



-- Proposal for --

Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin

Germany

October 9th, 2018

About NewsBank & Readex

NewsBank, inc. is one of the world's premier information providers. Over the past forty years, NewsBank has developed comprehensive web-based research products that satisfy the diverse needs of public libraries, government libraries, academic libraries, school libraries, professionals, students and researchers. NewsBank has developed partnerships with leading content providers worldwide in order to build the largest collection of general news sources from the around the world, delivered in a cost effective and easy-to-use solution.

Readex is a division of NewsBank, and provides historical collections of newspapers, imprints, books, ephemera and government publications. Academic librarians, faculty and scholars recognize Readex for its efforts to transform research in the humanities and social sciences and to dramatically reshape the study and teaching of centuries of history, political science, literature, culture and daily life.

About Foreign Broadcast Information Services



Foreign Broadcast Information Services (FBIS) has been the principal historical record of global open source intelligence for more than half a century. The original mission of the FBIS was to monitor, record, transcribe and translate intercepted radio broadcasts from foreign governments, official news services, and clandestine broadcasts from occupied territories. The mandate expanded to include all forms of media, and eventually grew to become the largest single repository of news as it was originally published around the world. Accordingly, the resource provides a wealth of information from all countries outside of the U.S.—from Afghanistan to Zimbabwe.

Origins of the Foreign Broadcast Information Service

The Foreign Broadcast Monitoring Service was established during World War II to create daily reports of recordings, translations, transcriptions and analyses of foreign media broadcasts. These daily reports were collected from around the world and used by allied governments and the US intelligence community to understand what governments were telling its people. Following WWII, the FBIS expanded to cover more than 90 countries worldwide, reporting on daily events in both friendly and hostile nations and became a critical resource for open source intelligence at the height of the Cold War and beyond. FBIS continued its mandate until 1996, when the internet made the collection of such material largely redundant, and the responsibilities for collecting open source media fell to NTIS, as published in the World News connection (now defunct).

Legacy of the Foreign Broadcast Information Service

When FBIS closed its doors in 1996, it left behind a **massive archive** of daily news and analysis reported as it happened, all translated into English. But each FBIS office not only reported on events in its own host country, it reported on events happening in other countries as well, in many cases offering a significantly different perspective on what was really happening. As a result, this tremendous archive gives researchers a new ability to trace the genesis of many events we're facing today, and most importantly, to better understand "**Who Knew What, When Did They Know It, and What Happened As a Result?**" Researchers are able to track back the origins of many issues we still deal with today, from the Arab Spring to the economic crises impacting the global economy, terrorism, Immigration & Migration, the rise of China, the Ukrainian revolt, just to name a few.

More than 1,000 institutions worldwide have since acquired and put FBIS to great use to support both undergraduate research and postgraduate theses research in the fields of Asian Studies, Middle Eastern Studies, African Studies, Latin American Studies, Political Science, International Relations, Journalism & Media Studies and Economics.

The Collection

FBIS is offered as a complete collection (1941-1996), or as individual modules following the original FBIS classification:

- 1941-1974 Global Archive
- Region 1: Middle East, Africa, Near East and South Asia (1974-1996)
- Region 2: Sub-Saharan Africa & South Asia (1974-1996)
- Region 3: China (1974-1996)
- Region 4: Asia, Pacific and East Asia (1974-1996)
- Region 5: Latin America (1974-1996)
- Region 6: Eastern Europe (1974-1996)
- Region 7: Soviet Union and Central Eurasia (1974-1996)
- Region 8: Western Europe (1974-1996)
- Annexes

Sample Events covered

Foreign Broadcast Information Services (1941-1996) covers key events in history, both major and minor, primarily in politics, military issues, economics, cultural events and sociology. Some sample events include:

1943 - Warsaw Ghetto Uprising

1943 - Battle of Kursk

1945- End of World War II

1947 - Polish elections bring Communists to power

1947 - Hungarian elections

1947 - 1949 - Indian constitution debated, ratified

1948 - 1949 - First Arab-Israel War

1948 - Suicide of Czech Foreign Minister Jan Masaryk after Communist takeover

1948 - Gandhi assassinated

1952 - Rudolf Slansky show trial in Czechoslovakia

1953 - Protests in East Germany

1953 - Germany makes reparations to Israel

1956 - Protests, strikes in Poznan, Poland

1956 - Hungarian Revolution

1956 - Suez Crisis

1957 - Sputnik launched
1961 - Berlin Wall construction begins
1962 - Cuban missile crisis
1964 - Coup in Brazil
1965- Singapore becomes a republic
1966 - 1976 - Chinese Cultural Revolution
1969 - International response to moon landing
1975 - Franco's death starts the transition to democracy in Spain
1974 - Turkish troops invade Cyprus
1975 - 1979 Jewish settlements expand in Palestinian territories
1975 - 1979 Refugees stream from Indochina in aftermath of Vietnam War
1976 - Mao Zedong dies
1976 - 1980 Gang of Four overthrown in China
1977 - Czech dissidents call for civil freedoms in Charter 77
1978 - Karol Wojtyla, Cardinal of Krakow (Poland) is elected Pope
1979 - The Soviet Union invades Afghanistan
1979 - Margaret Thatcher is elected
1979 - Saddam Hussein comes to power in Iraq
1980 - Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito dies
1980 - 1989 "One-child" population control policy is imposed in China
1982 - Bulgarian involvement is asserted in assassination attempt on Pope John Paul II
1983 - New South African constitution exacerbates apartheid tensions
1984 - Polish intelligence agents abduct, torture and kill dissident priest Jerzy Popieluszko
1984 - Sino-British accord to return Hong Kong to China
1985 - 1989 "Bulgarization" of Turkish minority in Bulgaria, including forced name changes and violence
1985 - The French blow up the Greenpeace boat, the Rainbow Warrior
1989 - "Velvet Revolution" ousts Communists in Czechoslovakia; Vaclav Havel becomes president

1989 - Nicolae Ceausescu of Romania is overthrown and executed
1989 - Two million people form human chain across Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania to foster Baltic independence from Soviet Union
1989 - Tiananmen Square protests and massacre in China
1989 - Berlin Wall falls
1989 - 1990 - Brazil and other Amazon Basin countries, under international pressure, step up rainforest protection efforts
1990 - Nelson Mandela is released after 27 years in prison
1990 - Lech Walesa becomes first popularly elected president of Poland
1990 - 1996 HIV/AIDS epidemic grows in China
1990 - 1996 Roma (Gypsies) struggle with discrimination throughout Eastern Europe
1990 - East and West Germany are reunited
1990-1991- Persian Gulf War
1990 - Benazir Bhutto forced out of office in Pakistan
1991 - Fourteen Lithuanian independence activists die defending Vilnius TV tower from Soviet troops
1991 - Leaders of Russia, Ukraine and Belarus dissolve the treaty that created the USSR
1992 - Brazil hosts UN Earth Summit at Rio de Janeiro
1992- 1993 - Velvet Divorce: Czechoslovakia splits into Czech Republic and Slovakia
1992 - 1993 NAFTA is signed and ratified
1994 - Genocide in Rwanda
1994 - Nelson Mandela is elected President of South Africa
1994 - Jordan and Israel sign peace treaty
1994 - Fernando Cardoso's "Real Plan" tames inflation in Brazil and wins him its presidency
1994 - 1996 - The Taliban rises to power in Afghanistan
1995 - Ebola in Zaire
1996 - South Africa approves new constitution