## Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS) Daily Report

## An Online Database Brought to you by JISC Collections



## A Tutorial and Review by the History Subject Centre

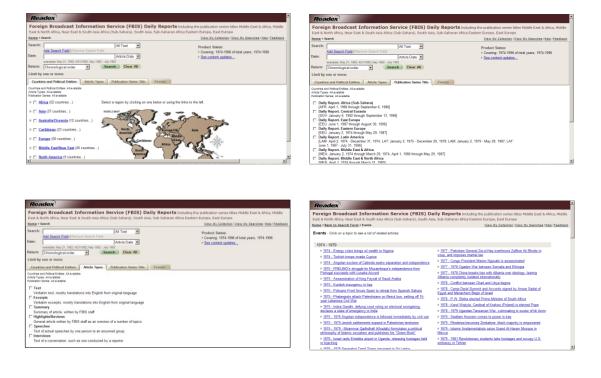
JISC Collections has recently purchased a new collection of primary source material on behalf of the UK academic community. This searchable, online archive contains hundreds of thousands of pages of foreign press materials, news transmissions and radio broadcasts from the years 1974 to 1996.

According to the JISC description, this material, "taken from *The Daily Report*, issued by the U.S. Foreign Broadcast Information Service, has been the fundamental record of political and historical open source intelligence for the United States government for nearly 70 years."

The digital edition includes transcripts of broadcasts and news from around the world, translated into English. These reports are organized by geographic location and JISC Collections has acquired the following regions: the Middle East and North Africa; South Asia; Sub-Saharan Africa; and Eastern Europe (EEU).

In terms of usability, this service provide a simple search engine interface similar to those used in online journal repositories and is easily navigable to those with basic to intermediate ICT literacy. It also offers more advanced search criteria, such as BOOLEAN and proximity indicators to eliminate irrelevant hits.

When you first enter the site, you are presented with a standard search box, which you can filter by date, country or region, type of document, publication title, or a specific event. This last option is particularly useful when keyword searching would be imprecise.



To demonstrate how to use this site, let us start with an event: The Assassination of King Faysal of Saudi Arabia in March 1975.

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-	aily <b>Reports</b> Including the publication series titles Middle East & Africa, Middle
ast & North Africa, Near East & South Asia Africa (Sub-Sahara), South Asi	a, Sub-Saharan Africa Eastern Europe, East Europe
ome > <u>Back to Search Form</u> > Events	View My Collection   View My Searches   Help   Feedback
vents - Click on a topic to see a list of related articles	
1974 - 1979	
1974 - Energy crisis brings oil wealth to Nigeria	1977 - Pakistani General Zia-ul-Hag overthrows Zulfikar Ali Bhutto in
1974 - Turkish troops invade Cyprus	coup, and imposes martial law
1974 - Angolan exclave of Cabinda seeks separation and independence	<u>1977 - Congo President Marien Ngouabi is assassinated</u>
1975 - FRELIMO's struggle for Mozambique's independence from	1977 - 1978 Ogaden War between Somalia and Ethiopia
Portugal succeeds with Lusaka Accord	<ul> <li>1977 - 1978 China breaks ties with Albania over ideology, leaving Albania completely isolated internationally</li> </ul>
1975 - Assassination of King Faysal of Saudi Arabia	
1975 - Kurdish insurgency in Iraq	1978 - Conflict between Chad and Libya begins
1975 - Polisario Front forces Spain to retreat from Spanish Sahara	<ul> <li><u>1978 - Camp David Summit and Accords signed by Anwar Sadat of</u> Egypt and Menachem Begin of Israel</li> </ul>
<ul> <li><u>1975 - Phalangists attack Palestinians on Beirut bus, setting off 15- year Lebanese Civil War</u></li> </ul>	<ul> <li><u>1978 - P.W. Botha elected Prime Minister of South Africa</u></li> </ul>
1975 - Indira Gandhi, defying court ruling on electoral wrongdoing.	1978 - Karol Wojtyla, Cardinal of Krakow (Poland) is elected Pope
declares a state of emergency in India	1978 - 1979 Ugandan-Tanzanian War, culminating in ouster of Idi Amin
1975 - 1976 Angolan independence is followed immediately by civil war	1979 - Saddam Hussein comes to power in Iraq
1975 - 1979 Jewish settlements expand in Palestinian territories	1979 - Rhodesia becomes Zimbabwe: black majority is empowered
1975 - 1979 - Moammar Qadhdhafi (Khadafy) formulates a political philosophy of Islamic socialism and publishes his "Green Book"	1979 - Islamic fundamentalists seize Grand Al-Haram Mosque in Mecca
<ul> <li><u>1976 - Israel raids Entebbe airport in Uganda, releasing hostages held</u> in hijacking</li> </ul>	<ul> <li><u>1979 - 1981 Revolutionary students take hostages and occupy U.S.</u> embassy in Tehran</li> </ul>

After clicking on an event, you are presented with a list of texts and reports, listed in chronological order. You can either chose to view the particular article (View Article) or see it in the context of its original page (View Full Page). The first article is a report from the Middle East News Agency in Cairo. If we click on (View Article) we can see the MENA's report, translated from Arabic.

Readex		Foreign Broadcast	Information Service (FBIS) Daily Reports	2
Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS) Daily Reports Indudi	ng the publication series titles Middle East & Middle	Home > Back to Search Form	>Events > Results > Result 1 of 134  Previous Next )	View My Collection   View My Searches   Help   Feedback
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Events - 1975 - Assassination of Hing Laysan of Outer Prasia		& NORTH AFRICA	DAILY REPORT. MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA, FBIS-MEA-75-058 on 25 Mail	
Results: 1 - 10 of 134	Hide Preview	EBIS	Under the heading(s): REPORTAGE ON ARAB LEAGUE FOREIGN MINISTERS [ [Page A13]	MEETING, INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS
	-	Table of Contents	Compilation Copyright © 2007 NewsBank, Inc. All Rights Reserved	
Page: 12345 Last Next>		INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS	Compilation Copyright & 2007 Newadank, Inc. An rights New You	Article Bookmark Export Citation Email
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Under the heading(s): REPORTAGE ON ARAB		E Page A5		
LEAGUE FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING, INTER-		E Page A6		
ARAB AFFAIRS				
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		Page A8		
2. Cairo MENA - 25 March 1975	LONDING IMAGE PREVIEW.	E Page A9		
Added Details As published in:		E Page A10		
DAILY REPORT MIDDLE EAST & NORTH		Page A11	-1	
AFRICA,		E Page A12	Reaction to Paysal	Death
FBIS-MEA-75-058 on 25 March 1975		E Page A13	*	
Under the heading(s): REPORTAGE ON ARAB			Cairo MENA in Arabic 1140 GMT 25 Mar 75 JN	ě.
LEAGUE FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING, INTER- ARAB AFFAIRS		Isma'il Fahmi Addresses		
View Article View Full Page Add to My Collection		Reaction to Faysal Death	[ [Text] Cairo, 25 March The Arab League Council a	
		Added Details	hearing the news of the death of King Paysal of Sa	audi Arabia. The Council will soon issue
		M AGORG CHINE	a statement on this regrettable news.	

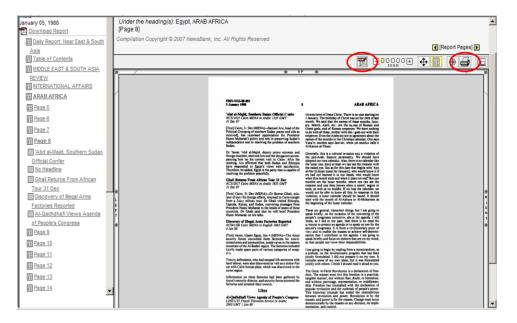
You can also search for specific material types, for example, speeches made between 1988 and 1990.

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Limit by one or more: Countries and Political Entities Article Types Publication Series Title Events	
Countries and Political Entities: All available Article Types: Speeches Publication Series: All available	
Text     Verbatim text, mostly translations into English from original language     Excerpts     Verbatim excerpts, mostly translations into English from original language     Summary     Summary of article, written by FBIS staff     Highlight/Reviews	
Canacal anticle written by FBIS staff as an overview of a number of topics Speeches Text of actual speeches by one person to an assumed group	
☐ Interviews Text of a conversation, such as one conducted by a reporter	

Because we did not limit the search by region or keyword, we get a wide variety of hits. Number two, *Al-Qadhdhafi Views Agenda of People's Congress*, for example, may be of particular use to lecturers or students in courses on Northern Africa.

Home > S	search > Results	View My Collection   View My Searches   Help   Feedback
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Article Type	nd Political Entities: All available es: Speeches Series: All available	
Results: 1 -	10 of 2984	Hide Preview
Page: 12	2 3 4 5 20 40 60 80 100 200 Last Next >	
Bongo	ille Africa No 1 - 01 January 1988 Notes Economic Crisis in New Year's Speech published in:	Gabon
FB	ily Report. Africa (Sub-Sahara), IS-AFR-88-001 on 04 January 1988 <i>der the heading(s):</i> Gabon	Bongo Notes Economic Crisis in New Yes ABUI 1847 Libreville Africa No. Lin Franci
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When we *View Full Article*, we are given a complete transcription of Al-Qadhdhafi's speech. The page can now be printed or saved as a PDF



Finally, we can try a Boolean search. In the search box, you can enter keywords as well as the Boolean operators AND, OR, NOT and NEAR. Using NEAR will increase the likelihood of relevant hits by making sure your keywords are in close proximity to each other. For example, we can search for **Reagan NEAR "Berlin Wall".** 

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Add Search Field   Remove Search Field	> Covering: 1974-1996 of total years, 1974-1996 > <u>See content updates</u>	Search: Reagan NEAR "Berlin Wall" All Text  Add Search Field Add Search Field Remove Search Field examples: Nay 21, 1982, 421/1982, Nay 1982 - July 1983 Remote: Clear All Clear	Product Status: > Covering: 1974-1996 of total years, 1974-1996 > See content updates
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📧 🗖 Africa (52 countries) Select a region by clicking on one below or using the links to the	e left.	Results: 1 - 3 of 3	Hide Preview
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Thus, we receive a list of news articles regarding Ronald Reagan's criticism of the Berlin Wall.

Despite its limited timeframe, the collection does provide an extensive collection of primary materials which can be used to study not only modern historical events, but also the perception and portrayal of those events around the world. While more advanced researchers of these regions will likely have the language skills to view this material in its original form, having certified translations of these broadcasts and periodicals can provide undergraduates a way to access the material with fewer secondary filters. Furthermore, the breadth of material leaves little doubt that this collection will be an invaluable resource to seminar tutors of world and regional history as well as undergraduate students working through honours dissertations.

A subscription to this collection is currently available to UK Higher Education Institutions **without charge** until 31 August 2014, though you will have to wait for your institution to submit a hardcopy application to JISC before you can access the site. Further information and subscription details are available at <u>http://www.jisc-</u>collections.ac.uk/catalogue/fbis.

Reviewed November 2009 by Dr Melodee Beals, Academic Coordinator, History at the Higher Education Academy