

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Monthly Report -- Seoul Bureau



FROM:

EXTENSION

NO.

Chief, Operations Group

DATE

March 1988

STAT

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.	TO:	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS
		RECEIVED	FORWARDED	
1.	AC/Ops	18	APR 1988	<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>
2.				
3.	C/E&PS	19	APR	<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>
4.	DD/FBIS			
5.	D/FBIS			<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>
6.				
7.	PO/RA	4/19		<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>
8.	SA/CD	4/19		<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>
9.	C/OPS			<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>
10.	--- C/PERS C/DOCS			<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>
11.	--- C/B&F/AS			<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>
12.	DD/FBIS	28	Apr	<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>
13.				
14.	C/AG	v/s		<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>
15.	Exec. Reg.			



EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE
SEOUL BUREAU



5 April 1988
FBIS-5610-88

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service
THROUGH: Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT: Monthly Report -- Seoul Bureau -- March 1988

I. GENERAL

In a last-ditch effort to unify the opposition before the coming National Assembly elections, Kim Tae-chung resigned as president of the Party for Peace and Democracy on 17 March. The motives for his resignation and his conditions for unifying the opposition almost immediately came under attack from Reunification Democratic Party members, and unity talks broke down shortly thereafter. The opposition is now headed for the 26 April National Assembly elections as divided as it was for the recent presidential election.

The three major parties faced internal difficulties with the return to the system of one assemblyman for each electoral district as incumbent legislators were either dropped from party lists or saw their safe seats threatened by stronger opponents. Meanwhile, both the opposition and the ruling party were planning strategies to make the most of the revelations of irregularities in the semi-official Saemaul movement under the previous regime.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Editorial/Monitorial

1. Bureau publishable wordage for March reached a new all-time record high of 791,110. Along with the increased productivity of English-language sources, an indicator of the relaxation of press restraints in South Korea, the Chinese unit made a major contribution to the new record, accounting for 55 percent of the translated wordage. ✓

2. Items from two Korean-language PRC regional papers were processed for the first time during the month and the Bureau and MOD agreed on sourcelines for four such papers. The papers are acquired by the U.S. Consulate General in Shenyang and mailed to the Bureau. The papers are sent on to NEAD after Bureau exploitation, following a procedure previously established.

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3. Due to continued interference on the frequencies for the North's clandestine Voice of National Salvation in Korean to South Korea, the 30-minute morning English-language program of VNS has been added to coverage. Interference during the English-language portion of the VNS broadcasts apparently ceased some time in February. The Bureau was tipped off to this development by cruising reports from Okinawa Bureau.

4. With the aid of material sent from Bangkok and Okinawa Bureaus, Senior Editor [redacted] has been setting the groundwork for the Bureau's first editorial trainee, who is scheduled to arrive in mid-April.

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B. Communications

1. On 15 March the Taegu Automated Switching center disconnected the Bureau's Mode V autodin (SA3C) circuit, thus putting an end to the primary backstop. Until such time as the international direct dialing system backup is deemed workable on a day-to-day basis, the Bureau will rely on the telex as the backstop for primary circuit outages.

2. On 17 March a direct commercial telephone line was installed. Now the Bureau is able to put through and receive calls directly, bypassing the Embassy switchboard. Subsequent to this, a successful IDD modem test was conducted with Okinawa Bureau on 24 March. Further tests are planned to see if the previous problems experienced have been overcome with the new telephone line and new software. The new telephone number is 738-0708.

C. Lateral Services

1. The Bureau relayed a request for drop copies of material on the current Chinese National People's Congress from the Deputy Chief of Mission in Seoul to Hong Kong and Okinawa Bureaus.

2. AG provided information concerning expected activities around North Korean leader Kim Il-song's birthday in response to a request by the local military psyops unit.

3. The Bureau processed two items from KULLOJA, one on a priority basis, and the list of South Korean ruling party National Assembly candidates in response to requests by Washington area consumers relayed by Liaison and the DAILY REPORT.

4. Thanks to some careful detective work, Senior Editor [redacted] was able to untangle a knotty consumer request for Liaison [redacted] tracked down the consumer and called to find out exactly what the request entailed.

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D. Technical

1. The Bureau received one DSI Model LRP 300 tape punch, s/n 018983; 4 low paper sensing arms for Extel comscribe IIIC printers; and 8 digital clock assemblies (Model 175A) for Stresearch audio select assembly Model ST-112 from Headquarters.

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

At the end of the month, the Embassy notified the Bureau that the long-awaited foreign national salary increase had been authorized. The wage hike was due in 1987. This salary increase is somewhat unusual in that the Embassy requested two separate increases and both were approved. One is retroactive to July 1987 and the other to October 1987. For the first time in several years the salaries of those in grades FBN-8 and below are no longer frozen and they will receive an increase--a welcome development indeed.

B. Security

A State Department diplomatic security team visited the Bureau on 21 March. After reviewing the situation, the team advised that the Bureau would be in compliance with recently updated security regulations if the door to the Bureau Chief's office were kept locked using the built-in Yale key lock whenever no American staff member was physically present within. Only a minor adjustment of current procedure was necessary.

IV. VISITS

1. William Gibson, Darryl Daharb, Katherine Beck, and John Jarrell, members of a State Department diplomatic security team on a regional inspection tour of the Embassy.

2. [redacted] editorial trainees
on their way to Okinawa, on personal travel.

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[redacted]

Chief, Seoul Bureau

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Attachment:
Monthly Production Report

cc: Chief, Okinawa Bureau
Chief, Hong Kong Bureau

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	791,110
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	152,880
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	1,909

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE: (minutes or issues per week)	13685.00 min	5510.00 min	127.69 min
III. OUTPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE: (publishable words per month)			

CLANDESTINE

(Clandestine) Voice of National Salvation in Korean to South Korea	14850		
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CHINA

Beijing International Service in Korean	4070		
Beijing City Service in Mandarin	0		
Changchun Jilin Provincial Service in Mandarin	3060		
Harbin Heilongjiang Provincial Service in Mandarin	7930		
Hohhot Nei Monggol Regional Service in Mandarin	12640		
Jinan Shandong Provincial Service in Mandarin	13850		
Shenyang Liaoning Provincial Service in Mandarin	11120		
Shijiazhuang Hebei Provincial Service in Mandarin	1800		
Tianjin City Service in Mandarin	11380		
Beijing BEIJING RIBAO in Chinese			33320
Harbin HEILONGJIANG RIBAO in Chinese			15750
Hohhot NEIMENGGU RIBAO in Chinese			10230
Jinan DAZHONG RIBAO in Chinese			41770
Shenyang DONGBEI JINGJI BAO in Chinese			0
Shenyang LIAONING RIBAO in Chinese			34730
Shijiazhuang HEBEI RIBAO in Chinese			24530
Tianjin TIANJIN RIBAO in Chinese			0
Harbin HUNGNYONGGANG SINMUN in Korean			800
Yanji CHONGHAP CHAMGO in Korean			200

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
KOREA (NORTH)			
Pyongyang in Korean to South Korea in Korean	0		
Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean	116970		
Pyongyang Television Service in Korean	0		
Pyongyang KCNA in English		138610	
Pyongyang KULLOJA in korean			22300
KOREA (SOUTH)			
Seoul Christian Broadcasting System Network in korean	0		
Seoul Domestic Service in Korean	4300		
Seoul MBC Network in Korean	0		
Seoul MBC Television Network in Korean	0		
Seoul Television Service in Korean	3290		
Seoul YONHAP in English		37750	
Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean			6050
Seoul CHUANGANG ILBO in Korean			1700
Seoul Editorial Report on ROK Media in Korean			0
Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean			500
Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean			2050
Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean			2000
Seoul SINTONG-A in Korean			0
Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English			79610
Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English			129050
Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean			3050
Seoul WOLGAN CHOSON in Korean			0
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS			
Moscow International Service in Korean	1850		