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22 October 1987

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service

FROM:

[Redacted]

Chief, Analysis Group, FBIS

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SUBJECT:

Part-time Employment -

[Redacted]

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1. [Redacted] chief of our Middle East Branch, will be going on maternity leave at the end of October. Originally, she had planned to be gone about four months, returning to duty in early 1988. As her husband was recently assigned to work on a job in Atlanta, [Redacted] has now opted to join him and remain down there until completion of his assignment, which is now expected to run up through the end of 1988. They expect to return to the Washington area at that time. This would mean [Redacted] would have to go on LWOP for about a year.

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2. I propose as an alternative that [Redacted] be retained as a part-time employee in order to engage in research and analysis. Since she plans to rejoin AG, it would be in our interest to keep her involved and as up-to-date on Middle East developments as possible. [Redacted] would like to continue working in some capacity while she is away, preferably in her profession. Allowing an FBIS employee to work part-time away from the Washington area would not be unprecedented (e.g. Prod Group's [Redacted] in North Carolina).

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3. Though [Redacted] would not be able to do current, weekly analyses, her setup in Atlanta would be ideal for working on several topics of longstanding interest to policymakers and the Intelligence Community: 1) Islamic fundamentalism in Egypt; 2) Egyptian perceptions of U.S. and Soviet roles in the region; 3) the debate in Egypt on how to confront terrorism; 4) Egyptian press treatment of Israel; 5) Qadhdhafi's activities and statements, with special interest in Libya's ties with and support of Iran; 6) a study of the Lebanese Hizballah press organ Al-Ahd, the mouthpiece of the radical Shi'ites.

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4. As the foregoing suggests, there is a lot we could be doing on the Middle East. But with only [Redacted] and one other analyst in her branch, they have not had the time to focus on the above

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subjects. Nor is it likely that we will be able to do so in the year ahead given our staffing in that branch. year in Atlanta would give her an ideal opportunity to address some of these neglected themes and ultimately enable AG to produce some first class Analysis Reports. She feels that by early next year she should be able to keep up with the baby and start devoting about 30 hours a week to research and writing.

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5. I would be pleased to discuss this idea with you further if you have questions or doubts about its benefits to AG and FBIS.

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CONCUR:

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Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service

27 OCT 1987

Date

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