

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Monthly Report -- London Bureau

OPS-2
LD

FROM:

Chief, Operations Group

EXTENSION

NO.

DATE

April 1987

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.	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS
	RECEIVED	FORWARDED	
Chief, WSS			
2. Chief, Comm Ctr		28/5	Hm
3. SA/CD	6/1/87		Eat <i>EA</i>
4.			
5.			
6. Chief, MOD			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
11.			
12.			
13.			
14.			
15.			

11 May 1987
MLD-7019

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service
FROM : Chief, FBIS London Bureau
THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT : Monthly Report -- London Bureau -- April 1987

I. GENERAL

- 1. On 14 April the bureau, in coordination with the Monitoring Operations Division, conducted an experiment involving Internet transmission of a consolidated VSL tape and videotapes of Prague television coverage of the recent Gorbachev visit to Czechoslovakia airtailed from Vienna Bureau. The success of the experiment from the bureau's perspective bodes well for future utilization of the Internet system as it becomes fully operational.

By the end of the month, Bureau engineer [redacted] had successfully resolved all problems with the Internet orderwire equipment to the extent that the system is now operational in all modes. Full operational status awaits local communications authority (Teleprove) testing/approval to be scheduled by the Field Engineering Division.

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- 2. Despite earlier statements to the contrary, the American Embassy announced on 7 April that an FSN salary change survey would be conducted during May and June of this year. In response to an embassy request for survey participants, the bureau volunteered PMU monitor Robert Fowler.

At the end of the month, the American Embassy in Islamabad, Pakistan announced an FSN pay increase retroactive to 31 August 1987.

- 3. Subsequent to BBCMS personnel changes as reported in the March Monthly Report, it was announced 24 April that modernization assistant [redacted] would assume the post of Organizer, Soviet Monitoring, replacing newly assigned Assistant Head/Reception Department [redacted]. In yet another personnel change, effective 21 April [redacted] currently Manager House Services at BBC Pebble Mill, will be acting Manager House and Office Services at Caversham for 6 months, replacing [redacted] who takes up new duties as Premises Operations Manager, Bush House.

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II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. London Bureau, PMU and Vienna Bureau were commended by the Chief, Daily Reporting Division for well-coordinated coverage and comprehensive and rapid processing of materials on Gorbachev's mid-April visit to the CSSR.
2. Senior Associate Editor [] was selected to TDY to Abidjan 12 May - 1 June to provide editorial assistance during staff R&R travel. STAT
3. April was a particularly busy month for PMU, with daily publishable wordage reaching 59,000 on the 28th. The Tajik CP Central Committee Plenum on 7 April and the 15 April session of the 20th Komsomol Congress contributed some 62 takes to the already heavy processing load.

B. Communications

1. There were no major outages during the month, but a potentially serious one occurred on the 30th when a Headquarters 80-minute CPS outage (the only one during the month) coincided with a downtime of the LWA/WLA backup circuit.
2. BBC technician [] visited Vienna Bureau to finish work on the upgrading of the VCVC line, which became operational on 14 April. Operational procedures for use of the enhanced line had been discussed earlier on 2 April between Communications Unit Supervisor [] and visiting Vienna Bureau Chief []. This, coupled with Vienna's new direct circuit to Croughton, should resolve Vienna's communications problems. STAT
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C. Technical

1. Expansion of Wang system capabilities in the Tabulation Unit to include an additional terminal was accomplished by the local representative on 14 April.
2. On 23 April emergency repairs were successfully made to the pressfax equipment thanks to timely telephone coordination with the Field Engineering Branch and rapid receipt and installation of spare boards from Headquarters which prevented any coverage loss.
3. Thanks to fine efforts by bureau technician [], a bureau floor plan was constructed to scale with plastic overlay and cardboard cutouts representing office equipment and furniture. The display will be a useful tool for visualizing space allocation and office renovation as bureau plans for consolidation and automation take shape. STAT

III. ADMINISTRATION

Personnel

- 1. Russian Monitor [redacted] entered on duty 12 April. STAT
- 2. Teletype operator candidate [redacted] was disqualified during processing. Replacement candidate [redacted] was put in processing at mid-month. STAT
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- 3. At the request of Vienna Bureau, another advertisement was placed in local papers for Serbo-Croat candidates to supplement two previously tested applicants from earlier recruiting efforts.
- 4. Bureau technicians [redacted] are currently involved in the self-taught Heathkit "Computer Servicing" program received from Headquarters. The bureau's chief editor is overseeing their progress. STAT

IV. VISITS

To the bureau: Production Group officer [redacted] on 1 April for orientation and briefings; Vienna Bureau Chief [redacted] on 2 April for communications discussions; Headquarters engineer [redacted] on 14 April for discussions with bureau engineers and BBCMS technicians regarding the Islamabad line. STAT
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[redacted] STAT

Attachments

- cc: Chief, Austria Bureau
- Chief, Cologne Unit
- Chief, Islamabad Unit
- Chief, Okinawa Bureau