 10 July.

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4. Regional Engineer went TDY to Gulf Bureau 27-31 July to deal with emergency generator problems.

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5. Senior Editor, [redacted], departed 31 July, having completed her tour. STAT

6. Arabic Monitor, [redacted] retired on 31 July, after 36 years of service. ✓ STAT

B. Visitors

1. [redacted] EOSG, Frankfurt, 30 July-2 August, in connection with the bureau relocation project. STAT

[redacted]

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Chief, Nicosia Bureau

ATTACHMENT: Production Report

Nicosia Bureau Production Report for July 1985

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	264910
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	76960
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	908

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE: (minutes or issues per week)	8565.00 min.	21420.00 min.	117.00 issues

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

CHINA			
Beijing in			
Persian to Iran	0		
CLANDESTINE (LEVANT)			
(Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in			
Arabic	13570		
* (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in			
English	190		
(Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in			
Arabic	11530		
CYPRUS			
*Nicosia Domestic Service in			
English	140		
Nicosia Domestic Service in			
Greek	10800		
*Nicosia Television Service in			
English	330		
*Nicosia Television Service in			
Greek	430		
Nicosia Cyprus MAIL in			
English			460
Nicosia I ELEVTHEROTIPIA in			
Greek			700
Nicosia I ELEVTHEROTIPIA tis DHEFTERAS			
IN			
Greek			0
Nicosia I SIMERINI in			
Greek			2220
Nicosia I SIMERINI tis DHEFTERAS in			
Greek			460

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
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Nicosia KHARAVYI in Greek			3080
Nicosia KHARAVYI tis DHEFTERAS in Greek			320
*Nicosia NEW CYPRUS in English			1890
Nicosia O FILELEVTHEROS in Greek			500
Nicosia O FILELEVTHEROS tis DHEFTERAS in Greek			0
*Nicosia THE CYPRUS WEEKLY in English			100
EGYPT			
Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic	19120		
Cairo MENA in Arabic		37210	
Cairo MENA in English		3050	
FRANCE			
Paris AFP in English		15980	
GREECE			
Athens Domestic Service in Greek	16300		
*Athens AKROPOLIS tis KIRIAKIS in Greek			490
Athens ATHENS NEWS in English			1740
Athens ELEVTHEROTIPIA in Greek			11040
Athens I KATHIMERINI in Greek			1020
Athens KIRIAKATI KI ELEVTHEROTIPIA in Greek			0
*Athens MESIMVRINI in Greek			700
Athens RIZOSPASTIS in Greek			500
*Athens TA NEA in Greek			1050
*Athens TA NEA tis KIRIAKIS in Greek			1240

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
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IRAQ

Baghdad in Persian to Iran	0		
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LEBANON

Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic	50010		
*Beirut Domestic Service in English	1070		
Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic	31340		
Beirut Ihdin Radio of Free & Unified Lebanon in Arabic	1650		
Beirut AL_NAHAR in Arabic			2300
Beirut AL_SAFIR in Arabic			2400
Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English			5830

LIBYA

Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic	1280		
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TURKEY

Ankara YANKI in Turkish			0
* (Editorial Report in Turkish)			860
Istanbul CUMHURİYET in Turkish			2050
Istanbul DUNYA in Turkish			0
Istanbul GUNAYDIN in Turkish			350
Istanbul HURRIYET in Turkish			1300
Istanbul MILLIYET in Turkish			980
Istanbul TERCUMAN in Turkish			500

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Moscow in Greek to Cyprus	750		
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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
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Moscow in Persian to Iran	5440		
*Moscow in Dari to Afghanistan	640		