

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Monthly Report -- Austria Bureau



FROM:

Chief, Operations Group

EXTENSION

NO.

DATE

December 1987

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TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1.

C/Ops

23 Jan

B

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C/E&PS

26 Jan

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DD/FBIS

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Admin Staff / PERS

14.

LOGS

15.

Exec. Reg.

BIF

5 January 1988

FBIS-3002-88



MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, FBIS

THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group

FROM : Chief, Vienna Bureau

SUBJECT : Monthly Report - Austria Bureau - December 1987

I. GENERAL

The ultimate fate of the free-falling dollar was a primary topic of conversation in the U.S. Mission during the month as each week seemed to bring record lows. With as many theories and projections available as there were "experts", the bureau chief resorted to his trusty dart board, previously used with great reliability in plotting DRD editorial assignments, for assistance in formulating fiscal year 1990 budget projections. On a more serious note, however, five Bureau FBN employees are now affected by "pay cap" limitations triggered by the falling value of the dollar. These long-time employees are being deprived of as much as \$1,000 per month in salary earned, not because they are being paid more in Austrian schillings (they are in fact being paid less virtually every payday), but simply because it requires more dollars to buy the number of schillings that represents their rate of pay.

Informal COM approval has been sought for the addition of one staff slot and one nonstaff slot to increase Bureau T/O to 6 and 44 respectively. The two additional positions, if approved, will be used for a third staff editor and a fourth Czechoslovak monitor. Although very initial indications are positive, a final response is not expected until after Ambassador Grunwald arrives, hopefully in mid-January. Meanwhile, applicants have been selected and placed in pre-employment processing to fill the vacant communications operator and electronic technician slots, and advertising for applicants to fill the vacant monitor technician slot will be run in early January.

It was learned during the month that the Embassy has become involved in negotiations with the Austrian Finance, Foreign and Education ministries in an effort to preserve the current status of the American International School in Vienna. Most children of Bureau staff and TCN employees attend AIS. The situation at present is quite complex and involves parochial and conflicting interests of the three Austrian ministries. Should AIS lose its current status which

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provides a number of customs and tax privileges, it could very well have to close. Although at least one other English-language school is available, it probably would not be able to accept all of the displaced AIS students.

The Embassy GSO has formally requested that the Bureau begin preparations to drop out of the GSO-administered residential furniture pool. The GSO states that shrinking budgets will not enable it to ensure proper service to FBIS should it remain in the pool. We must now decide whether to try to administer our own furniture pool or recommend to Headquarters that we revert to a full-shipment post.

Unusual weather conditions, which have prevailed in much of southern Europe for several weeks bringing unusually warm temperatures, created some of the most hazardous driving conditions Vienna has seen in many years 16 December when a freezing rain coated streets and sidewalks with glare ice. A record number of accidents were reported and several Bureau employees left their cars in the parking lot and slipped home as best they could on foot. Romanian monitor [redacted] walked to work after backing his car out into the street and promptly sliding sidewise almost a kilometer down hill before easing to a stop against a light pole.

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not again!

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. Major party plenums, conferences, and other meetings held in December in the CSSR, the GDR, Romania, and Poland, as well as a People's Assembly session in Albania contributed to publishable wordage for the month reaching 878,950 -- an all-time high for the bureau. Although about 70 percent of the wordage was concentrated in the last half of the month, no editorial or communications processing backlogs were experienced.

2. In connection with the above and due to high expressed Headquarters and consumer interest in the CPCZ plenum and the RCP conference, the Czechoslovak and Romanian sections canceled all leave and worked several overtime shifts over a 2-week period to process the voluminous materials generated by the respective meetings. The German and Polish sections also turned in outstanding performances in dealing with the huge amounts of material facing them.

3. On two occasions the BBC expressed praise and appreciation to the bureau staff for their rapid and professional handling of events -- once for the 2 December meeting of Brasov (Romania) vehicle factory representatives following the disturbances there and the second time for the 14-16 December RCP National

Conference. The bureau also received a note of appreciation from C/DRD for the fine job done in providing East European media reportage and comment on Gorbachev's summit in Washington.

4. The BACH 2.0 and BACH 2.07 database upgrade packages and the press agency upgrade release 1.08 were received at month's end. The 2.07 database upgrade and new press agency release were installed successfully 30 December and are operational. Problems were encountered, however, in installation of BACH 2.0, and a DR has been filed.

B. Lateral Services

1. On the 11th of the month, a member of the MBFR delegation phoned the bureau with a question about remarks Gorbachev had made on arrival in the United States about the possibility of agreement on conventional weapons. After extensive research of our incoming and outgoing files, the caller was contacted and provided with available information about Gorbachev's monitored remarks on conventional weapons while in the U.S.

2. On the 15th, the VOA in Munich called to express interest in an item -- Mikoyan's Memoirs -- published in the latest edition of the Soviet journal OGONEK. This interest was relayed to PMU in Caversham for further action.

3. In mid-month LRB informed the bureau that Washington area consumers had stressed the usefulness of the program summaries of the main Sofia and Tirana newscasts that the bureau recently began wirefiling each day.

C. Technical

Wiring was completed during the month to provide remote control operation of the satellite dish and remaining FM antennas from Main Radio.

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

1. The Embassy Financial Management Center announced 2 December that "in the near future," all salaries of foreign national employees would be deposited electronically by RAMC Paris through Creditanstalt-Bankverein rather than by issuing checks. The announcement raised a bit of a stir among Embassy and Bureau FN employees, and Embassy Disbursing Officer Greg Genco met with most Bureau employees 16 December to explain the system and to respond to questions. As of month's end the system had not yet been implemented.

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2. Two long-time Bureau employees ended their FBIS careers 31 December. German/Czech monitor [redacted] and Communications Operator [redacted] retired after 31 and 19 productive years, respectively, with FBIS.

3. Albanian monitor [redacted] executed a new EOT agreement effective 29 December 1989.

4. Headquarters advised 23 December that following the PMCD audit, the Bureau's System Administrator and Deputy SA positions had been established at FBN-09 and FBN-08 respectively.

B. Building and Grounds

1. New 110/220VAC circuit breaker boxes were installed in the basement during the month beginning an effort to bring some semblance of order to the electrical wiring in the Bureau. Temporary wiring to the mains still exists, but 60% of the final wiring to the breakers has been completed on the 220VAC box.

2. Inspection of the Bureau's water lines following receipt of a massive water bill indicated a serious leak in the main line entering the building. With Headquarter's quick approval to obligate SOC 2501 funds, the line was replaced by month's end.

IV. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

A farewell heurigen for [redacted] and [redacted] on the occasion of their retirement and the annual Bureau Christmas party brought a number of retirees and former employees back to join in the festivities. Among those attending were [redacted] former chief monitor; [redacted] senior German monitor; former senior engineers [redacted] former Hungarian monitor; [redacted] former engineer; and [redacted] former admin assistant.

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[redacted]
Chief, Austrian Bureau

cc: Chief, FBIS London Bureau

Attachments:

- Production Report
- Staff Personnel Report
- Non-Staff Personnel Report

Austrian Bureau Production Report for December 1987

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	878,950
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	37,860
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	1,361

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE: (minutes or issues per mon	12,300 min.	15,865 min.	325.99 issues

ALBANIA

Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian	5,600		
Tirana ATA in English		10,440	
Tirana BASHKIMI in Albanian			430
Tirana DRITA in Albanian			0
Tirana PUNA in Albanian			510
Tirana RRUGA E PARTISE in Albanian			0
Tirana ZERI I POPULLIT in Albanian			11,900
Tirana ZERI I RINISE in Albanian			0

AUSTRIA

Vienna Domestic Service in German	5,500		
Vienna ORF TELETEXT in German	770		
Vienna Television Service in German	5,340		
Vienna NEUE AZ in German			1,710
Vienna DIE PRESSE in German			7,890
Vienna KURIER in German			2,440
Vienna NEUE KRONEN ZEITUNG in German			140
Vienna PROFIL in German			0
Vienna VOLKSSTIMME in German			3,750
Vienna WIENER ZEITUNG in German			7,410

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
BULGARIA			
Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian	11,350		
Sofia BTA in English		28,430	
Sofia ANTENI in Bulgarian			0
Sofia LITERATUREN FRONT in Bulgarian			0
Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian			7,040
Sofia NARODNA MLADEZH in Bulgarian			0
Sofia NOVO VREME in Bulgarian			0
Sofia OTECHESTVEN FRONT in Bulgarian			5,460
Sofia POGLED in Bulgarian			1,070
Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian			43,770
Sofia STURSHEL in Bulgarian			0
Sofia TRUD in Bulgarian			3,930
Sofia ZEMEDEL'SKO ZNAME in Bulgarian			1,740
CHINA			
Beijing International Service in Albanian	0		
Beijing International Service in Serbo-Croatian	0		
CZECHOSLOVAKIA			
Prague Television Service in Czech	260		
Prague Television Service in Slovak	500		
Prague CTK in English		250	
Prague LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE in Czech			0
Prague MLADA FRONTA in Czech			1,060
Prague NOVA MYSL in Czech			4,990
Prague PRACE in Czech			1,210

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech			80,950
Prague TRIBUNA in Czech			0
Prague VECERNI PRAHA in Czech			0
Prague ZEMEDELSKE NOVINY in Czech			0
Pratislava PRAVDA in Slovak			36,310
Bratislava ROLNICKE NOVINY in Slovak			950
Pratislava SMENA in Slovak			1,460
Bratislava VECERNIK in Slovak			2,380
FRANCE			
Paris AFP in English		42,300	
Paris ZNAKI CZASU in Polish			0
GDR			
East Berlin BERLINER ZEITUNG in German			310
East Berlin DER MORGEN in German			770
East Berlin EINHEIT in German			1,840
East Berlin HORIZONT in German			0
East Berlin NATIONAL ZEITUNG in German			0
East Berlin NEUE ZEIT in German			0
East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German			93,900
East Berlin NEUER WEG in German			0
HUNGARY			
Budapest Television Service in Hungarian	0		
Budapest KULPOLITIKA in Hungarian			0
Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian			31,350
Budapest MAGYAR NEMZET in Hungarian			1,990

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Budapest MAGYARORSZAG in Hungarian			0
Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian			37,490
Budapest NEPSZAVA in Hungarian			3,810
Budapest PARTELET in Hungarian			0
Budapest TARSADALMI SZEMLE in Hungarian			0
ITALY			
Rome ANSA in English		11,060	
POLAND			
Warsaw KULTURA in Polish			1,510
Warsaw NOWE DROGI in Polish			0
Warsaw POLITYKA in Polish			12,160
Warsaw PRZEGLAD KATOLICKI in Polish			0
Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish			42,490
Warsaw RZECZYWISTOSC in Polish			0
Warsaw SLOWO POWSZECHNE in Polish			970
Warsaw SZTANDAR MLODYCH in Polish			350
Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish			54,850
Warsaw ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI in Polish			1,020
Warsaw ZYCIE PARTII in Polish			3,690
Warsaw ZYCIE WARSZAWY in Polish			940
Krakow TYGODNIK POWSZECHNY in Polish			0
ROMANIA			
Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian	25,000		
Bucharest AGERPRES in English		42,490	

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Bucharest AGERPRES in French		0	
Bucharest BULETIN OFICIAL in Romanian			450
Bucharest ERA SOCIALISTA in Romanian			1,470
Bucharest LUMEA in Romanian			0
Bucharest ROMANIA LIBERA in Romanian			1,810
Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian			64,450
USSR			
Moscow in Albanian to Albania	430		
Moscow in Bulgarian to Bulgaria	0		
Moscow in Macedonian to Yugoslavia	0		
Moscow in Romanian to Romania	660		
Moscow in Slovene to Yugoslavia	0		
Moscow ISTORIYA SSSR in Russian			0
Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian			0
Moscow KOMMUNIST in Russian			6,440
Moscow MEZHDUNARODNAYA ZHIZN in Russian			0
Moscow MIROVAYA EKONOMIKA I MEZHDUNARODNYYE OTNOSHENIYA in Russian			0
Moscow OBSHCHESTVENNYYE NAUKI in Russian			0
Moscow PARTIYNAYA ZHIZN in Russian			0
Moscow PLANOVOYE KHOZYAYSTVO in Russian			0
Moscow POLITICHESKOYE SAMOOBRAZOVANIYE in Russian			0
Moscow PROBLEMY DALNEGO VOSTOKA in Russian			0
Moscow PROBLEMY MIRA I SOTSIALIZMA in Russian			5,620
Moscow RABOCHIY KLASS I SOVREMENNY MIR in Russian			0
Moscow SOTSIOLOGICHESKIYE ISSLEDOVANIYA in Russian			0

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Moscow SSHA: EKONOMIKA, POLITIKA, IDEOLOGIYA in Russian			12,920
Moscow VOPROSY EKONOMIKI in Russian			0
Moscow VOPROSY FILOSOFII in Russian			0
Moscow VOPROSY ISTORII KPSS in Russian			0
Moscow VOPROSY ISTORII in Russian			0
Moscow VOYENNO-ISTORICHESKIY ZHURNAL in Russian			0
Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian			12,970
Kiev RADYANSKA UKRAINA in Ukrainian			4,810
YUGOSLAVIA			
Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian	14,720		
Fristina Domestic Service in Albanian		0	
Fristina Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian		720	
Belgrade Television Service in Serbo-Croatian		0	
Belgrade TANJUG DOMESTIC SERVICE in Serbo-Croatian		0	
Belgrade TANJUG in English		0	
Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian			26,820
Belgrade KOMUNIST in Serbo-Croatian			0
Belgrade NARODNA ARMIJA in Serbo-Croatian			3,670
Belgrade NIN in Serbo-Croatian			0
Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian			8,590
Belgrade SOCIALIZAM in Serbo-Croatian			0
Ljubljana DELO in Slovene			0
Novi Sad DNEVNIK in Serbo-Croatian			0
Fristina RILINDJA in Albanian			5,170

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Sarajevo OSLOBODJENJE in Serbo-Croatian			0
Skopje NOVA MAKEDONIJA in Macedonian			0
Titograd POBJEDA in Serbo-Croatian			0
Zagreb DANAS in Serbo-Croatian			0
Zagreb VJESNIK in Serbo-Croatian			0