

FBIS-1104/87

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence  
THROUGH: Deputy Director for Science and Technology  
FROM:   
Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service  
SUBJECT: DI Foreign Television Collection Requirements  
REFERENCE: Your Memo for DDS&T, dtd 19 Nov 86, Same Subject

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1. We appreciate receiving the restatement of Directorate of Intelligence requirements for foreign television. Given the significant resources and personnel that FBIS is devoting to television collection, we welcome and encourage such expressions of interest as a means to focus our efforts for the maximum benefit. FBIS officers have been working closely with OIR's Information Services Division and Visual Media Branch to respond to these requirements as fully as possible.

#### Present Capabilities

2. In addition to the television FBIS has been providing from the Langley dish, the "Cities" program, and the Video Selection List process, since 12 January INTERNET has been in operation providing Moscow and Tripoli newscasts live to the OIR TV grid, as well as responding to ad hoc requests. BBC newscasts will be added as soon as questions of copyright/political sensitivities are resolved through the encoding of INTERNET signals. We hope to accomplish this within the next several months.

3. Once the current frequency allocation issue is resolved and Panama Bureau is able to join the INTERNET system, that bureau will be able to provide real-time relays from Portugal, Mexico, Argentina, and Chile and expand our capability to respond to ad hoc situations.

#### Future Considerations

4. While FBIS will continue to make every effort to increase its television output, prospects are clouded by operational, technical, and budgetary considerations.

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5. Your officers have made West Europe a high-priority target, but there is only a very limited amount of West European television presently available from either satellite or direct monitoring at our bureaus. Plans by some European countries to launch direct broadcast satellites in 1987 have been announced, but it is difficult to predict how much TV will ultimately be on satellite and when. Plans in Europe to encode satellite TV broadcasts also raise questions about the future monitoring of domestic TV services. We are presently investigating various ways in which we might be able to acquire additional West European television, possibly through subscribing to the Belgian cable TV network, which carries stations France, West Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, and UK, as well as Belgium. Real-time relays would require an INTERNET capability, either at a new FBIS facility or through some other arrangement.

6. Our future planning includes a Phase II of INTERNET, which would provide real-time relays of Japan and PRC TV, but we do not foresee implementing this phase in the near term due to budget constraints. Prospects for acquiring real-time delivery of regular TV programming from other priority countries listed in your memo (North Korea, South Korea, Philippines, Nicaragua, South Africa) are more remote since their domestic television services are not monitorable from any of our present or projected ROSET or INTERNET sites. Expansion of the "Cities" program to provide East European television is possible, but the required high expenditure of resources does not appear to be warranted by the low priority assigned by your officers. This requirement will need further discussion.

English-language Synopses/Translations

7. We have a cadre of officers with the necessary language skills and experience able to provide translation support as required. After our relocation in Reston, our INTERNET Control Center will be the focal point for analysts to request such processing. This has been discussed and coordinated with the TV representatives of your various offices, including OCPAS and the DI TV Center, and they agree that this is an acceptable arrangement.

Coordination on Requirements

8. We will continue to work closely with your offices to ensure that we collectively respond to your requirements in the most cost

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effective manner. I will continue to meet periodically with D/OIR to present our plans and to discuss anticipated changes to your requirements.



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Distribution:

- Orig - Addressee
- 2 - DDS&T
- 1 - DDS&T Registry
- 7 - Retained in FBIS
  - ✦ - D/FBIS Chrono
  - 1 - RWM Corres File
  - 1 - FBIS/Registry (Clay)
  - 1 - Distribution Copy
  - 1 - C/Ops
  - 1 - C/MOD
  - 1 - C/ICCS