

FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE
HONG KONG BUREAU

MHK-6002
3 February 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service
THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT : Monthly Report -- Hong Kong Bureau -- January 1986

I. GENERAL

A. January marked the 10th anniversary of Hong Kong Bureau's establishment. The bureau has come a long way from those early days when its only mission was coverage of a handful of PRC regional radios. Average monthly publishable wordage in 1985 was 1,091,000; average monthly output over the past 4 months has been 1,274,605 words; and this January, the busiest month ever, production soared to 1,443,130 words. This record effort in recent months is largely in response to the intense interest in the coming election and growing political turmoil in the Philippines (further details in Section II-A, Monitorial/Editorial).

B. Hong Kong was visited during the month by high-ranking PRC and British officials amidst continuing concern here toward recent PRC criticism of the political reform process underway here. Lu Ping, secretary-general of the PRC Government's Hong Kong-Macao Affairs office, visited the territory close on the heels of last month's visit by Chinese State Councillor Ji Pengfei. Lu had numerous meetings with various Hong Kong groups involved in the Basic Law drafting process. British Foreign Office minister Timothy Renton also stopped here following a visit to Beijing. His reassurances about the future of Hong Kong and description of his Beijing talks as "fruitful" did little to ease concerns here. The local stock market behaved nervously during the month, especially following reports that Deng Xiaoping was rumored to be ill. The PRC Foreign Ministry issued two denials of his illness. On the 28th, Chinese television showed a short clip of Deng addressing a 17 January meeting of the PRC Political Bureau standing committee.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial:

1. As in recent months, the bureau was preoccupied with coverage of the Philippines. Our combined output from Philippine radio and press and AFP reporting on that country was a record 478,360 words. Complying with a request from Headquarters, all speeches by Marcos were texted or processed as fully as possible depending on reception. With Marcos out campaigning nearly every day, we processed 29 speeches amounting to 134 takes. Most of the speeches were broadcast live by the government radio, but rarely with any advance notice and often in progress. This meant we had to have the radio on open speaker watch much of the time. With variable reception, the

Marcos accent, and speeches in different language or dialects, some times intermixed, processing was often tedious. Adding to the burden was bureau monitor [redacted] absence for 12 days, in order to participate in another reception survey in the Philippines. Okinawa TDYer [redacted] and chief monitor [redacted] had 13 speeches to cover during her absence, with the lion's share of the work going to [redacted] since many of the speeches at the time were not in English. [redacted] have received many in-house pats on the back for their efforts thus far.

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Despite all the work, our editorial crew has managed to maintain a sense of humor. With Marcos repeating many of the same stories and anecdotes over and over again, they could have filled-in most indistinct passages from memory. Be it his praise of Filipino boxer "Dodie Boy Penalosa," the "shrapnel on the knee" bit, or "communists in Indonesia," they can recite it word by word. But in a poll taken last week, their unanimous choice for best of the most repeated phrases was: "I notice your ears are tuned to me but your eyes are on the First Lady. I also keep looking at the First Lady and I am hoping we will go home early." Some of the speeches monitored from the beginning have included opening ceremony entertainment with Imelda singing "by popular demand." It is bureau opinion that were she not the First Lady, she would have been pelted with tomatoes and eggs and driven from the stage. It has been suggested (the contributor of the idea shall remain anonymous) that a recording of her "best" selection be sent to C/DRD in appreciation of his tasking the bureau with all this fun.

2. Responding to Bangkok Bureau's recent interception of Philippine News Agency (PNA) transmissions via ROSET, the bureau started filing all priority and above or PNA-attributed items on the Philippines to Bangkok for comparison purposes. Bangkok, in turn, started filing to us PNA items believed to be unique. The two bureaus also engaged in a 1-day comparison of AFP files, the Bangkok take also coming from ROSET monitoring. The comparison revealed that the file they were receiving duplicated the our landline service, plus some service traffic.

3. Due to a heavy editing and punching backlog during the month, about 60,000 words of HONGQI and PRC economic journal translations done by contract translators were pouched to NEAD for editing and further handling in Headquarters.

4. We started receiving several new PRC publications at the start of the year: XIBEI XINXI DAOBAO (Northwest Information Herald), JINGJI CANKAO (Economic Information), GANSU RIBAO, and HENAN RIBAO.

B. Lateral Services:

Issues of the Vietnamese paper NHAN DAN, which at one time transitted Hong Kong en route to Bangkok Bureau, are now being pouched by our bureau to NEAD. Bangkok has made other arrangements to receive the paper quicker. This arrangement also allows NEAD to get its hands on the paper faster. We also recently started receiving unsolicited copies of two other Vietnamese papers (HANOI MO'I and SAIGON GIAI PHONG) from a local news vendor. At NEAD's request, we are now attempting to arrange regular subscriptions to both papers through this vendor.

C. Technical:

Further progress toward completion of our microwave landline backup system was made during the month. All of the cabling between the office and Mt. Butler is now laid and Hong Kong Teleco is testing all the channels. The phone company has also installed terminal boxes and additional wiring at both sites. Baring any problems, we may have an operational circuit before the end of the month.

III. ADMINISTRATION

Personnel:

1. The State Department has approved a revised Provident Fund scheme for local employees. This plan would require the office to contribute 10% of each participating employee's salary, with the employee paying 5%. Employees would also be able to withdraw their contributions upon resigning, rather than waiting until retirement. As the plan has a number of changes from the initial scheme, the Consulate now has to resubmit it to insurers and other interested underwriters for another cost analysis. It appears that an active plan is still months away.

2. From 14 respondents within the Consulate, we have selected an applicant to fill our new administrative assistant position. The successful applicant presently works for the Foreign Commercial Service. She will start to work shortly after her local medical and security clearances are updated.

3. Senior teletypist [redacted] married [redacted], formerly a senior bureau teletypist, on 11 January.

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IV. VISITS

A. [redacted] spent 7-8 January familiarizing himself with bureau operations during a stopover en route to his new assignment at Bangkok.

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B. Bureau Tagalog monitor [redacted] TDYed to the Philippines 13-23 January.

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C. Former bureau staffer [redacted] visited the bureau on 16 January while in Hong Kong on personal travel.

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D. Visiting OGI analysts [redacted] received a briefing and tour of the bureau on 22 January.

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Bureau Chief

Attachment: Monthly Production Report

- cc: Original and 3 - Hqs
- 1 - C/Bangkok
- 1 - C/Dkinawa
- 1 - C/Seoul

HONG KONG BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR JANUARY

1986

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	1443130
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	100840
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	2212

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:	5060	10140	274
III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES: (PUBLISHABLE WORDS PER MONTH)			

CHINA	
BEIJING INTERNATIONAL SERVICE IN TAGALOG	2450
BEIJING TELEVISION SERVICE IN MANDARIN	6490
CHANGSHA HUNAN PROVINCIAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN	10140
CHENGDU SICHUAN PROVINCIAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN	12940
GUANGZHOU GUANGDONG PROVINCIAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN	13670
GUIYANG GUIZHOU PROVINCIAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN	5400
HAIKOU HAINAN ISLAND SERVICE IN MANDARIN	1850
KUNMING YUNNAN PROVINCIAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN	6500
LANZHOU GANSU PROVINCIAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN	10450
LHASA XIZANG REGIONAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN	17200
NANNING GUANGXI REGIONAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN	11450
TAIYUAN SHANXI PROVINCIAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN	5500
URUMQI XINJIANG REGIONAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN	4560
WUHAN HUBEI PROVINCIAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN	15050
XIAN SHAANXI PROVINCIAL SERVICE IN	

XINING QINGHAI PROVINCIAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN	6490
ZHENGZHOU HENAN PROVINCIAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN	17190
BEIJING XINHUA HONG KONG SERVICE IN CHINESE	12780
BEIJING ZHONGGUO XINWEN SHE IN CHINESE	40260
BEIJING BAN YUE TAN IN CHINESE	0
BEIJING BAOGAO WENXUE IN CHINESE	0
BEIJING BEIJING WANBAO IN CHINESE	430
BEIJING CHINA DAILY IN ENGLISH	36270
BEIJING GONGREN RIBAO IN CHINESE	710
BEIJING GUANGMING RIBAO IN CHINESE	47320
BEIJING GUOJI SHANGBAO IN CHINESE	6230
BEIJING GUOJI WENTI YANJIU IN CHINESE	0
BEIJING HONGQI IN CHINESE	87070
BEIJING HUANQIU IN CHINESE	0
BEIJING JIEFANGJUN WENYI IN CHINESE	0
BEIJING JINGJI CANKAO IN CHINESE	1710
BEIJING JINGJI GUANLI IN CHINESE	0
BEIJING JINGJI RIBAO IN CHINESE	29450
BEIJING JINGJI XUE ZHOUBAO IN CHINESE	1130
BEIJING JINGJI YANJIU IN CHINESE	50180
BEIJING LIAOWANG IN CHINESE	26350
BEIJING LISHI YANJIU IN CHINESE	0
BEIJING NONGMIN RIBAO IN CHINESE	3300
BEIJING RENMIN RIBAO IN CHINESE	86410
BEIJING RENMIN RIBAO OVERSEAS EDITION IN CHINESE	11760
BEIJING SHIJIE JINGJI IN CHINESE	7580
BEIJING SHIJIE LISHI IN CHINESE	0
BEIJING SHIJIE ZHISHI IN	

BEIJING WENXUE PINGLUN IN CHINESE	0
BEIJING WENYI BAO IN CHINESE	0
BEIJING WENZHAI BAO IN CHINESE	0
BEIJING XINWEN ZHANXIAN IN CHINESE	0
BEIJING ZHEXUE YANJIU IN CHINESE	0
BEIJING ZHONGGUO FAZHI BAO IN CHINESE	2560
BEIJING ZHONGGUO QINGNIAN BAO IN CHINESE	1760
CHENGDU SICHUAN RIBAO IN CHINESE	0
CHONGQING CHONGQING RIBAO IN CHINESE	0
FUZHOU ZHONGGUO JINGJI WENTI IN CHINESE	0
GUANGZHOU GUANGZHOU RIBAO IN CHINESE	0
GUANGZHOU KAIFANG IN CHINESE	3790
GUANGZHOU NANFANG RIBAO IN CHINESE	4800
GUANGZHOU YANGCHENG WANBAO IN CHINESE	0
HAIKOU HAINAN RIBAO IN CHINESE	1680
HONG KONG LIAOWANG OVERSEAS EDITION IN CHINESE	18000
KUNMING YUNNAN RIBAO IN CHINESE	2890
LANZHOU GANSU RIBAO IN CHINESE	2760
LANZHOU LANZHOU WANBAO IN CHINESE	0
SHANGHAI SHIJIE JINGJI DAobao IN CHINESE	15310
TAIYUAN SHANXI RIBAO IN CHINESE	3490
WUHAN CHANGJIANG RIBAO IN CHINESE	0
WUHAN HUBEI RIBAO IN CHINESE	600
XIAN SHAANXI RIBAO IN CHINESE	3660
XIAN XIBEI XINXI DAobao IN CHINESE	1050
YINCHUAN NINGXIA RIBAO IN CHINESE	9230
ZHENGZHOU HENAN RIBAO IN CHINESE	1070

HONG KONG		
HONG KONG ASIA TELEVISION LTD IN		
ENGLISH	0	
HONG KONG TELEVISION BROADCAST LTD IN		
ENGLISH	70	
HONG KONG COMMERCIAL RADIO IN		
ENGLISH	9140	
HONG KONG DOMESTIC SERVICE IN		
ENGLISH	740	
HONG KONG AFP IN		
ENGLISH		169890
HONG KONG ASIAWEEK IN		
ENGLISH		0
HONG KONG CHANWANG IN		
CHINESE		0
HONG KONG CHENG MING IN		
CHINESE		8090
HONG KONG CHING PAO IN		
CHINESE		12650
HONG KONG CHIUSHIH NIETAI IN		
CHINESE		0
HONG KONG FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW IN		
ENGLISH		7220
HONG KONG HONG KONG STANDARD IN		
ENGLISH		6760
HONG KONG HONG KONG STANDARD (BUSINESS STANDARD SUPPLEMENT) IN		
ENGLISH		5440
HONG KONG HSIN WAN PAO IN		
CHINESE		1460
HONG KONG KUANG CHIAO CHING IN		
CHINESE		5290
HONG KONG MING PAO IN		
CHINESE		9900
HONG KONG PAI HSING IN		
CHINESE		2530
HONG KONG SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST IN		
ENGLISH		37160
HONG KONG SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST (BUSINESS NEWS SUPPLEMENT) IN		
ENGLISH		16910
HONG KONG TA KUNG PAO IN		
CHINESE		9850
HONG KONG TA KUNG PAO IN		
ENGLISH		1460
HONG KONG WEN WEI PO IN		
CHINESE		16070
NEW ZEALAND		
WELLINGTON OVERSEAS SERVICE IN		
ENGLISH	490	
WELLINGTON THE EVENING POST IN		
ENGLISH		10790
AUCKLAND THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD IN		
ENGLISH		7560

PHILIPPINES

MANILA FAR EAST BROADCASTING COMPANY IN ENGLISH	20620	
MANILA FAR EAST BROADCASTING COMPANY IN TAGALOG	2030	
MANILA RADIO VERITAS IN ENGLISH	2180	
MANILA RADIO VERTAS IN TAGALOG	0	
DAGUPAN CITY DZDL RADIO IN TAGALOG	1110	
QUEZON CITY MAHARLIKA BROADCASTING SYSTEM IN ENGLISH	95970	
QUEZON CITY MAHARLIKA BROADCASTING SYSTEM IN TAGALOG	26230	
QUEZON CITY RADIO VERITAS IN TAGALOG	650	
MANILA BULLETIN TODAY IN ENGLISH		38460
MANILA BUSINESS DAY IN ENGLISH		86290
MANILA METRO MANILA TIMES IN ENGLISH		22040
MANILA MR. & MS. (SPECIAL EDITION) IN ENGLISH		0
MANILA PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS IN ENGLISH		15370
MANILA PHILIPPINES SUNDAY EXPRESS IN ENGLISH		3320
MANILA TIMES JOURNAL IN ENGLISH		30670
DAVAD CITY PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM IN ENGLISH		4400
DAVAD CITY SAN PEDRO EXPRESS IN ENGLISH		0
DAVAD CITY THE MINDANAO DAILY MIRROR IN ENGLISH		300
QUEZON CITY ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA IN ENGLISH		35980
QUEZON CITY VERITAS IN ENGLISH		9710
QUEZON CITY WE FORUM IN ENGLISH		24870