

2 October 1986  
MBK-6014

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service  
THROUGH: Chief, Operations Group  
SUBJECT: Monthly Report -- Bangkok Bureau -- September 1986

## I. GENERAL

A. On 1 September, Evan Hineman, <sup>D/</sup>DDS&T, visited FBIS while on a trip through Asia. He was given an extensive briefing on the ROSET installation at Bang Ping by the bureau chief, bureau engineer, and satellite cruising officer, including a demonstration of its capabilities. A tour of the Bureau itself followed during which he was familiarized with the Bureau's coverage area and general responsibilities. He also met and chatted briefly with all those on duty.

B. On the 16th, the acting bureau chief gave a presentation on FBIS at the fall running of the Embassy's orientation program for all those assigned to Bangkok in the last six months and particularly those who arrived as part of the extensive summer turnover. As far as we can determine this is the first time FBIS has been represented in the Embassy orientation.

*Why!  
Done - 1980-81.  
B*

C. A series of problems has plagued the new government in Thailand following the general elections in July and the formation of the government in August. The vocal coalition of opposition parties has kept the government off balance since taking office through various challenges to personalities and programs. The deputy interior minister was forced to resign on the 1st, and at month's end the commerce minister is facing a no confidence vote in parliament over his handling of substantial imports of logs from Burma. In between, the leader of the largest coalition party, who is concurrently the senior deputy prime minister, seems to have weathered a serious challenge to his leadership from a group of party dissidents which could have had implications for the stability of the coalition. While none of these problems has seriously threatened the new government, they have had the effect of distracting its attention from the more serious work that lies before it.

## II. OPERATIONS

### A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. On 1 September, the Bureau began receiving ad hoc television feeds on the roset of portions of the nonaligned movement's summit meeting in Harare, Zimbabwe. The Bureau was able to file the major speech by Indian Prime Minister Gandhi from live coverage on the 2nd, as well as what appeared to be an impromptu press conference by Gandhi held on his plane during his return to India. A number of VSLs were processed and videotapes sent to MOD.

2. To assist Okinawa Bureau while its Vietnamese Unit is short staffed, Bangkok has taken over coverage until further notice of the Hanoi Domestic Service casts at 1000-1015 and 1100-1145 GMT daily. This consolidates all voice coverage originating in Vietnam at Bangkok Bureau.

3. On the 5th, the Bureau remained open several hours after normal close of business to cover the PanAm hijacking in Karachi. An open watch was put on Pakistani media which, however, was reticent about giving out details in a timely fashion.

4. The Bureau was forced to temporarily suspend coverage in Bengali when the only remaining Bengali monitor had to take sick leave between 16 and 21 September for a minor surgical procedure. (The other Bengali monitor, [redacted] is still recovering in California from STAT heart surgery.)

#### B. Lateral Services

One item each was processed at the request of the BBC and of the American Embassy in Laos.

#### C. Technical

1. Installation of the new microwave equipment proceeded apace during the month at both the Bureau and Bang Ping. New dish antennas were put in place at both locations without a hitch. By the 12th, work had progressed to the point where it could be tested between the two locations. The system worked well from the outset, and by the afternoon of the 12th both television circuits had been tested and the Bureau could receive television signals from ROSET in real time. At present the technicians are transferring channels from the old microwave to the new. It is expected this should be completed by the first or second week in October.

★ 2. A new feed supplied by ESG was installed on the small dish antenna used to cover the S-band transmissions of the Indian satellite at 74 degrees east. Signal strengths immediately picked up and we are now able to receive usable television audio and video from Indian TV. An added bonus was discovered by the satellite cruiser when he found five Indian radios in S-band transmissions consisting of both domestic and international services of All India Radio.

### III. ADMINISTRATION

#### A. Personnel

1. On 30 September, [redacted] arrived for a 3-month STAT editorial training TDY. This is the first time in 5 years that Bangkok Bureau has participated in the overseas editorial training program.

2. The chief of London Bureau informed us during the month that our prospective Cambodian monitor candidate had turned down our offer of employment. He prefers to stay in England and pursue his present employment there. STAT

3. On the 29th, a baby girl to be named [redacted] was born to Vietnamese monitor [redacted] and his wife. STAT

IV. VISITS

A. ~~D~~/DDS&T Evan Hineman visited the Bureau on the 1st for tour and familiarization. STAT

[redacted] B. Former bureau chief and current chief of Analysis Group [redacted] from 18-23 September as part of an Asian trip. STAT

V. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

[redacted] wife of Bureau editor [redacted], was selected STAT from among a number of applicants to head the Embassy's Community Liaison Office. This is a significant position at this large embassy and we congratulate Linda on her appointment. STAT

[redacted]

Chief, Bangkok

Bureau

RMB/c1a

Attachment: Monthly Production Report

## BANGKOK BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 1986

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	674,240
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	274,720
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	1,431

	<u>BROAD-CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI-CATION</u>
II. <u>INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:</u> (minutes or issues per week)	20,940 min.	28,470 min.	265.00 issues
III. <u>OUTPUT FROM ROSET SOURCES:</u> (publishable words per month)			

INDIAN

Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English	4,520		
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MALAYSIA

Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English		21,520	
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PHILIPPINES

Manila PNA in English		6,900	
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SRI LANKA

Colombo Lanka Puvath in English		17,280	
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ZIMBABWE

Harare Television Feed in English	3,840		
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IV. OUTPUT FROM ALL OTHER SOURCES:  
(publishable words per month)AUSTRALIA

Melbourne Overseas Service in English	18,300		
Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English			760

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>BANGLADESH</u>			
Dhaka Domestic Service in English	7,250		
Dhaka BSS in English		170	
<u>BURMA</u>			
Rangoon Domestic Service in English	380		
Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese	4,560		
Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English			190
<u>CAMBODIA</u>			
Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian	27,860		
Phnom Penh SPK in English		13,710	
Phnom Penh SPK in French		4,770	
<u>CHINA</u>			
Beijing in Cambodian to Cambodia	13,750		
<u>CLANDESTINE</u>			
(Clandestine) Voice of the People of Burma in Burmese	3,600		
(Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian	17,190		
(Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian	7,790		
(Clandestine) Voice of the National Army Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian	6,900		
(Clandestine) Voice of Malayan Democracy in Malay	2,740		
<u>HONG KONG</u>			
Hong Kong AFP in English		40,700	
<u>INDIA</u>			
Delhi General Overseas Service in English	4,720		
Delhi Domestic Service in English	35,290		
Delhi Domestic Service in Hindi	480		

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>INDIA (continued)</u>			
Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English		5,520	
Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English			650
Delhi PATRIOT in English			1,590
Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in English			4,560
<u>INDONESIA</u>			
Jakarta International Service in English	1,410		
Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian	8,710		
Jakarta JAKARTA POST in English			2,140
Jakarta THE INDONESIA TIMES in English			1,580
Jakarta BERITA BUANA in Indonesian			850
Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian			520
Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian			100
Jakarta TEMPO in Indonesian			5,370
<u>LAOS</u>			
Vientiane Domestic Service in Laos	42,040		
Vientiane KPL in English		11,290	
<u>MALAYSIA</u>			
Kuala Lumpur International Service in English	5,670		
Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English	2,220		
Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in Malay	1,690		
Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English			400
Kuala Lumpur NEW SUNDAY TIMES in English			660
Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay			680
Kuala Lumpur UTUSAN MALAYSIA in Malay			190

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>NEPAL</u>			
Katmandu THE RISING NEPAL in English			530
<u>PAKISTAN</u>			
Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu	1,540		
Karachi Domestic Service in English	15,090		
Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu	17,150		
Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English			2,830
Karachi DAWN in English			4,660
Rawalpindi THE PAKISTAN Times in English			4,820
Karachi JASARAT in Urdu			280
Karachi MASHRIQ in Urdu			340
Rawalpindi HAIDER in Urdu			1,350
<u>SINGAPORE</u>			
Singapore Domestic Service in English	1,610		
Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English			3,610
Singapore THE SUNDAY TIMES in English			4,890
<u>SRI LANKA</u>			
Colombo International Service in English	5,900		
Colombo DAILY NEWS in English			2,080
Colombo SUN in English			1,130
<u>THAILAND</u>			
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English	640		
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai	5,130		
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Vietnamese	260		
Bangkok Domestic Service in English	3,330		
Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai	10,180		
Bangkok Television Service in			

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>THAILAND (continued)</u>			
Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English			28,660
Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English			13,940
Bangkok THE NATION in English			24,750
Bangkok XIN ZHONG YUAN RIBAO in Chinese			190
Bangkok XING XIAN RIBAO in Chinese			170
Bangkok ZHONG HUA RIBAO in Chinese			180
Bangkok KHAO PHISSET in Thai			1,780
Bangkok MATICHON in Thai			2,440
Bangkok NAEO NA in Thai			4,670
Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai			5,210
Bangkok SIAM RAT SAPDA WICHAN in Thai			1,130
Bangkok SU ANAKHOT in Thai			1,100
Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai			2,350
<u>UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS</u>			
Moscow in Hindi to India	1,070		
Moscow in Thai to Thailand	1,920		
<u>UNITED KINGDOM</u>			
London BBC World Service in English	1,410		
<u>VIETNAM</u>			
Hanoi International Service in English	9,600		
Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese	95,100		
Hanoi VNA in English		5,940	
Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese			15,460
Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese			5,160