

### ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

**SUBJECT:** (Optional)

Monthly Report -- Bangkok Bureau

**FROM:**

Chief, Operations Group

**EXTENSION**

2944

**NO.**

**DATE**

May 1987

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

**DATE**

**OFFICER'S INITIALS**

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

RECEIVED      FORWARDED

1.	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS
	RECEIVED	FORWARDED	
Chief, Operations Group			B ✓ B B
2.			
3. Chief, E&PS	6/17		PR
4. D/Director, FBIS	6/17		G
5. Director, FBIS	18 June 87		R
6. PO-RA/E&PS	6/19		OM
7. C/ESG	7/10		[Signature]
8. C/FED			[Signature]
9. C/ADD		8/4	[Signature]
10. C/HED		8/15	BIT
11. Chief, Admin Staff			[Signature]
12. Chief, Analysis Group	8/15 11/8		[Signature] [Signature]
13. Admin Staff	[Signature]		
14.			
15. Exec. Reg.			

1 June 1987  
MBK-7012

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service  
THROUGH: Chief, Operations Group  
SUBJECT: Monthly Report -- Bangkok Bureau -- May 1987

I. GENERAL

A few minutes before 3 PM on Thursday, 21 May, the Bureau experienced the first bomb scare in its history. The Bureau receptionist took a telephone call from an unidentified woman speaking Thai who said a bomb had been placed

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

A message was sent to Headquarters and selected bureaus which have backstop responsibilities and the office was evacuated. Both the embassy security officer and the Thai police were alerted. A Bangkok police bomb squad searched for the alleged bomb but found nothing, and 1 and 1/2 hours after it started the building was declared safe and the evening shift went back to work. The Bureau found out from the building management that another individual, a man, had called the occupants of the 10th floor about the bomb, but no one as yet can explain why FBIS was also alerted to this bogus bomb threat. Other events which occupied the Bureau this month included the first visit to Moscow by Nguyen Van Linh in his capacity of Vietnamese party leader, the coup in Fiji, and violence in India and Sri Lanka.

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II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. The Bureau devoted extensive resources to the visit to Moscow by the new Vietnamese party leader Nguyen Van Linh. Vietnamese radios were put on open watch on the 17th to cover any mention of Linh's departure. Up to that point AFP was the only source monitored at the Bureau citing a date, which turned out to be correct, for the visit. Following confirmation from Vietnamese sources on the 17th of his departure for Moscow, the Bureau kept the radios on open watch several days longer until it became apparent that visit reports were being carried only on regularly scheduled casts. From 15-22 May the Bureau covered the 80 East Soviet satellite continuously via ROSET and filed five VSLs from television feeds on the visit, including apparently raw footage of Linh's arrival and departure from Moscow. The tapes were expedited to MOD by express courier service. While all reports were processed expeditiously, the Bureau made particular efforts to clear the announcer-read text of Linh's banquet speech and the Vietnamese version of the joint statement (which was monitored several hours after the Bureau resumed operations following the bomb threat evacuation mentioned above). Okinawa Bureau backstopped several major newscasts during the visit, but as it turned out no processing assistance was needed.

-2-

2. Nine minutes after the Bureau opened for business on the 14th, we logged in an alert from the Wire about a military coup in Fiji. The Bureau had to rely on Melbourne radio, AFP, and to some extent the BBC World Service for reportage since no Fijian radios are monitorable in Bangkok. Melbourne was immediately put on open watch, which continued until notified by the Wire on the 15th that it was no longer necessary. The Bureau again briefly went to an open speaker watch on the 19th when an aircraft hijacking was reported in Fiji. The incident was quickly resolved, however. Repeated checks of New Zealand frequencies failed to turn up any monitorable stations. Confusing and conflicting reports were the norm during the first few days of the coup, and even at month's end, although coup leader Colonel Rabuka is apparently in charge, it is not clear how matters will finally evolve. Even though the coup only occupied half of the month, Melbourne radio wordage more than tripled over the previous month's total to 65,000 words, the vast majority dealing with Fiji.

3. Levels of violence in India and Sri Lanka, already high, escalated even further during the month. On the 12th, the Indian central government relieved Punjab state leaders and imposed presidential rule. Additional police forces were moved in and a large number of arrests made, including some Punjab ministers thought to be too closely tied to extremist forces. Toward the end of the month a particularly bad situation developed in Meerut, just north of Delhi, where there were riots and bloodshed over several days with the death toll possibly well over 100. During the month Sri Lankan military forces moved to try to take control of the Jaffna area from the Tamil militants. Extensive coverage of this development along with the often strong criticism from India also drove up Sri Lankan and Indian media wordage during the month. The clandestine Voice of Tamil Eelam was unheard from 28 May-1 June, and during the 22-27 May period only broadcast repeats of the 21 May programs. This erratic behavior may be linked with the government's offensive against the Tamils.

4. On the 19th, ROSET monitoring of Malaysian television provided the first listing of the new cabinet lineup following a reshuffle by the prime minister. Three takes giving the names of ministers and other government officials and their new positions were filed.

#### B. Technical

1. A group consisting of the bureau chief and the bureau technical staff paid a visit to the Si-Racha earth station operated by the Communications Authority of Thailand (CAT) which serves as Thailand's satellite communications gateway. The bureau representatives were given a complete tour of the very impressive facility. One thing that stood out during our visit was that they are receiving the 174 degree east Intelsat on their 10-meter dish antenna with fair to good reception.

2. On 5 May the FBIS Headquarters security officer arrived at the Bureau for a 5-day TDY. During his visit all areas of Bureau security were discussed and evaluated. No major security problems were found.

Recommendations and/or discrepancies will be included in his trip report upon his return to Hqs.

3. Applicants were interviewed for the position of LAN systems administrator. The Bureau had seven responses to the ad placed in the BANGKOK POST. Of the seven interviewed, [redacted] was selected, based on her excellent training and experience in the computer field. We hope to have her on board before the LAN installation team arrives. STAT

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

1. Indonesian Monitor [redacted] became the proud father of a baby boy on 18 May. STAT

2. A number of Bureau personnel were hospitalized for short stays during the month, including contract custodian [redacted] for corrective surgery, [redacted] wife who had to have a cesarian section due to complications, and [redacted] who was forced to extend his visit to the U.S. to undergo additional heart surgery. STAT  
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B. Buildings and Grounds

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The renovation of the Bureau communications area was completed this reporting period. The renovation was necessary due to the forthcoming FBA-1 computer installation later this summer.

C. Visits

1. [redacted] FBIS security officer, 6-11 May. STAT

2. Hong Kong Administrative Assistant [redacted] 4-8 May for training under Bangkok administrative officer [redacted] STAT  
STAT  
STAT

[redacted]

Chief, Bangkok Bureau

Attachment: Monthly Production Report  
RHB/cia

## BANGKOK BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR MAY 1987

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	869,580
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	258,820
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	1,799

	<u>BROAD-CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI-CATION</u>
II. <u>INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:</u> (minutes or issues per week)	22,045 min.	28,890 min.	268.50 issues
III. <u>OUTPUT FROM ROSET SOURCES:</u> (publishable words per month)			

AUSTRALIA

Sydney Television Feed in English	620
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INDIA

Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English	230
Delhi Domestic Service in English	64,440
Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in Hindi	290

INDONESIA

Jakarta TVRI Television Network in Indonesian	340
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MALAYSIA

Kuala Lumpur RTM Television Network 1 in Malay	1,880
Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English	5,960

SRI LANKA

Colombo Rupavahini Television Feed in English	660
Colombo Lanka Puvath in English	29,940

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<b>IV. <u>OUTPUT FROM ALL OTHER SOURCES:</u></b>			
<b>(publishable words per month)</b>			
<b><u>AUSTRALIA</u></b>			
Melbourne Overseas Service in English	65,370		
Sydney Television Feed in English	620		
Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English			670
Sydney THE BULLETIN in English			0
Sydney THE WEEKEND AUSTRALIAN in English			2,820
<b><u>BANGLADESH</u></b>			
Dhaka Overseas Service in English	2,910		
Dhaka Overseas Service in Bengali	0		
Dhaka Domestic Service in English	3,660		
Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali	320		
Dhaka BSS in English		0	
Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English			70
Dhaka SANGBAD in Bengali			0
<b><u>BRUNEI</u></b>			
Kuala Belait THE BORNEO BULLETIN in English			0
<b><u>BURMA</u></b>			
Rangoon Domestic Service in English	0		
Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese	6,080		
Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English			200
Rangoon BOTATAUNG in Burmese			0
Rangoon LOKTHA FYEITHU NEZIN in Burmese			0
Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese			0
<b><u>CAMBODIA</u></b>			
Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian	19,970		

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>CAMBODIA</u> (continued)			
Phnom Penh SPK in English		12,960	
Phnom Penh SPK in French to KPL Vientiane		0	
Phnom Penh SPK in French		5,470	
Phnom Penh VNA in Vietnamese to VNA Hanoi		0	
Phnom Penh VNA in French to VNA Hanoi		0	
<u>CHINA</u>			
Beijing International Service in Bengali	0		
Beijing International Service in Burmese	780		
Beijing International Service in Indonesian	0		
Beijing International Service in Lao	0		
Beijing International Service in Thai	0		
Beijing in Cambodian to Cambodia	0		
Beijing in Hindi to India	0		
Beijing in Malay to Malaysia	0		
Beijing in Urdu to India and Pakistan	0		
<u>CLANDESTINE</u>			
(Clandestine) Voice of Tamil Eelam in English	0		
(Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian	18,030		
(Clandestine) Voice of Malayan Democracy in Malay	1,330		
(Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian	3,990		
(Clandestine) Voice of the National Army Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian	12,090		
(Clandestine) Voice of the People of Burma in Burmese	0		
(Clandestine) Voice of the People of Malaysia in Malay	0		
(Clandestine) Voice of Tamil Eelam in Tamil	3,570		

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>HONG KONG</u>			
Hong Kong AFP in English		88,090	
<u>INDIA</u>			
Delhi General Overseas Service in English	9,410		
Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English	230		
Delhi Domestic Service in English	67,830		
Delhi Domestic Service in Hindi	330		
Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in Hindi	290		
Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English		220	
Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English			3,630
Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English			2,400
Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English			600
Delhi NATIONAL HERALD in English			0
Delhi PATRIOT in English			6,690
Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in English			6,890
Delhi THE HINDU in English			5,570
Delhi INDIA TODAY in English			0
Calcutta ANANDA BAZAR PATRIKA in Bengali			0
<u>INDONESIA</u>			
Jakarta International Service in English	2,170		
Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian	9,250		
Jakarta TVRI Television Network in Indonesian	340		
Jakarta JAKARTA POST in English			4,390
Jakarta THE INDONESIA TIMES in English			1,910
Jakarta BERITA BUANA in Indonesian			600
Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian			0
Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian			650
Jakarta TEMPO in Indonesian			1,600



	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>INDONESIA</u> (continued)			
Jakarta SUARA PEMBARUAN in Indonesian			1,330
<u>LAOS</u>			
Vientiane Domestic Service in Laos	20,540		
Vientiane KPL in English		16,280	
Vientiane KPL in English to SPK Phnom Penh			0
Vientiane KPL in French to SPK Phnom Penh			0
Vientiane SPK in French to SPK Phnom Penh			0
Vientiane VNA in Vietnamese to VNA Hanoi			0
Vientiane PASASON in Lao			0
Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao			0
<u>MALAYSIA</u>			
Kuala Lumpur International Service in English	3,090		
Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English	3,580		
Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in Malay	1,260		
Kuala Lumpur RTM Television Network 1 in Malay	1,880		
Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English		5,960	
Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English			1,500
Kuala Lumpur NEW SUNDAY TIMES in English			370
Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay			1,500
Kuala Lumpur BERITA MINGGU in Malay			0
Kuala Lumpur MINGGUAN MALAYSIA in Malay			0
Kuala Lumpur UTUSAN MALAYSIA in Malay			0
<u>NEPAL</u>			
Katmandu External Service in English	580		
Katmandu THE RISING NEPAL in English			830

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>NEW ZEALAND</u>			
Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English			5,110
Wellington THE EVENING POST in English			2,920
<u>PAKISTAN</u>			
Karachi Overseas Service in English	930		
Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu	0		
Karachi Domestic Service in English	3,510		
Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu	8,790		
Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English			8,440
Karachi DAWN in English			3,770
Islamabad THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English			1,750
Karachi JASARAT in Urdu			1,100
Karachi MASHRIQ in Urdu			0
Rawalpindi HAIDER in Urdu			0
Lahore Jang in Urdu			0
Karachi NAWA-E WAQT in Urdu			550
<u>SINGAPORE</u>			
Singapore Domestic Service in English	180		
Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English			5,130
Singapore THE SUNDAY TIMES in English			0
<u>SRI LANKA</u>			
Colombo International Service in English	8,380		
Colombo International Service in Hindi	0		
Colombo Domestic Service in English	0		
Colombo Rupavahini Television Feed in English	660		
Colombo Domestic Service in Tamil	0		
Colombo Lanka Puvath in English			
		29,940	

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>SRI LANKA (continued)</u>			
Colombo DAILY NEWS in English			6,700
Colombo SUN in English			3,680
Colombo WEEKEND in English			0
<u>THAILAND</u>			
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English	1,450		
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Cambodian	0		
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Lao	0		
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai	6,000		
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Vietnamese	0		
Bangkok Domestic Service in English	8,690		
Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai	10,140		
Bangkok First Army Division Radio in Thai	1,520		
Bangkok Television Service in Thai	1,840		
Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English			44,140
Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English			3,920
Bangkok THE NATION in English			63,090
Bangkok KHAO PHISSET in Thai			0
Bangkok LAK THAI in Thai			590
Bangkok MATICHON in Thai			6,120
Bangkok MATICHON SUT SAPDA in Thai			0
Bangkok NAE0 NA in Thai			2,100
Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai			7,310
Bangkok SIAM RAT SAPDA WICHAN in Thai			0
Bangkok SU ANAKHOT in Thai			0
Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai			1,320
Bangkok ZHONG HUA RIBAO in Chinese			2,270
Bangkok XING XIAN RIBAO in Chinese			0

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>THAILAND (continued)</u>			
Bangkok XIN ZHONG YUAN RIBAO in Chinese			0
<u>UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS</u>			
Moscow International Service in Tamil	0		
Moscow in Bengali to Bangladesh	0		
Moscow in Burmese to Burma	0		
Moscow in Cambodian to Cambodia	1,520		
Moscow in Hindi to India	0		
Moscow in Indonesian to Indonesia	0		
Moscow in Lao to Laos	650		
Moscow in Thai to Thailand	960		
Moscow in Urdu to India	0		
Moscow in Urdu to Pakistan	0		
Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Indonesian	0		
<u>UNITED KINGDOM</u>			
London BBC World Service in English	3,270		
<u>VIETNAM</u>			
Hanoi International Service in English	9,110		
Hanoi International Service in Cambodian	0		
Hanoi International Service in Thai	250		
Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese	122,380		
Hanoi VNA in English		0	
Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese			2,580
Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese			3,950
Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese			18,000
Hanoi TAP CHI QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese			0
Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese			22,170