

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET				
SUBJECT: (Optional) Monthly Report -- Bangkok Bureau				
FROM: Chief, Operations Group		EXTENSION 3-5991	NO. DATE September 1987	
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. C/Ops	22 Oct		B J	
2.				
3. C/E&PS	23 Oct		J	
4. DD/FBIS	14/23		C	
5. D/FBIS	26 Oct 87		Ru	
6.				
7. PO/RA	10/26		Don	
8. SA/CD	10/27		Est	
9.				
10. C/AS	27 Oct		OS	
11.	28/10			
12. C/AG	↓		↓	
13. Admin Staff			ST	
14. C/B&F				
15. Exec. Reg.				

5 October 1987
MBK-7018

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service
THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT : Monthly Report -- Bangkok Bureau --September 1987

I. GENERAL

1. The centennial of Thai-Japan relations was marked by an exchange of visits by Japanese Prime Minister Nakasone and Thai Crown Prince Maha Wachiralongkon and live tv linkups between the two countries on 26 September, during which the Thai and Japanese prime ministers exchanged platitudes on the Bangkok end and the crown princes of Japan and Thailand did likewise from Tokyo. However, what should have been a festive occasion ended with the Thai crown prince cutting short his 8-day visit by 3 days, claiming "important duties waiting in Bangkok," and the Thai Foreign Ministry demanding an official apology from the Japanese Government on 2 October for the "inappropriate treatment" accorded the crown prince during his visit. While the Foreign Ministry refused to divulge just what the inappropriate treatment entailed, Bangkok newspaper columnists alleged that two of the incidents that upset the prince consisted of his Japanese chauffeur making an unscheduled pit stop alongside the road while driving him to an official function and the fact that the Japanese had scheduled a visit for him to a temple for married Buddhist monks.

*Nature
1st part
24/1
B*

2. A missing U.S. veteran of the Vietnam war and a private group led by former U.S. Congressman William Hendon seeking information on MIA's in Laos resulted in a number of phone calls from the embassy to the bureau on the former and the Thai Government expressing its displeasure on the latter. The first report of the missing American surfaced on AFP on 11 September, citing Kyodo, but Okinawa Bureau had monitored no such report. It was not until the Phnom Penh press agency officially announced on 22 September that it had arrested the former soldier on 2 May that the bureau was able to satisfy embassy consumers.

In the second instance, a private group of Americans led by the former congressman arrived in Bangkok on 16 September planning to release helium-filled balloons along the Thai-Lao border containing messages offering \$2.4 million in rewards for a live U.S. POW. The Thai authorities vetoed the plan in the interest of Thai-Lao relations, but did allow the group to put the messages in plastic bags and float them down the Mekong River. However, this didn't stop the Laotians from charging the Thais with conducting

psychological warfare and accusing the United States of saying one thing and doing another as regards the MIA issue.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. With the exception of one editor on R&R, one monitor on A/L, and one teleop on extended sick leave, all bureau personnel have completed their computer training in the FBA-1 system. Initial Operational Capability (IOC) of the new system was achieved on 30 September and it has been functioning smoothly since then. One LEC trainer will remain at the bureau an additional week to train the editors in communications procedures so that they can backstop the teleops as necessary.

2. The Lao Unit, reduced to just two men with the retirement earlier in the month of one of its senior monitors, exerted a tremendous effort in covering the Lao National Front Congress 9-11 September, processing some 30 takes of speeches alone. They were ably assisted by a Thai monitor with rusty Lao capability, who was able to do the Lao program summaries, thereby allowing his colleagues to concentrate on the congress material. BBC expressed its appreciation for an out-of-turn excerpt on foreign policy from Kayson Phomvihan's speech at the congress, stating that it was "just what the newsroom needed."

3. Vietnam's various announcements 16-18 September on the release of military and civilian personnel of the Saigon regime from reeducation camps initially led to a great deal of confusion among consumers as to just how many detainees remained in the camps. The first English report maintained that 90,000 were still being held, but further reports stated that was the figure in 1975, and that only about one percent of that number were still being detained.

4. Vietnamese unit chief [] was called upon to give a crash course in Vietnamese economic terms to a newly arrived embassy political officer only recently assigned to the Indochina desk. STAT

B. Cruising

1. An HF-cruising survey was conducted in Chiang Mai Province 14-18 September by staff cruiser [] and local satellite cruiser [] to check out the radio reception in that area and to provide cruising survey training for []. Although reception at Chiang Mai proved to be no better than at the bureau in every case but one--Colombo International Service in Hindi--the survey did enhance [] cruising experience. STAT

C. Lateral Services

1. At the embassy political section's request, London was

asked to provide a series of articles on Vietnam from the Daily Telegraph.

2. At VOA's request, AG was asked to provide a copy of Cambodia's August 1984 National Reconciliation Policy.

3. The Defense Attache's office at the embassy was put on local distribution for all incoming and outgoing material on Cambodia at its request.

D. Technical

1. At Hong Kong Bureau's request, the bureau phone-patched it the audio portion of its Philippines' Quezon City RPN 9 Television cast to determine the cast's reception there in the event of future Philippine crises in which a Tagalog language capability would be necessary to translate significant items. The test was a complete success. *

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

1. The bureau chief gave a short talk on the FBIS Bangkok Bureau at the Mission Orientation Program on 10 September. Attending the two-day session were [redacted]

STAT
STAT

2. On 30 September, a number of bureau personnel attended a farewell luncheon and office sendoff for [redacted] contractors [redacted] who have worked on a part-time basis at the bureau for the past 12 years. With the advent of FBA-1 and the resultant reduction in teletype and Extel equipment, we no longer have a need for their services.

STAT
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STAT

3. On 24 September, the bureau hosted a luncheon for [redacted] at the seafood restaurant in the Ambassador Hotel. [redacted]

STAT
STAT

Unfortunately, his gift, a golfbag, has not arrived yet.

*from where?
Sears?*

B. Building and Grounds

1. Contracts were let to local companies to install new carpeting in the bureau and to completely remodel the kitchen.

STAT
STAT

2. The service road on the west side of the main building at Bang Ping was resurfaced this reporting period.

IV. VISITS

1. [redacted], AG division chief, visited the bureau 20-23 September for discussions on AG-related coverage. STAT

2. ADD FBA Segment Manager [redacted] and LEC project manager [redacted] departed 1 October after declaring IOC the previous day. STAT
STAT

3. [redacted] Okinawa Bureau engineer, visited Bangkok Bureau 13-17 September to observe FBA-1 and the Direct Dial system (which did not work). STAT

4. Headquarters analyst [redacted] visited the bureau 23 September for a briefing and tour. STAT

[redacted]

Chief, Bangkok Bureau

BANGKOK BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 1987

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	651,460
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	230,690
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	1,219

	<u>BROAD-CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI-CATION</u>
II. <u>INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:</u> (minutes or issues per week)	21,748 min.	36,450 min.	227.00 issues
III. <u>OUTPUT FROM ROSET SOURCES:</u> (publishable words per month)			

INDIA

Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English	620		
Delhi Domestic Service in English	36,180		

INDONESIA

Jakarta ANTARA in English		6,800	
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MALAYSIA

Kuala Lumpur RTM Television Network 1 in Malay	2,470		
Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English		9,070	

PHILIPPINES

Quezon City RPN 9 Television in English	9,050		
Manila AITV RFO Television Feed in English to Paris	430		
Manila PNA in English		2,160	

SRI LANKA

Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English		15,270	
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	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
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IV. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:
(publishable words per month)

AUSTRALIA

Melbourne Overseas Service in English	26,580		
Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English			3,120
Sydney THE BULLETIN in English			0
Sydney THE WEEKEND AUSTRALIAN in English			0

BANGLADESH

Dhaka Overseas Service in English	550		
Dhaka Domestic Service in English	2,540		
Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali	0		
Dhaka BSS in English		0	
Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English			620
Dhaka SANGBAD in Bengali			620

BRUNEI

Kuala Belait THE BORNEO BULLETIN in English			0
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BURMA

Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese	5,500		
Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English			1,080
Rangoon BOTATAUNG in Burmese			0
Rangoon LOKTHA PYEITHU NEZIN in Burmese			260
Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese			0

CAMBODIA

Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian	14,860		
Phnom Penh SPK in English		12,690	
Phnom Penh SPK in French to KPL Vientiane		0	
Phnom Penh SPK in French		6,490	

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>CAMBODIA (continued)</u>			
Phnom Penh VNA in Vietnamese to VNA Hanoi		0	
Phnom Penh VNA in French to VNA Hanoi		0	
<u>CHINA</u>			
Beijing International Service in Bengali	0		
Beijing International Service in Burmese	430		
Beijing International Service in Indonesian	740		
Beijing International Service in Lao	0		
Beijing International Service in Thai	0		
Beijing in Cambodian to Cambodia	6,110		
Beijing in Hindi to India	0		
Beijing in Malay to Malaysia	1,610		
Beijing in Urdu to India and Pakistan	430		
Beijing International Service in Vietnamese	550		
<u>CLANDESTINE</u>			
(Clandestine) Voice of Tamil Eelam in English	0		
(Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian	12,860		
(Clandestine) Voice of Malayan Democracy in Malay	0		
(Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian	6,350		
(Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian	3,830		
(Clandestine) Voice of the People of Burma in Burmese	650		
(Clandestine) Voice of Tamil Eelam in Tamil	0		
<u>HONG KONG</u>			
Hong Kong AFP in English		53,580	
<u>INDIA</u>			
Delhi General Overseas Service in English	2,890		

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>INDIA</u> (continued)			
Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English	620		
Delhi Domestic Service in English	36,180		
Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English		50	
Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English			0
Delhi PATRIOT in English			0
Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in English			5,100
Delhi INDIA TODAY in English			1,240
Calcutta ANANDA BAZAR PATRIKA in Bengali			0
<u>INDONESIA</u>			
Jakarta International Service in English	1,490		
Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian	4,400		
Jakarta ANTARA in English		6,800	
Jakarta JAKARTA POST in English			1,640
Jakarta THE INDONESIA TIMES in English			0
Jakarta BERITA BUANA in Indonesian			1,020
Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian			440
Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian			780
Jakarta TEMPO in Indonesian			0
Jakarta SUARA PEMBARUAN in Indonesian			300
<u>LAOS</u>			
Vientiane Domestic Service in Laos	56,790		
Vientiane KPL in English		34,000	
Vientiane KPL in English to SPK Phnom Penh			0
Vientiane KPL in French to SPK Phnom Penh			0
Vientiane SPK in French to SPK Phnom Penh			0
Vientiane VNA in Vietnamese to VNA Hanoi			0
Vientiane PASASON in Lao			420

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>LAOS</u> (continued)			
Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao			0
<u>MALAYSIA</u>			
Kuala Lumpur International Service in English	5,270		
Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English	2,100		
Kuala Lumpur RTM Television Network 1 in Malay	2,470		
Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English		9,070	
Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English			0
Kuala Lumpur NEW SUNDAY TIMES in English			0
Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay			340
Kuala Lumpur BERITA MINGGU in Malay			0
Kuala Lumpur MINGGUAN MALAYSIA in Malay			0
Kuala Lumpur UTUSAN MALAYSIA in Malay			700
<u>NEPAL</u>			
Kathmandu External Service in English	480		
Kathmandu THE RISING NEPAL in English			0
<u>NEW ZEALAND</u>			
Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English			0
Wellington THE EVENING POST in English			0
<u>PAKISTAN</u>			
Karachi Overseas Service in English	1,960		
Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu	0		
Karachi Domestic Service in English	5,340		
Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu	12,090		
Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English			1,250
Karachi DAWN in English			1,700
Rawalpindi HAIDER in Urdu			650

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>PAKISTAN</u> (continued)			
Lahore JANG in Urdu			0
Karachi NAWA-I WAQT in Urdu			0
<u>PHILIPPINES</u>			
Quezon City RPN 9 Television in English	9,050		
Manila AITV RFO Television Feed in English to Paris	430		
Manila PNA in English		2,160	
<u>SINGAPORE</u>			
Singapore Domestic Service in English	430		
Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English			4,010
Singapore THE SUNDAY TIMES in English			360
<u>SRI LANKA</u>			
Colombo International Service in English	2,580		
Colombo Domestic Service in English		0	
Colombo Domestic Service in Tamil		0	
Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English		15,270	
Colombo DAILY NEWS in English			0
Colombo SUN in English			820
Colombo WEEKEND in English			0
<u>THAILAND</u>			
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English	580		
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Cambodian		0	
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Lao		0	
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai	4,650		
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Vietnamese		0	
Bangkok Domestic Service in English	3,030		
Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai	3,940		

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>THAILAND (continued)</u>			
Bangkok First Army Division Radio in Thai	3,360		
Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai	2,100		
Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English			18,900
Bangkok THE NATION in English			41,940
Bangkok KHAO PHISSET in Thai			2,370
Bangkok LAK THAI in Thai			0
Bangkok MATICHON in Thai			6,590
Bangkok MATICHON SUT SAPDA in Thai			0
Bangkok NAEO NA in Thai			1,360
Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai			2,050
Bangkok SIAM RAT SAPDA WICHAN in Thai			0
Bangkok SU ANAKHOT in Thai			1,320
Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai			490
Bangkok ZHONG HUA RIBAO in Chinese			190
Bangkok XING XIAN RIBAO in Chinese			0
Bangkok XIN ZHONG YUAN RIBAO in Chinese			0
<u>UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS</u>			
Moscow International Service in Tamil		0	
Moscow International Service in Vietnamese		780	
Moscow in Bengali to Bangladesh		0	
Moscow in Burmese to Burma		0	
Moscow in Cambodian to Cambodia		0	
Moscow in Hindi to India		1,310	
Moscow in Indonesian to Indonesia		650	
Moscow in Lao to Laos		0	
Moscow in Thai to Thailand		0	
Moscow in Urdu to India		0	

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS (continued)</u>			
Moscow in			
Urdu to Pakistan	0		
Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in			
Indonesian	0		
<u>UNITED KINGDOM</u>			
London BBC World Service in			
English	0		
<u>VIETNAM</u>			
Hanoi International Service in			
English	6,310		
Hanoi International Service in			
Cambodian	0		
Hanoi International Service in			
Thai	500		
Hanoi Domestic Service in			
Vietnamese	110,320		
Hanoi NHAN DAN in			
Vietnamese			5,970
Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in			
Vietnamese			1,830
Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in			
Vietnamese			8,810
Hanoi TAP CHI QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in			
Vietnamese			4,690
Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in			
Vietnamese			1,680
Hanoi SU THAT PUBLISHING HOUSE in			
Vietnamese			21,000