Quick Facts

A unique 20th-century archive for students and scholars of international studies, political science and world history

Transcripts of foreign broadcasts and news, translated into English

Helps researchers develop a layered understanding of the Cold War, the Soviet Union, China, the Middle East and Latin America

“For decades, FBIS has been indispensable for all serious students of international politics. The new online searchable edition opens new avenues for important research in the social sciences and humanities.”

— Robert A. Pape, Professor of Political Science, University of Chicago

Overview

As the United States’ principal historical record of political open source intelligence for more than half a century, the Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS) Daily Report is an indispensable source for insights into decades of turbulent world history. 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. Accordingly, it provides a wealth of information from all countries outside of the U.S.—from Afghanistan to Zimbabwe.

FBIS Daily Reports, 1941-1974—an essential complement to FBIS Daily Reports, 1974-1996—is an indispensable source for insights into decades of turbulent world history. Full-text searchable for the first time, FBIS Daily Reports, 1941-1974 features individual bibliographic records for each Report and highlighted events to assist student researchers.

Translated materials form a distinctive English-language resource

Without translations, researchers must limit their research projects to primary sources in languages they understand or rely entirely on secondary sources. Translated as needed, these English-language materials—the vast majority of which originated in other languages—constitute a vital resource for students of international and area studies, political science and world history.

A wealth of media reports from every FBIS region

Digitized from original paper copy and high-quality microfilm, this definitive online collection—available exclusively from Readex—features full-text transcripts from Africa, Asia and the Pacific, China, Eastern and Western Europe, Latin America, the Middle East and the Soviet Union.

FBIS Daily Reports, 1941-1974 provides national and occasionally local perspectives on topics related to World War II and the Axis alliance, the new Islamic countries of the Middle East, the creation of Israel, the Berlin Wall, colonialism in Africa, apartheid, the Cold War, the Suez Crisis, the beginning of the Space Age, the Korean and Vietnam Wars, East-West interaction and much more. It also offers views on such figures as Salvador Allende, Fidel Castro, Winston Churchill, Ngo Dinh Diem, François Duvalier, Mohandas Gandhi, Adolf Hitler, Muhammad Ali Jinnah, Ruhollah Khomeini, Nelson Mandela, Imre Nagy, Joseph Stalin, Mao Tse-tung, Chaim Weizmann and many others.