

1 October 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service  
THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group  
SUBJECT : Monthly Report--Bangkok Bureau--September 1983

I. GENERAL

This year's military reshuffle, an annual event which results from Thailand's uniform 1 October retirement date in the armed forces and which customarily has led to coups or at least to talks of coups in past years, was accomplished with a minimum of disgruntlement. Army Commander-in-Chief Athit acquired the second hat of supreme commander in the reshuffle and used the reshuffle to further consolidate his own power, but he avoided freezing out promotions among other factions. Promotions were extended to all factions not deeply involved in the April Fool's coup attempt of 1981, and Athit persuaded a major rival, 4th Army Commander Lt. General Harn, to take a promotion and a staff position.

Mother Nature has been less kind to Bangkok this year than the military, however. During September the severe rainy season conditions became disruptive, as daily rains combined with unusually high tides and the continuing problem of sinking land in the city to virtually paralyze Bangkok for long periods of time. Many of the main streets have become klongs (canals), the papers feature ever more amazing flood photos each day, and several areas of the city, including Ramkhamhaeng University, have been closed and conceded to the sea for the duration. At month's end, even the International School had experienced closures due to the flooding, and the sewer system was so clogged that the bureau's balconies, on the 15th and 16th floors, were overflowing during the rains and threatening to flow into the offices. Conditions were particularly irritating to incoming staff personnel who still await arrival of their cars. The crew [redacted] [redacted] report the highest waters there in 20 years.

STAT  
STAT

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

[redacted]

STAT

B. Technical

[Redacted]

STAT

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Buildings and Grounds

Construction has started on two new monitor positions to help accomodate the Indonesian, Thai and South Asian monitorial slots which have been approved over recent months. The bureau's commodious library has been divided in half to accomodate, without appreciable loss of functional space, both a library and a monitorial office. In addition, the little-used chief editor's office has been reconfigured, the editorial copy boards are being consolidated into new shelves, and a door is being cut to link the editorial and cruising rooms and improve coordination.

The rainy season and the many recent thunderstorms have created numerous problems [Redacted]

STAT

[Redacted] Several antennas were struck by lightning, necessitating replacement of the antenna transformers. Frequent power outages made it necessary to operate the emergency generator for a total of eight hours during the 24th and 25th of September. We also sustained minor damage to a remote modem. However, the bureau experienced very little loss of operational capability.

STAT

B. Personnel

1. Deputy Chief [Redacted] traveled to Okinawa TDY 1-2 September for familiarization [Redacted] and to coordinate coverage in other areas.

STAT

STAT

2. Promotions were presented on 22 September to Senior Thai Monitor [Redacted] Senior Vietnamese Monitor [Redacted] Burmese Monitor [Redacted] South Asian Monitor [Redacted] Thai Monitor [Redacted] and Indonesian Monitor [Redacted]

STAT

STAT

STAT

IV. VISITS

1. [Redacted] DD/LOGS, toured the bureau 22 September and was much impressed by our luxurious quarters.

STAT

2. [Redacted] Regional Medical Officer, visted the bureau 23 September

STAT

[Redacted]

STAT

Chief, FBIS Bangkok Bureau

## BANGKOK BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 1983

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	515,610 (539,020)
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	232,290 (246,840)
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	1,350 ( 1,379)

	<u>BROADCASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLICATIONS</u>
II. <u>INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:</u> (minutes or issues per week)	15,795 ( 15,715) min.	20,205 ( 20,205) min.	232.23 ( 232.23) issues
III. <u>OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:</u> (publishable words per month)			

AUSTRALIA

Melbourne Overseas Service in English	15,040 ( 17,450)		
Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English			720 ( 2,150)
Sydney THE BULLETIN in English			0 ( 0)
Sydney THE WEEKEND AUSTRALIAN in English			0 ( 1,060)

BANGLADESH

Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali	750 ( 2,520)		
Dhaka Domestic Service in English	1,870 ( 2,140)		
Dhaka BSS in English		1,780 ( 2,130)	
Dhaka SANGBAD in Bengali			0 ( 0)
Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English			810 ( 580)

BURMA

Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese	3,800 ( 3,270)		
Rangoon BOTATAUNG in Burmese			0 ( 0)
Rangoon LOKTHA PYEITHU NEZIN in Burmese			100 ( 0)
Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese			0 ( 0)
Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English			340 ( 1,080)

CHINA

Beijing in Bengali to India and Bangladesh	0 ( 0)		
Beijing in Burmese to Burma	0 ( 330)		
Beijing in Cambodian to Kampuchea	2,110 ( 3,710)		
Beijing in Hindi to India	0 ( 0)		
Beijing in Indonesian to Indonesia	0 ( 170)		
Beijing in Lao to Laos	0 ( 0)		
Beijing in Malay to Malaysia	340 ( 0)		
Beijing in Thai to Thailand	0 ( 1,660)		
Beijing in Urdu to India and Pakistan	0 ( 0)		

	<u>BROADCASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLICATIONS</u>
<u>CLANDESTINE</u>			
(Clandestine) Radio Kawthulay in Burmese to Burma	5,480 ( 5,170)		
(Clandestine) Radio Kawthulay in English to Burma	0 ( 0)		
(Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian	30,750 ( 32,980)		
(Clandestine) Voice of Malayan Democracy in Malay	7,420 ( 1,750)		
(Clandestine) Voice of The National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian	2,870 ( 4,630)		
(Clandestine) Voice of The People of Burma in Burmese	1,390 ( 5,690)		
(Clandestine) Voice of The People of Malaya in Malay	1,530 ( 0)		
<u>HONG KONG</u>			
Hong Kong AFP in English		42,470 ( 53,710)	
<u>INDIA</u>			
Delhi General Overseas Service in English	2,870 ( 4,180)		
Delhi Domestic Service in English	29,210 ( 40,150)		
Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English		140 ( 1,740)	
Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English			1,580 ( 2,450)
Delhi NATIONAL HERALD in English			630 ( 0)
Delhi PATRIOT in English			1,720 ( 570)
Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English			1,140 ( 0)
Calcutta ANANDA BAZAR PATRIKA in Bengali			0 ( 0)
Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English			1,400 ( 2,870)
Madras THE HINDU in English			0 ( 1,700)
Delhi Domestic Service in Bengali	60 ( 0)		
<u>INDONESIA</u>			
Jakarta International Service in English	2,210 ( 1,630)		
Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian	6,940 ( 16,150)		
Jakarta BERITA BUANA in Indonesian			0 ( 0)
Jakarta JAKARTA POST in English			770 ( 0)
Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian			420 ( 980)
Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian			0 ( 300)
Jakarta TEMPO in Indonesian			0 ( 0)
Jakarta THE INDONESIA TIMES in English			0 ( 0)
Jakarta ANTARA in Indonesian		860 ( 120)	
Jakarta Domestic Service in English	330 ( 0)		
<u>KAMPUCHEA</u>			
Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian	32,440 ( 28,540)		
Phnom Penh SPK in English		4,830 ( 4,450)	
Phnom Penh SPK in French		12,850 ( 13,520)	

	<u>BROADCASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLICATIONS</u>
<u>KAMPUCHEA (continued)</u>			
Phnom Penh SPK in French to KPL Vientiane	0 ( 0)		
Phnom Penh VNA in Vietnamese to VNA Hanoi	0 ( 0)		
<u>LAOS</u>			
Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao	15,360 ( 18,250)		
Vientiane KPL in English		14,140 ( 7,490)	
Vientiane KPL in English/French to SPK Phnom Penh		0 ( 0)	
Vientiane SPK in French to SPK Phnom Penh		0 ( 0)	
Vientiane VNA in Vietnamese to VNA Hanoi		0 ( 0)	
Vientiane PASASON in Lao			0 ( 0)
<u>MALAYSIA</u>			
Kuala Lumpur International Service in English	6,170 ( 4,130)		
Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English	3,810 ( 3,240)		
Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in Malay	0 ( 0)		
Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English			2,020 ( 2,860)
Kuala Lumpur NEW SUNDAY TIMES in English			0 ( 0)
<u>NEPAL</u>			
Katmandu External Service in English	610 ( 1,800)		
Katmandu THE RISING NEPAL in English			620 ( 0)
<u>PAKISTAN</u>			
Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu	900 ( 1,270)		
Karachi Domestic Service in English	9,770 ( 10,470)		
Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu	15,750 ( 16,590)		
<u>SINGAPORE</u>			
Singapore Domestic Service in English	2,090 ( 2,340)		
Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English			1,090 ( 0)
Singapore THE SUNDAY TIMES in English			0 ( 0)
<u>SRI LANKA</u>			
Colombo International Service in English	1,210 ( 5,980)		
Colombo Domestic Service in English	2,710 ( 15,260)		
Colombo DAILY NEWS in English			610 ( 0)
Colombo THE SUN in English			3,840 ( 4,920)
Colombo WEEKEND in English			0 ( 0)
Colombo International Service in Hindi	390 ( 0)		

	<u>BROADCASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLICATIONS</u>
<u>THAILAND</u>			
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English	1,830 ( 4,650)		
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai	2,430 ( 2,380)		
Bangkok Domestic Service in English	1,750 ( 760)		
Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai	12,570 ( 9,760)		
Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English			23,870 ( 31,870)
Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English			5,340 ( 6,310)
Bangkok LAK THAI in Thai			0 ( 0)
Bangkok MATICHON in Thai			2,410 ( 1,170)
Bangkok MATICHON WEEKEND in Thai			0 ( 0)
Bangkok MATUPHUM in Thai			4,870 ( 4,260)
Bangkok PATINYA in Thai			0 ( 350)
Bangkok SIAM MAI in Thai			0 ( 2,460)
Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai			530 ( 610)
Bangkok SU ANAKHOT in Thai			0 ( 0)
Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai			0 ( 840)
Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English			20,420 ( 29,580)
<u>UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS</u>			
Moscow in Bengali to Bangladesh	0 ( 0)		
Moscow in Burmese to Burma	0 ( 540)		
Moscow in Cambodian to Kampuchea	0 ( 0)		
Moscow in Hindi to India	1,170 ( 1,020)		
Moscow in Indonesian to Indonesia	0 ( 0)		
Moscow in Lao to Laos	0 ( 0)		
Moscow in Thai to Thailand	0 ( 0)		
Moscow in Urdu to India	0 ( 0)		
Moscow in Urdu to Pakistan	0 ( 340)		
Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Indonesian to Indonesia	0 ( 0)		
<u>VIETNAM</u>			
Hanoi International Service in Cambodian	0 ( 0)		
Hanoi International Service in English	8,050 ( 7,580)		
Hanoi International Service in Thai	1,720 ( 820)		
Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese	78,090 ( 54,070)		
Hanoi VNA in English		7,920 ( 1,690)	
Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese to NHAN DAN Ho Chi Minh City		0 ( 0)	
Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese			25,410 ( 18,890)
Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese			2,440 ( 0)
Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese			13,730 ( 0)

NOTE: Figures in parentheses are from preceding month