

MNC-6133
03 March 1986

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

I. GENERAL

A. The badly flawed areas of the new bureau's foundations, discovered in January, were demolished and ready for recasting at month's end. Repair of the remaining flaws was postponed until the arrival of new epoxy materials. Five 15-meter sections of the perimeter wall had also been constructed at month's end. Following a visit to the project by RECD engineers in late January, the Office of Logistics, with Headquarters concurrence, decided that RECD should assume primary responsibility for the structural aspects of the project.

B. The embassy was alerted in early February that it might be the target of unidentified Arab hit teams. The usual precautions were taken, including briefing of personnel.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. On 24 February, acting without prior notice, AFP changed the file received on the bureau's hardwire link from the "EXOR" beam to the press agency's North European file, circuit B. The AFP representative in Vienna explained to Austria Bureau that the ANB circuit we now receive carries the same material as Austria's ANI circuit, albeit with a somewhat closer focus on the Middle East and Asia. We can only hope that this latter point proves true, given our relatively heavy Middle East and Far East coverage commitment.

2. Events in Lebanon and Egypt required extended operating hours at the bureau this month. Intensive Israeli operations in southern Lebanon in search of two soldiers abducted by the "Islamic Resistance" and subsequent reports and denials of the execution of one of them prompted us to remain open on 17 and 19 February to cover all monitored Lebanese radios until sign-off.

Civil disturbances involving conscript units of the Central Security Forces in parts of Cairo frequented by tourists or containing foreign diplomats' residences resulted in an open watch on Cairo radio during bureau operating hours from 26 February through 1 March, and the extension of editorial operations until Cairo MENA's signoff and the completion of Cairo radio's 2300 GMT newscast during this period.

3. Cairo Voice of Arabs renewed its anti-Libyan campaign on 28 February, following a hiatus that began on 8 January, with a commentary lambasting the "pygmies" of Libya for having distorted and falsified recent events in Egypt, an apparent reference to calls broadcast by Tripoli's Voice of the Greater Arab Homeland urging Egyptians to take advantage of the civil disturbances in Cairo and revolt against the regime. On 4 February President Mubarak had lauded the reported cessation of Libya's media campaign against Egypt, declaring that the employment of a radio station "to defame a state is simple to do, but we have discarded such methods."

4. Muhammad Haykal, the controversial Egyptian journalist, returned to print in 15 February following an absence of several years from the Cairo press. Cairo MENA thus far is providing extensive publicity of his initial "Frankly Speaking" articles published in the AKHBAR AL-YAWM newspaper.

B. Communications

1. The bureau scheduled 24-hour teletypist shifts on five occasions to clear substantial traffic backlogs at our switching center.

C. Lateral Services

1. The regional security officer at the Nicosia Embassy was alerted to articles in the 7 February editions of the pro-government paper ELEVHEROTIPIA and the communist paper KHARAVYI reporting that the Cyprus Government had warned the U.S. Embassy of possible terrorist action against it planned by a group of Arabs said to have arrived on the island in mid-January.

D. Technical

1. The bureau purchased a nine-system JVC television/monitor, model AV-20ME, and a five-system JVC VHS videocassette recorder for use by Swaziland Bureau.

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

1. [redacted] took off-island leave 9-25 February.

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B. Visitors

1. [redacted] members of a computer security audit team from Headquarters, visited the bureau on 27 February to assess security aspects of the use of our IBM personal computers. Their inspection revealed no problems.

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Bureau Chief
Nicosia Bureau

ATTACHMENT: Production Report

Nicosia Bureau Production Report for February 1986

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	300450
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	87850
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	993

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE: (minutes or issues per week)	8565.00 min.	22260.00 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

10050

(Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in

Arabic

12240

CYPRUS

Nicosia Domestic Service in

Greek

6340

Nicosia Domestic Service in

English

0

*Nicosia Television Service in

Greek

660

Nicosia Cyprus MAIL in

English

1060

*Nicosia ELEVTHEROTIPIA TIS

DHEVTERAS in

Greek

360

Nicosia ELEVTHEROTIPIA in

Greek

1850

Nicosia I SIMERINI in

Greek

1110

Nicosia I SIMERINI tis DHEFTERAS in

Greek

0

Nicosia KHARAVYI in

Greek

510

Nicosia KHARAVYI tis DHEFTERAS in

Greek

640

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Nicosia O FILELEVTHEROS in Greek			550
Nicosia O FILELEVTHEROS tis DHEFTERAS in Greek			340
*Nicosia TA NEA in Greek			160
EGYPT			
Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic	31170		
*Cairo Voice of the Arabs in Arabic	820		
Cairo MENA in Arabic		66160	
Cairo MENA in English		5090	
FRANCE			
Paris AFP in English		31470	
GREECE			
* (Editorial Report in Greek)	1000		
Athens Domestic Service in Greek	13560		
Athens ATHENS NEWS in English			1540
Athens ELEVTHEROTIPIA in Greek			1680
Athens I KATHIMERINI in Greek			250
Athens KIRIAKATI KI ELEVTHEROTIPIA in Greek			1700
Athens RIZOSPASTIS in Greek			1980
IRAQ			
Baghdad in Persian to Iran	160		
LEBANON			
Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic	38020		

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
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*Beirut Domestic Service in English	870		
Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic	27880		
Beirut Ihdin Radio of Free & Unified Lebanon in Arabic	400		
Beirut AL_NAHAR in Arabic			1110
Beirut AL_SAFIR in Arabic			9730
Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English			3590

LIBYA

*Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic	290		
Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic	5930		

TURKEY

Ankara YANKI in Turkish			0
Istanbul CUMHURIYET in Turkish			1430
Istanbul DUNYA in Turkish			0
Istanbul GUNAYDIN in Turkish			480
*Istanbul GUNES in Turkish			2510
Istanbul HURRIYET in Turkish			2230
Istanbul MILLIYET in Turkish			1430
Istanbul TERCUMAN in Turkish			2400

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Moscow in Greek to Cyprus	0		
Moscow in Persian to Iran	9700		