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| Chief, Operations Group | | | | December 1988 |
| TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building) | DA | TE | OFFICER'S | COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom |
| | RECEIVED | FORWARDED | INITIALS | to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.) |
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FBIS-4001-89

4 January 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information

Service

THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT : Monthly Report -- Jordan Bureau -- December

I. GENERAL

- 1. The Jordanian cabinet underwent a reshuffle on 19

 December. In a move apparently designed to limit dissenting voices within the government, Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri was replaced by Royal Court chief Marwan al-Qasim, who was also named deputy prime minister.
- 2. The state budget for fiscal year 1989 was unveiled on 31 December. In his speech outlining the austerity budget, Finance Minister Hanna 'Awdahh listed among the objectives of the coming stage building a "productive economy," an end to "all forms" of wasteful spending, equilibrium between the population and the resources, and "rearranging the roles" of the public and private sectors. He also called on Jordanians "to acclimatize quickly and deal with the new developments of this stage."

II. OPERATIONS

- A. Monitorial/Editorial
 - 1. Bureau cruising monitor located a STAT new frequency of Sanaa Domestic Service, which has helped reduce coverage coordination by telex with EAU.

A. Personnel

- 1. The post allowance for Jordan has been reduced from 15 percent to 10 percent. The post is preparing an off-cycle retail price survey to reflect recent changes in the local economy.
- 2. At a bureau "sharing party" on 19 December,
 the following promotions were announced: Arabic

 Monitor from FBN-8/3 to FBN 9/2

 STAT

 effective 18 December and Arabic Monitor STAT

 from FBN-7/1 to FBN-8/2 effective 1

January. In a break with prior practice, these awards as well as several periodic step increases were published in the weekly embassy newsletter on the suggestion of one of the monitors.

| | and Chief Monitor |
|-----------|--|
| | |
| | bureau employees contributed winter clothing for |
| | survivors of the earthquake in Armenia. |
| В. | Building and Grounds |
| | 1. The editorial desk has been reconfigured and |
| | computer furniture has been installed in the |
| | editorial room to support two personal computers |
| | and one printer. |
| | 2. New file cabinets have been placed in the |
| | offices of the chief monitor, technician, and |
| | administrative assistant. |
| | |
| IV. VISI | TS |
| 1. | Bureau Chief on private travel to STA |
| | London from 21 December until 8 January. |
| | |
| 2. | Junior Editor on R&R in Conus from |
| 16 Damamh | per until 6 January. |

| Deputy Chief | |
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| Jordan Bureau | |
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