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Monthly Report	Seoul Bureau		
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Chief, Operations Group	·		October 1988
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EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE SEOUL BUREAU



8 November 1988 FBIS-5618-88

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service

THROUGH:

Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT:

Monthly Report -- Seoul Bureau -- October 1988

I. GENERAL

With the conclusion of the Olympics as the month began, student demonstrations have once again become an issue of note. Anti-Americanism is still a major theme, with the U.S. Information Service buildings in Taegu and Kwangju, the USO in Seoul, and the Hannam Village military housing area in Seoul among the targets of Molotov cocktails this month. Demonstrations of one kind or another are daily occurrences on most university campuses. Other themes becoming prominent are protests of tuition hikes and protests against the "irregularities" of the previous regime. Even though an errant Molotov cocktail narrowly missed a monitor's car on one occasion during the month, the purpose of most demonstrators is still to attract attention to their cause rather than to inflict harm. U.S. and local Bureau personnel continue to move about freely with little risk of harm from the protestors. The demonstrations center mainly around several university campuses with those in Seoul itself continuing to be fairly localized and easily avoidable.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Editorial/Monitorial

1. October saw two major policy speeches by South Korean President No Tae-u carried live by Seoul television and radio stations. On 4 October No Tae-u proposed a meeting with North Korea's Kim Il-song in a policy speech at the National Assembly. On 19 October the Bureau extended its hours to handle live television coverage of No Tae-u's speech to the United Nations General Assembly, in which he again made overtures to the North. Both speeches cleared the Bureau in good time on the day they were given. The North's initial reaction to both overtures was swift—and negetave—coming in broadcasts from the clandestine radio Voice of National Salvation on the day after each.

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- 2. The South Korean party leaders also took turns making their views known in speeches to the National Assembly carried live by radio and television on the 25th and 26th. The Bureau texted all four of the lengthy policy speeches at high precedence, and vals were processed for headquarters consumers.
- 3. The Republic of Korea returned to Korea standard time on 9 October. The Government has indicated that daylight savings time will not be used again next year due to the complaints of citizens.
- 4. The Bureau has begun filing a press selection list for vernacular South Korea press items as a result of a discussion with Production Group's Asia Division. AD is now getting several South Korean papers with a shorter time lag, thus making the press selection list necessary to avoid duplication.

B. Communications

The Bureau took advantage of a scheduled primary communications circuit outage on 25 October to get further experience using the international direct dial backup system. Twenty-one messages were filed through the IDD link with Okinawa Bureau with only minor problems. Bureau communicators have demonstrated their ability to handle IDD, and with a little more experience it should become a fairly routine operation.

C. Technical

During a trip to the remote antenna site at Pyongtaek on the 19th, Bureau technicians tested a new Watkins-Johnson WJ-8718a receiver using one of the Delta RCC-2 remote controller units. Tests showed no difficulties in operating the receiver at the remote site from the Bureau. Replacement of the current complement of Collins receivers with Watkins Johnsons will take place during a visit by the regional engineer still to be arranged.

D. Lateral Services

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One item was texted from the North Korean party paper NODONG SINMUN on request from the United Nations Military Armistice Commission secretary's office.	
III. ADMINISTRATION	
A. <u>Personnel</u>	
1. Former Korean Unit Chief one of the founding members of Seoul Bureau, died on 20 October after a long illness. A	STAT
delegation of Bureau personnel, including the deputy chief, the chief	
monitor, and unit chiefs as well as several monitors and colleagues from other Embassy offices, paid their respects to surviving family members at the family residence on 21 October.	STAT
2. Korean monitor returned to duty on the 17th	STAT
after her absence for maternity leave.	

Chief, Seoul Bureau

cc: Chief, Okinawa Bureau Chief, Hong Kong Bureau