

'Invisible Government' Visible for a Moment

By A. D. Horne

Washington Post Staff Writer

A small part of the "Invisible Government" almost came in from the cold last week.

For years a government agency has monitored broadcasts in foreign countries and made translations available to the press, including to correspondents from the Soviet news agency, Tass.

The only condition was that the correspondents were not to give the name of the monitoring agency even though its initials were printed plainly in the translations shown daily at the State Department.

Last week a reporter noticed a small victory for candor. The daily teletype file broadcasts omitted the

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warning against use of the agency initials. In its place was the message, "FBIS may be cited as the source . . ."

The notice referred to the Foreign Broadcast Information Service, the monitoring agency, which is administered by the Central Intelligence Agency.

A call to CIA confirmed the change. A CIA spokesman said: "It's no secret we monitor everything that falls freely in the air."

But when the FBIS itself was asked, an official said there was no change in policy forbidding identification of FBIS and that the ban would be reimposed—as soon as it was cleared by CIA.