

# **CHAPTER 2**

**A BRIEF HISTORY OF NEWS**

**AGENCY JOURNALISM**

## **A BRIEF HISTORY OF NEWS AGENCY JOURNALISM**

### **2.1 AGENCE HAVAS (CALLED AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE):**

The Agence Havas was established in Paris in 1835. As early as 1825 its founder, Charles Havas had organized a bureau for the sale to private subscribers of news and articles translated from various languages. The first European news agencies were mostly privately owned by and often like Havas. The history of Havas may be traced to its founder, Charles Havas, a former supply officer in Nantes who, from a very early age, recognized the importance of information as a commodity.

While working as a banker and importer in the international cotton trade, Havas gained exposure to the governmental business of translating foreign newspapers, becoming co-proprietor of the newspaper Gazette de France from 1813 to 1815. When Louis-Philippe proclaimed freedom of the press in 1830, Havas was convinced that the traffic of news could be organized and made public. In 1832, Havas founded Bureau Havas in Paris to supply the rapidly growing number of French newspapers with translations of foreign publications. In 1835, he added the service of translating French publications for foreign newspapers and the bureau was renamed Agence Havas, an international press agency from the onset, the agency recognized the importance of being the quickest to supply news to the press and was constantly exploring new methods of transporting information, from carrier pigeons to the electric telegraph. Moreover, Havas founded his company with a belief in cooperating with the government to gain financial support, avoid conflicts, and have exclusive access to governmental information.

This status as official government supplier of news both facilitated the company's enormous success over the following 150 years and caused much corruption, exploitation, and public mistrust of the media until the end of World War II. In 1851, in addition to operating a successful press agency, Havas founded the first publicity agency in France. Despite the limits imposed upon the press under the Second Empire, Havas prospered during the great commercial and industrial expansion of the era.

The company's success and power stemmed from the faith that the French government, business community, and press had in its services, as well as from its

expansion into newspaper circulation, improvements in the telegraph, and the increasing importance of public opinion. In 1862, Auguste Havas finalized an agreement with the Minister of the Interior to make Havas the exclusive diffuser of official news. During this time, Paul-Julius Reuter, a former employee of Havas, opened a press agency in London, and another former Havas worker, Bernhard Wolf, opened a similar office in Berlin. By 1856, Havas, Reuter, and Wolf had signed an accord to exchange information and cooperate to exploit future markets, while still retaining monopolies in their respective regions.

Following attempts by German statesman Otto von Bismarck to retain control of the German-language press, Havas, Reuter, and Wolf signed a new agreement in 1869, establishing new geographic domains for each agency. Wolf controlled Austria, Scandinavia, and Russia, and Reuter covered England, Holland, and their dependencies. France, Italy, Spain, and Portugal became the domain of Havas. Reuter expanded into Australia, Egypt, the Antilles, and the Far East, while Havas established itself in South America and Indochina. Since 1867 when the transatlantic telegraph cable linked London and New York, the United States was declared neutral, with each agency establishing relationships with clients and collecting news independently.

Each agency signed a separate accord with the American Associated Press. The three agencies retained close ties to one another to discourage the foundation of competition. During the Franco-Prussian War, the exchange of news between Havas and Wolf took place through Reuter in London. With the siege of Paris by the Prussians, Auguste Havas installed himself in Tours, and Havas Paris depended upon Gambetta's hot air balloons to communicate the news of the besieged capital to the rest of France and abroad.

The Prussians released falcons to intercept the messenger pigeons used by Havas Paris to get news from Tours. During the Paris Commune of 1871, the insurgents took control of the Havas dispatches. Auguste Havas returned to Paris immediately after the Commune fell. By this time, 24 of 164 parts of Havas's press agency division were controlled by Auguste Havas and his son. The remaining divisions were in the hands of industrialists, politicians, and businessmen, whose connections played a large role in Havas's success.

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## 2.2 REUTERS: HISTORY UP TO THOMSON

Reuters was founded in 1851 by Paul Julius Reuter, born Israel Josaphat a German who started publishing a newssheet in Paris in 1849 (Read, 1992). When the Paris venture failed, he moved to Aachen, a German city close to the borders of the Netherlands and Belgium. There he opened the Institute for Promotion of Telegraphic Dispatches, and used the newly opened Berlin Aachen telegraph line to send news to Berlin.

The Paris Brussels news was still sent by train, however, as there was a 122 km gap in the telegraph line between Aachen and Brussels. Reuter saw an opportunity to expedite the news service between Brussels and Berlin by using homing pigeons to bridge that gap, a device that he probably learned about at Agence Havas in Paris in 1848. The French Agence Havas was the first news agency in the world, and for a long time (until it became the government-sponsored Agence France-Presse, served as a model for Reuters. In 1851, Reuter moved to London. The Submarine Telegraph Company had failed to lay an undersea telegraph cable from Dover to Calais in 1847 and again in 1850, but its 1851 attempt was promising success.

Reuter established an office called Submarine Telegraph in October 1851, a month before the opening of the Channel cable, and negotiated a contract with the London Stock Exchange to provide stock prices from the continental exchanges in return for access to the London prices, which he then supplied to stockbrokers in Paris. In 1857 he became a British citizen. In the same year the British Foreign Secretary awarded him the privilege of receiving copies of Foreign Office telegrams from India, thus providing Reuter with the opportunity to dispatch non-economic news as well. His first scoop was probably the full text of Napoleon III's speech in Paris - telegraphed to London as it was being delivered (Read, 1992: 25). Reuter's company was concerned with commercial news service at its inception, and was headquartered in London, serving banks, brokerage houses, and leading business firms.

The agency expanded steadily, and in 1858 it obtained its first newspaper client, the London Morning Advertiser, and newspapers began to figure ever larger among Reuter's clientele. Nevertheless, the company history is circular in this respect. Especially during the two World Wars, the political and general news dominated the dispatches of Submarine Telegraph. By 1989, however, more than 90 percent of the

company's revenues came from products sold to the financial community (Read, 1992).

In 1865, Julius Reuter's private firm was restructured, and became a limited company called the Reuter's Telegram Company. Reuter was early in seeing possibilities for the telegraph in news reporting, and he built an organization that maintained correspondents throughout the world. The agency quickly generated a reputation in Europe as the first to report news scoops from abroad: the news of Abraham Lincoln's assassination, the death of Gandhi, and the capture of Saddam Hussein. Reuters was also the first to report the Berlin Wall going up and first to report it coming down (Reuters Facts, 2009). The Press Association (PA), an organization representing the provincial press of Great Britain, acquired a majority interest in Reuters in 1925 and full ownership some years later. In 1941 the PA sold half of Reuters to the Newspaper Proprietors' Association, representing Britain's national press, and in 1947 co-ownership was extended to associations representing the daily newspapers of Australia and New Zealand. Reuters had become one of the world's major news agencies, supplying text and images to newspapers, other news agencies, and radio and television broadcasters. Directly or through national news agencies, it provided service to most countries, reaching virtually the entire world's leading newspapers and many thousands of smaller ones. Reuters was always ahead in introducing new technologies.

In 1960, Reuters began to lease a circuit in a new transatlantic coaxial cable. In 1962, the New York bureau transmitted the first Reuters news to London by satellite. In 1963, the International Financial Printer Company in Brussels started dispatching financial news directly to European subscribers. In 1964, Reuters signed a contract with the US Company, Ultronic, to use digital tool company Stock master's so-called slave-memory computers, which are unidirectional controlled by the main computer, to dispatch financial news.

The network was eventually offering over 10,000 stock or commodity prices at push-button command at first in fifteen seconds, later in only two seconds (Read, 1992: 298). In 1970, a screen display a Video master from Ultronic was introduced. In 1973, a new and revolutionary product, Reuter Monitor Money Rates was offered to the clients, allowing foreign exchange traders to insert their rates into the system

themselves. From there, it was but one step to allow the actual dealing, which Reuter Monitor Dealing Service offered in 1981. In 1982, a direct satellite delivery by small dishes (SDS) was introduced. No wonder that by 1989 the technical staff reached 4274 persons, compared to 1640 in Editorial. In 1984, Reuters was floated as a public company on the London Stock Exchange and on the NASDAQ in the US. There were concerns, however, that the company's tradition of objective reporting could be jeopardized if control of the company were to fall into the hands of a single shareholder.

To counter that possibility, the constitution of the company at the time of the stock offering included a rule that no individual was allowed to own more than 15 percent of the company (Read, 1992: 358). If this limit were exceeded, the directors could order the shareholder to reduce the holding to less than 15 percent. That rule was applied in 1988 when Rupert Murdoch's News Corporation, which already held around 15 percent of Reuters, bought an Australian news company that also owned stock in Reuters. Murdoch was compelled to reduce its holding by 8 percent in order to stay in line with the rules. Reuters began to grow rapidly in the 1980s, widening the range of its business products and expanding its global reporting network for media, financial, and economic services. In the mid-1990s, the Reuters Company engaged in a brief foray in the radio sector, with London Radio's two stations: London News 97.3 FM and London News Talk 1152 AM. A Reuters Radio News service was also established to compete with the Independent Radio News.

On 5 November 2002, Le Monde diagnosed the company's problems as related to the state of the markets, its organizational structure, and its competition. The dot-com death caused a reduction in subscriptions, and the introduction of the euro cut the electronic courtage (commission) on exchanges, the Reuters cash cow. Poor positioning was also at fault, as Reuters concentrated on high technology rather than service to its clients. This problem opened the gates for its main competitor, the US Company, Bloomberg (the Financial Times spoke of "terminal war", 17 October 2002). Thus, Glocer undertook a necessary restructuring, and Le Monde predicted a friendly merger in the not too distant future. Reed-Elsevier and Thomson Financial were mentioned as two possibilities. On 15 May 2007, the Canadian firm, The Thomson Corporation, reached an agreement with Reuters to combine the two companies, in a deal valued at US\$ 17.2 billion.

Thomson now controls about 53 percent of the new company, named Thomson Reuters, the earlier rule of 15 percent ownership having been waived. The chief of Thomson Reuters is Tom Glocer, the former head of Reuters. As Pehr Gyllenhammar, Chairman of the Reuters Founders Share Company, explained, citing the poor financial performance of Reuters: the "future of Reuters takes precedence over the principles. If Reuters were not strong enough to continue on its own, the principles would have no meaning".<sup>1</sup> On 26 March 2008, shareholders of both organizations agreed to the merger, and the acquisition was closed on 17 April 2008. Headquarters are located on Times Square in New York, but unofficially London is still seen as the hub, as there are more journalists located there. "Thomson Reuters merger effective", declared the Financial Times on 7 August 2009. Almost every major news outlet in the world still subscribes to Reuters company services. In the meantime, Bloomberg has become more similar to Reuters, in that it includes general news, and Reuters has become more similar to Bloomberg, even moving from "Lutyens-designed Fleet Street headquarters, with its plush boardrooms and hushed atmosphere" (Financial Times, 17 October 2002: 15) to an open-plan newsroom at Canary Wharf. The two companies remain competitors. (Chanan, Michal (1988) all the three were Jews 'The Reuters Factor', in source for the Study of science, Technology and Everyday life 1870- 1950, vol.2, ed. Chant, Hodder & Stroughton /Open University. Donald Read in the first edition of The Power of News: The History of Reuters, 1992, link Reuter, Jews(p9)

### **2.3 ASSOCIATED PRESS (AP)**

The foundation upon which the Associated Press (AP) was to be built, was laid in 1848, when six New York City newspaper formed the Harbour News Association in order to share the cost of collecting news by means of "news boats" which met incoming ships from Europe. This association, which in 1857 became the New York Associated Press, never had more than seven members, all of them New York City newspapers, but they began to share their news service with newspapers in other parts of the country. In order to cut the telegraphic cost, wherever possible, they dealt with groups of papers, some of which, in time, formed themselves into regional associations, such as the Western Associated Press, the Southern Associated Press, and The New England Associated Press.



These groups felt, however, that the news was being restricted in the interests of the New York papers and, in 1885, Western Associated Press withdrew from the cooperative. In 1892 a group of middle-western publishers reorganized the former Western Associated Press as the Associated Press, incorporated in Illinois. The New York association had fought this reorganization, but lost and went out of existence because the idea of a true news co-operative, in which all members should be equal, was too strong. The new Associated Press then signed an exclusive exchange contract with Reuters (and through Reuters with Havas and Wolff), thereby securing, for a few years, a distinct advantage *on* European news coming into the United States.

Dependence on exchange arrangements with other agencies for foreign news was relatively short-lived the members of AP soon demanded direct representation in foreign capitals. By the middle 1890's the Associated Press was serving 700 papers and was expanding rapidly, both in services and in members. In 1900 the agency was forced to reorganize and re-incorporate in New York to maintain its co-operative basis. Its headquarters have been there ever since. In 1902 AP established some bureau in Europe but was slow to develop its system of news distribution abroad. In 1920 certain Latin American newspapers were admitted to membership, but the agency was handicapped by its agreements with Reuter, Havas and Wolff, as AP and the other agencies had agreed to respect each other's territory. In 1934 AP declared itself released from all cartel agreements with other organizations and set about building up its service to newspapers in other countries. Two changes have taken place in AP organization since 1945. In that year the United States Supreme Court condemned the clause of the AP constitution under which members could block the effort of a competitor in the same city to obtain the association, news service through election to membership. In 1947 radio stations were, for the first time, accepted as members of the association; they had previously subscribed to a subsidiary service which served radio exclusively.

Today, AP employs the latest technology to collect and distribute content. It is in the process of overhauling its video and photography content: transitioning to high-definition, expanding its coverage and building a new, flexible, powerful infrastructure. AP has bureaus in about 100 countries producing text, still, and moving images, still and moving graphics, audio and video feeds to members and subscribers all over the world. Primarily an American organization, the cooperative is owned by

some 1,500 daily newspapers. Its total reach in the U.S. extends to 1,700 newspapers and several thousand television and radio stations, plus hundreds of nonmember newspaper, radio, television and internet distributors internationally. AP has the industry's most sophisticated digital photo network; a 24-hour continuously updated online, multimedia news service; a state-of-the-art television news service; and one of the largest radio networks in the U.S. Its commercial digital photo archive is one of the world's largest collections of historical and contemporary imagery.

AP Mobile, the AP's award-winning news app, has been downloaded over 9 million times since its launch in 2008, and AP has a strong social media presence, building new connections between AP and its members, customers and consumers since the Pulitzer Prize was established, in 1917, AP has received 51 Pulitzers, including 31 photo Pulitzers. AP, operates in more than 280 locations worldwide, including every statehouse in the U.S. Two-thirds of its staffers are journalists. AP news feeds are historically in English, but Spanish, French, Dutch, and German feeds were added in some regions in 1998 and 1999. (Cooper Kent (1959) Kent Cooper and The Associated Press : An Autobiography, New York, Random House p.3.)

## **2.4 A SELECTED TIMELINE OF AP's TECHNOLOGY**

- 1844** Point-to-point transmission of news by telegraph.
- 1846** Moses Yale Beach institutes cooperative newsgathering and the Associated Press is born.
- 1897** AP contracts with Burrelle's Clipping Service (founded 1888) to provide it with AP content from New York newspapers.
- 1904** News library is formed and begins indexing clippings and later cable copy with subject and geographic indexing based approximately on the Dewey Decimal System.
- 1914** Morse Code transmission (which has to be translated) is replaced by teleprinters, which produce eye-readable copy. Members install teleprinters in their newsrooms.
- 1921** AP tabulates, codes and transmits stock tables.

- 1935** Using telephone circuits and modulators that convert light waves to sound, AP transmits the first photograph (a small plane crash) by wire. Members install Wirephoto receivers in their newsrooms.
- 1951** Teleprinters are replaced by teletypesetters, which generate punched tape alongside wire copy. The tape is used to drive members' linotype machines and eventually phototypesetters in the 1970s.
- 1960** First computers: AP introduces IBM mainframes to automate stock listings.
- 1965** AP, along with other news organizations in North America and Europe, form the International Press Telecommunications Council (IPTC) to establish standards for the transmission of text (and, later, other formats) over the wire.
- 1972** First CRTs (cathode ray tube) desktop computers replace typewriters for AP journalists, providing basic text entry and editing capability and allowing electronic filing of stories.
- 1976** News transmission goes even higher speed with introduction of DataStream, a 1,200-baud phone-line transmission rate. Member newsrooms install updated printers and receivers.
- 1976** Wirephoto becomes Laserphoto with the first laser-scanned and amplified photo transmission. AP had partnered with scientists at MIT to develop the technology. Members install the newly developed laser receivers.
- 1979** Photo editing goes electronic with introduction of AP's Electronic Darkroom, which allows cropping of pictures and editing of captions. Participating members install specialized editing units.
- 1982** AP leases satellite bandwidth to transmit Laserphotos without wires. Members install satellite dishes and updated Laserphoto receivers. Two years later, AP is the first news organization to own a satellite transponder.
- 1985** As personal computers are starting to enter households, Knight Ridder (a major newspaper chain) launches an experiment in online news delivery to the public. AP joins the effort, installing a VuText system and contributing

content. While the online aggregation business never takes off, VuText forms the genesis of the electronic text archives ten years later.

- 1986** Charts and maps go digital with the introduction of the Macintosh computer, and AP responds with GraphicsNet, satellite transmission of information graphics. Members install new graphics receivers to hook up to dedicated Macintoshes. AP's choice of software for creating graphics sets the standard for the newspaper industry for almost the next 20 years.
- 1987** Photo transmission goes from analog to digital with Photo Stream service.
- 1988** Satellite capacity doubles and DataStream service transmits at 9,600 baud.
- 1990** AP introduces the prototype digital asset management system, AP Leaf Desk, for receiving and managing incoming digitized photography. Members install Leaf systems in their newsrooms. This development also gives impetus to Adobe's fledgling Photoshop program, which becomes the *de facto* standard for image software, and Adobe cooperates by embedding the IPTC standard for photo transmission into its header.
- 1994** AP introduces a filmless, digital camera designed for photojournalism in partnership with Kodak on a Nikon body. At between \$25,000 and \$40,000, AP News Camera 2000 features removable storage, enabling photographers to deliver the photographs to editors while continuing to shoot an event. Super Bowl XXX is shot entirely digitally. Better-heeled members invest in a camera or two. (Digital camera prices, of course, fell precipitously over the next several years.)
- 1994** Responding to a new challenge interoperability AP partners with Adobe and graphics software developers to integrate the new Portable Document Format (PDF) into its graphics products. This frees AP and its members from forced software upgrades and accommodates members that had opted to use a different software platform. It is a sign that the once closed environment of AP standards and AP equipment is opening up to third-party technology in AP's and its members' own newsrooms.

- 1996** Meeting member demand for Internet content, AP launches “the WIRE,” a 24-hour, continuously updated online multimedia news service. Although wire feeds until now had been nearly a 24/7 operation, they were still tied to the AM-PM publishing cycles of member newspapers. By linking to the WIRE from their own sites, AP members can offer readers up-to-the-minute breaking news.
- 1996** Wanting to give reporters and editors faster access to the archives, AP leverages its production system to create an in-house text database. It is initially populated with about four years of archives from VU Text and eventually reaches back to 1985 for some wires.
- 1999** Video and audio is streamed to members.
- 1999** Your AP is launched as an Internet-based delivery service for AP content. It allows members to customize and control how they view incoming AP feeds.
- 2000** Recognizing that existing metadata is not up to the challenge of the latest newspaper production systems, AP undertakes a program to normalize formats and tagging for text and images.
- 2000** AP solicits member contributions to its AP/Worldwide Photo archives in a revenue-sharing arrangement.
- 2000** AP Digital is launched: umbrella organization for Internet and digital products aimed at both members and commercial subscribers.
- 2003** Work begins to create Electronic AP (eAP), unifying all media formats in a single delivery platform, a project involving both more robust technology infrastructure and enhanced intellectual controls on datamore and better metadata and controlled vocabularies.
- 2003** CEO Tom Curley joins AP in June; first corporate archivist is hired in July.
- 2005** AP launches concerted effort to protect its intellectual property, through the use of sniffer technology that identifies unlicensed use of AP content followed by aggressive pursuit of violators.

- 2006** Launch of AP Exchange, a browser-based window on AP content for members and subscribers that unifies advanced searching across all media—text, still and moving images, audio and graphics. Enhanced metadata allows for vertical packages in popular topics such as health, finance and technology. Members (and public users of members’ websites) may also search “archival” material back some number of months, all on a customizable subscription basis.
- 2007** AP adjusts its fee structure to accommodate niche and “a la carte” pricing, a controversial move that members insist will raise their costs.
- 2008** Members are encouraged to submit their own content for tagging in AP’s enhanced metadata suite, and as an inducement can expect a break on their fees to the cooperative. It offers the eventual prospect of a large body of uniformly structured and described, cross-media news reports.
- 2008** AP decides to migrate the complete electronic text archives into the eAP environment.

(Associated Press (2009) AP’s Technology, Compiled timeline from AP promotional literature, annual reports, issues of AP World)

## **2.5 THE HISTORY OF THE AGENCIES IN ITALY BEGAN**

On 26 January 1853 with the foundation of Telegraphic Notiziario Stefani a week after the inauguration of the telegraphic line Turin-Chambery that allowed the connection with Paris. Owner and director of the Agency was a 34 year-old exile from Venice, Guglielmo Stefani, who had practised journalism at Padova in 1844-1845 founding two newspapers, the Euganeo and the Pedrocchi Coffee, Escaping to Turin after the fall of the Republic of Venice in 1849, Stefani began life as a journalist and publisher also becoming director of the Piemontese Gazette, official of the Reign. It soon became "Agenzia the Stefani private telegraphy" with the aid and suggestion of Count Camillo Benso di Cavour (1810 - 1868). Stefani then formed an alliance with Havas for International News, covered news from the borders of the Reign of Italy and had subscribers and correspondents in the other Italian states Florence, Milan, Parma, Bologna, and Rome. It was private property of Guglielmo Stefani anal then his

successors, got the direct and indirect aids of the Reign of Italy, to influence unofficial organism the press.

The new, agency formula took 35 years to reach Spain from Paris and was first used by Nile Maria Fabra y Deas, a journalist and Catalan industrialist. In 1865 they started an information service Center of Correspondents in Madrid. He himself collected the news, wrote up and then distributed to subscribers. In 1866, the newspaper of Barcelona requested him to cover the Franco Franco-Prussian war. Fabra accepted the offer, and in Vienna, came in contact with other correspondents from the great agencies after the war Coverage, he spent few days in Paris, where he met Havas Auguste one of the children of the founder of Agence Havas. On his return to Spain in 1867 following the guidelines of Havas, he turned the Center of Correspondents into Fabra Agency.

Like his contemporaries, Fabra also used carrier pigeons in 1874 and established pigeon houses in Valencia, Barcelona and Palma de Mallorca to have information on ships before their arrival a mainland Spanish ports. Agence Telegraphic Switzerland (ATS) the Swiss Telegraphic Agency was founded on 25 September 1894 in Bern. Before this, Hover and Wolff had divided the Swiss market. The editors and journalists of Switzerland were not happy with this situation and they created the Swiss Telegraphic Agency in 1894 to secure a source of independent information. The ATS began its activities on 1 January 1895, with eight journalists, from a modest apartment located at Spital gasse 55, in Bern. In addition to the director, it employed three people in Bern, two in Geneva, two in Zurich and in Basle. By the end of the year, around fifty of correspondents worked for the agency.

## **2.6 SITUATION OF THE NEWS AGENCIES OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR**

Until 1914 the world agencies which had been set up and had developed in Europe remained the only sources of news for newspapers in all parts of the world, as a result of agreements signed among themselves *or* with the national agencies, and despite the, growth of the three United States agencies and the establishment of several national agencies. A kind of news “clearing house” had been established. Moreover, with the exception of the ASSOCIATED Press, which was still *no* more than a national agency in the form of a co-operative body owned by newspaper groups, all

the world agencies, which had started as the personal property of their founders, had been transformed in the course of time into strictly commercial joint-stock companies. The agencies procured news like merchandise, in order to sell it.

The news circulated and was sold freely. Practically speaking, the big agencies did not compete with one another, since each had its own field as laid down in their mutual agreements. In principle, none of these agencies was subject to political influence. They were independent of governments, but governments and agencies rendered each other certain services. The large world agencies, although they remained independent, rendered their governments a service by publishing communiqués and news items issued by Ministries. In 1875, when the Wolff Agency ran into financial difficulties, the German Government decided to assist it and brought considerable pressure to bear *on* the banks *for* the purpose. For the German Government had realized the importance and influence of the agencies, and was determined that the news distributed to the press of Germany and her neighbour's should not be solely of English *or* French origin.

This system of big news agencies lasted until the outbreak of the first world war; but the moment hostilities began, the German Wolff Agency was cut off *from* the British and French agencies with which it had been exchanging news.

Germany was therefore *no* longer able to supply foreign countries with news from German sources. This break in relationships had two very important consequences—one technical, the other political—which were to put an end once and for all to the old system of news agencies. As early as 1915 the Germans realized that there was a way of breaking the news blockade, namely the wireless. At that time, only long waves were used.

The Germans therefore organized a news service broadcast *on* long waves. But for this service, which operated rather like a news agency, the German Government did not have recourse to Wolff's; it set up a special agency, Transocean, which disseminated propaganda even more than news. Transocean broadcast news bulletins for several *hours* a day, and these were picked up in neutral countries by German embassies, legations and consulates and distributed to the press by official propaganda bureau. Transocean may therefore be considered the first genuine State agency.



It was set up by the German Government, its funds were supplied by the State, and it remained under the absolute control of the authorities. This example was followed by the Soviet Government in 1917.

A news bureau which had been established in Moscow by the Bolshevik Government was changed into a news agency in 1918 and expanded rapidly as the TASS agency. When Kemal Ataturk came to power in Turkey, one of his first steps was to set up a State news agency. The Anadolu Ajansi started operating in 1920.

(Unesco, (1953) news agencies their structure and operation, Unesco by the united nations educational, scientific and cultural organization 19, avenue kleber, paris-16 printed by gorges lang, paris p. 13)

**Table 2.1 - Traditional and new news agencies**

News agencies in former time's News agencies today

Sl.	News agencies in former times	News agencies Today
1	Lack of internet sites; a telegraphic method for transmitting information	Availability of own sites, existence exclusively in the Web
2	Information providers	Both providers and distributors
3	The hierarchy of the basic principles of work: efficiency, reliability, etc.	In the foreground – authenticity, and only then efficiency, etc.
4	4. 80% of information is supplied by News Agency	80% of information is supplied by News Agency
5	Verbal information	Verbal and visual information
6	Strict canonicity of genres	Deviation from the canons of the genre hierarchy
7	News Agency are support services	News Agency represent greater autonomy, broadening of powers and functions
8	Focus on news gathering	Focus on collection of exclusive news
9	Lack of direct contact with readers and consumers	Direct access to personal smartphones and tablets
10	Functions of gathering and presenting information to mass media	Function of collecting, processing and disseminating Information
11	Lack of explicit publicist character	Emergence of diverse topics in journalism
12	Absence of advertising	Emergence of advertisements in a small amount
13	Absence of multimediality	Multimediality
14	Absence of archiving	Ability to archive and increase memory
15	Absence of hypertext features	Hypertext features
16	Absence of interactivity	Interactivity
17	Entertainment in mediated form	Emergence of entertaining columns

(Mediterranean Journal of Social Sciences, August 2014, MCSER Publishing, Rome-Italy, Vol 5 No 19)

## 2.7 NEWS AGENCY DURING THE WORLD WAR I

During World War Reuters agreed to disseminate official allied communiques, and news to neutral countries, the British Empire, and the allied troops while the government financed this service by paying for the transmission costs of the telegrams. Its managing director simultaneously held government office for, period of time. AP in 1930 "lent itself as freely to the uses of government for propaganda services" and in coverage of American "Extraterritorial ventures" the agency "invariably regards every situation through the spectacles offered to it by our officialdom". It was at the suggestion of the State Department that AP' made its first entry into the South American market during World War I, although United Press was to be by for the strongest agency there until well after World War II. On the eve of World War II. Reuters received a communications subsidy to augment the volume of its international wireless news service. During the war. Reuters received government finance for the purpose of maintaining the South American bureaus of Havas.

The London-based Free French Agency (AFI), later to be one of the founding organizations of AFP, was entirely financed by the British Ministry of Information from 1940 and 1943. As has been said earlier, the Italian agency Stefani, Mough private. had the support of Count Camillo Benso di Cavour, rho figure who forged the Kingdom of Italy, designed the constitutional structure of the unitary state and served as its first prime minister. The relationship of Stefani with the government became open in 1888, when Stefani (by then it had become 50 percent property of Agence Havas) was the center of the diplomatic game of Italy, in the operation potenziamento of the Triple Alliance. Prime Minister Francisco Crispi started one complex operation in order to detach it from the French and to form one confederation with Prussian and Austro-Hungarian agencies.

For months the embassies to London, Berlin and Vienna dealt on the is with the local ministries; "Stefani", Crispi wrote, "is entirely in our hands and finds morally and also materially from the government." The successive year formalised the agreement: Stefani was detached from Agence Havas, but only formally because the connection would continue through Reuters. From 1900 to 1920, Stefani became a joint stock company with entry of the famous Teodoro Mayer (editor of Piccolo) who possessed one half of it and financier Giuseppe Volpi di Misurata who possessed the other half.

Then, with the Fascists, Stefani became the top organ for the propaganda of the regime.

The property and the presidency of Stefani went to Manlio Morgagni, former administrative director of the Popolo d Italia, who upgraded it and transformed it to international level. In the evening of 25 July 1943, Morgagni committed suicide for his principles. After 8 September 1943, Stefani moved to the North, having finally become property of the State and an organ of the RSI, ended with its last director, Ernesto Daquanno who was shot dead on 28 April 1945, along with other Fascists leaders. The St. Petersburg Telegraph Agency (SPTA), the first official news agency of Russia and the predecessor of ITAR-TASS began to operate on 1 September 1904. Three government departments of the Russian Empire the finance, interior, and foreign ministries initiated the creation of the first Russian official news agency. A meeting of representatives of the ministries on 4 July 1904, empowered to consider issues concerning the project of a government telegraph agency, adopted the basic documents for the creation and operation of SPTA. The project to launch SPTA was approved by the last Russian Tsar, Nicholas the Second.

The agency had to report within the Empire and abroad political, financial, economic, trade and other data of public interest. Three directors, one from each of the finance, interior and foreign ministries, comprised the panel that managed the agency. On 31 December 1909, the agency was subordinated directly to the council of ministers upon a submission of Prime Minister Petr Stolypin. On 19 August, 1914, one day after Nicholas the Second ruled to rename Sr. Petersburg into Petrograd, SPTA changed its name accordingly and became the Petrograd Telegraph Agency (PTA). During the Bolshevik revolution of 25 October-7 November 1917, the PTA building in Pochtamt Street was seized by revolutionary Baltic Fleet seamen headed by Military Commissar Leonid Stark PTA immediately wired the first reports written by Stark about the Bolshevik revolution to the whole world.

On 18 November 1917 the Bolshevik government (Sovnarkom) decreed PTA to become the central government information agency. In March 1918, PTA moved to Moscow where it merged in June with the press bureau of the government. On 7 September 1918, the government presidium resolved to rename PTA and the Press bureau into the Russian telegraph agency (ROSTA). ROSTA became the central

information agency of the whole Russian Socialist Federative Soviet Republic. In order to better report the goals and struggles of the newly-founded Republic of Latvia to foreign and domestic news audiences, the provisional government of Karlis Ulmanis (temporarily based in Liepaja) created then state press bureau, Latopress on 4 March 1919. The bureau was relocated to Riga under the authority of the State Chancellery.

At this time Latopress performed functions later to be taken over by the Information Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In 1919, Latopress concluded partnership agreements with Estonian news agency Estur (now, ETA) and Polish news agency PAT (now, PAP). Cooperation with Poland ensured radio news contact between Riga and Warsaw. On 5 May, 1920 the provisional Cabinet of Ministers created the Latvian Telegraph Agency, renaming it LETA, and appointing Rihards Berzins as its director. Berzins remained at LETA's helm until 1940. An agreement concluded between the telegraph agencies of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania provided for their close cooperation and authorised LETA to negotiate partnerships with the great world news agencies on behalf of all three. Contracting with Great Britain's Reuters, France's Agence Havas and Germany's Wolffs Telegraphisches Buro, LETA acquired broad and immediate access to world news, for both reception and further dissemination during this time. LETA established relations with 26 different national news agencies around the world. LETA received authentic and reliable information from its network of foreign correspondents. LETA's Moscow correspondent was critical source of information to Europe on conditions in Russia, which was closed to foreign journalists until 1925. LETA often rivaled the diplomatic corps in the accuracy and speed with which it delivered important information from foreign posts. LETA staff photographed the arrival and the occupation of Soviet Army in Riga on 17 June 1940 and later transported the documentary materials to Sweden. Istanbul was occupied by Western powers on 16 March 1920. After the closure of the Ottoman Parliament, Mustafa Kemal Pasha sent a note to the governors and force commanders asking them to elect delegates to join the Grand National Assembly which would convene in Ankara. Yunus Nadi (Abalioglu), the owner of Yeni Gun newspaper, and journalist author Halide Edip who joined people heading towards Ankara upon this call met in Geyve on 31 March.

Two intellectuals who got on a train to Ankara, discussed in Geyve-Akhisar station of the necessity that a news agency should be established as a first step. When Yunus Nadi and Halide Edip were discussing how the new agency should be named, they chose "Anadolu" (Anatolia) among other alternatives like Turk and Ankara. Anadolu Agency (AA) was established in April 1920. Stmt. Kemal immediately launched initiatives to herald establishment of Anadolu Agency. By a "historic circular" he sent to the military and civilian authorities throughout the country, he not only mentioned establishment of Anadolu Agency, but also stressed thud Importance of making the national struggle be heard inside and outside of the country.

A correspondents were always on the side of Mustafa Kemal Ataturk in his trips within the country to make his reforms, understood well, Anadolu Agency went through a structural transformation 1925 and got the status of company. With this structuring was uncommon even in western standards at that time, Anadolu Agency gained an autonomous Status. On 10 July 1925, the Telegraph Agency of Soviet Union Telegrafnoi Agetsvo Sovietskavo Sojuza (TASS) was founded and took over the main functions of the Russian Telegraph Agency as the central information agency of the country .TASS enjoyed the exclusive right to gather and distribute information outside the Soviet Union as well as the right to distribute foreign and domestic information within the. Soviet Union, and manage the news agencies of the Soviet republics RATAU (Ukraine), BELTA (Byelorussia), UZTAG(Uzbekistan), KAZTAG(Kazakhstan), GRUZINFORM (Georgia), AZERINFORM (Azerbaijan), ELTA (Lithuania), ATEM (Moldavia), LATINFORM (Latvia). KIRTAG (Kirghizia),TAJIKTA (Tajikistan), ARMENPRESS (Armenia) TURKMENIFORM (Turkemenia), and ETA (Estonia). TASS news and photos were received by 4,000 Soviet newspapers, TV and radio stations and over a thousand foreign media outlets.

The news agency ran one of the biggest networks of correspondents in the world – offices 682 in the country and 94 bureaus abroad, and employed closed 2,000 Journalists photo correspondents. The current name information Telegraph Agency of Russia (ITAR-TASS) was assumed in January 1992, after the collapse of the Soviet Union and the proclamation of sovereignty by the democratic Russian Federation ITAR- TASS has now preserved the status of the central state information agency, but acquired new traits due to democratic transformation in Russia, to changes in information access techniques, new computer and telecommunication technologies.

ATA, Albanian Telegraphic Agency, was founded in 1929, by Mihal Sherko as an indispensable need of the Albanian people present.

The Albanian reality of that time. Usually, ATA was identified with Press office or with Press Department. Since the beginning, ATA had a network of correspondents in the major towns of the country and had at that time connection with foreign agencies like Havas, Paris; Stefani, Rome, Reuters, London; German Press Office, Berlin. In Spain, Fabra's problem was its international dependency on Havas which demanded of Fabra the inclusion, in its service, of the news could be against the interests of Spain. Whereas Havas did not have similar obligation. Many voices were raised against this "Frenchified" dependency since it was the only connection of Spain with the international community and when a conflict of interests took place like the war of North Africa the news reports took the French side because of this French tyranny Spaniards considered the need to create other agencies. Thus Febus, Spes. Iberian and Spain America were born.

The birth of these agencies contributed to the information diversity but some voices demanded the creation of a Spanish agency with international projection. Journalists and the establishment felt acute necessity of a Spanish agency with international projection during the Civil War (1936-1939). On 3 January 1939, Calcedonio de Noriega Ruiz, the Marquess of Torrehojós and a military man, and Luis Amato de Ibarrola, a journalist, declared before the notary Jose Maria that they have agreed to constitute a mercantile society of anonymous character, with the denomination of Agencia EFE S. A. Both were representing Fabra. Thus, the new agency remained fit for admission to the Club of the Allied Agencies constituted of thirty agencies and in whose statutes it appeared that only one agency from a country could be member of the association. Thus EFE was born on the ashes of Fabra with the intention to project internationally. It had to spend long years to become the first international agency of the Hispanic world, beating the Anglo-Americans and French in that market. EFE founding document envisaged an "independent and mercantile" agency, yet supported by the government, an "official" news agency as opposed to an "official" agency.

## 2.8 EUROPEAN CARTEL

Due to high telegraph charges, the strategy of cooperation was also applied to international newsgathering. The first significant agreement was signed between Reuters and Havas in 1856 and was confined to the exchange of news of trade and stocks. The agreement was widened to include Wolff in 1859 and in later years incorporated general news and identified those geographic areas which would be regarded each agency's exclusive markets. For Havas these were to be France, Spain and Italy in Europe; South America; and India and China in Asia. Wolff got Germany, Russia, Scandinavia and the Slavonic countries. Reuters had the British Empire and the Far East.

This reduced cost of foreign news gathering and protected markets. This arrangement has been described as international news cartel. According to the 1870 agreement, Reuters' territory included England, Holland and their colonies, while Germany, Scandinavia and the cities of St. Petersburg and Moscow belonged to Wolff, and Havas had exclusive right to France, Italy, Spain and Portugal. The Ottoman Empire, Egypt and Belgium were divided between Havas and Reuters, and every other region was declared neutral territory where all the three could operate. Later agreements covered the entire world. The partners in the post-1870 agreements were to sell their news services only in what by common consent were their own spheres of influence outside these spheres they would provide news only another partners.

By restricting Wolff's territorial expansion and making it pay 25 percent of its annual profits. Havas and Reuters succeeded in limiting their partner's activities. The Austro-Hungarian Korrespondentz Bureau was included as new partner in 1887. It had a different status along with Associated Press of United States. Reuters' official biographer Donald Read has described that in the period 1860 - 1900, Reuters functioned

“Increasingly as an institution of the British Empire.” The government of Bismarck, which wanted to prevent Reuters from taking over the German agency, subsidized Wolff.” Several agencies like Stefani, Wolff and Korrespondentz Bureau, with the help of Reuters, sought in 1887 to break the power of Havas. However, the 1889 agreement left Italy as Havas territory; and Korrespondentz Bureau never again



achieved either the status of equal contracting party or the exclusive right to its home country that it held before 1889.

The AP had arrangement with Reuters for foreign news. But the United Press, seeking to gather news abroad, found itself confronted by this cartel "composed of the official and semi-official news agencies of governments in Europe. Three allied agencies and the Associated Press exchanged news exclusively with each other. They furthermore allotted to each member the right to exploit elusively certain regions of the world. For example, only the French agency, Havas, could collect news in South America; while in the Far East, the territory of Reuters, Japanese and Chinese newspapers would have to depend on the British agency for their foreign news. United Press became the first North American news agency to serve newspapers in Europe, South America and the Far East. It established its own bureaus in those areas. Its success in this endeavour led to an invitation in 1912 for UP to ally itself with Reuters, which it did not accept.

At its beginning in 1907, United Press served 369 newspapers in the United States. Its news went to European newspapers through the British agency, Exchange Telegraph. Two years later, in 1909, United Press began a cable service to Nippon Denro Tsushin She, the Japanese Telegraph News Agency', later merged into Daini. This service was to continue until 7 December 1941, when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbour. By 1914, UP's clientele had doubled. With the outbreak of World War I, newspapers in South America began chafing under the allied agencies' restrictions, which compelled them to get their war news from the French agency, Havas.

The South Americans said it was officially subsidized and covered only the allied side of the war. To get the news of both sides, they turned to United Press which its first news file to South America in 1915. La Prensa, of Buenos Aires, started using United Press service in 1919. Direct UP service to newspapers in Europe was inaugurated after, World War I, in 1921, to clients in Cologne, Frankfurt and Vienna. United Press service direct to newspapers on the Asian mainland followed in 1922, to publication in Peking and Tientsin. In 1922, the British United Press, Ltd. was organised to serve newspapers throughout the British Empire. By 1929 the United Press was serving 1,170 newspaper in 45 countries and territories. United Press merged with the International News Service (founded in 1900 by William Randolph Hearst) on 24 May 1958 becoming UPI.

AP's first challenge to the European oligopoly came, in 1902 when a cable service was started to meet requests from Cuba, the Philippines and Central America. A far more serious AP challenge to the European cartel followed in 1919. AP board of directors in response to requests from 22 South American newspapers, authorised full-scale service, to Latin America. A similar application for the AP news from the Japanese news agency Rengo was approved in 1933. But as a result of the threat UP posed to the cartel, the AP 'was finally accepted as an equal member of the cartel when it signed a four party treaty in 1927 this could, however, no longer save the cartel after AP had obtained free hand in South America, it wanted the same in the Far East.

The problem was that the Far East belonged to Reuters which was far superior to Havas as an international agency and which had intention of surrendering its Exclusive control over this territory. Nevertheless the cartel itself finally collapsed in 1934, with the American agencies, in collaboration with two national agencies, playing the decisive role. One key step was a separate agreement between the Soviet TASS and the two American agencies in 1934, explicitly repudiating the cartel regulations that had prevented such a combination. The other was the national agency, Japanese Rengo signing a contract with the AP and thus contravening Reuters' exclusive claim to this territory. Third, and perhaps most decisive of all, was UP once again rejecting Reuters' offer to join the cartel. The era of the European news cartel was over.

## **2.9 NEWS AGENCY AFTER THE WORLD WAR I**

With the end of World War First (1914-1918) German and Austrian news agencies lost their position on the world news market. In Vienna, the imperial-royal prefix "k. k." was lost and the agency became Telegraphen-Korrespondenz-Bureau and was soon called official news office Amtliche Nachrichtenstelle (ANA). Allies had restricted the overseas activities of German agency Wolff or Continental, after Germany's first defeat. But the Nazis created their own international news machinery: Trans-Ocean, which disseminated by radio, and Deutsches Nachrichten-Buro (DMB), which was a forced merger of previously existing agencies, notably Continental and TU.

These affected Reuters and Havas. in two ways: they distributed free of charge or at extremely low rates with aid of state funds: and they deprived old European agencies of subscriptions, thus weakening them financially. Trans-Ocean TO was a news agency founded in 1915 by the "Syndicate Deutscher Uberseedienst, a syndicate initiated by the government and financed by the industry and commerce. It aimed at supplying foreign audiences with more and better information about Germany than the Wolff sches Telegraphisches Bureau, the work of which was thought to be insufficient. During World War First. the German foreign ministry used them to for propagating the German cause.

In fact, the to managed to market its news overseas because agencies like AP, UP, and INS included official German war reports for the purpose of neutral coverage. Apart from that, the to successes were small because Germans lacked an understanding of what information was important to the American press. Transocean intensified its international activities in the postwar era and started a daily news service in English, in 1924. Mostly American newspapers in German accepted this service, but rarely did newspapers in English the main focus of news distribution was again in South America and Asia. Richard Schenkcl founded another news agency in New York. Schenkel worked there as a correspondent of the Berliner Borsen-Courier, a commercial newspaper that was his main customer. In 1913, Schenkel's agency was bought by another German news service. The name of the agency was Telegraphen-Union (TU) It was largely influenced by the industry and belonged to the conservative right-wing Hugenberg-holding. During the years following the inflation in Germany, the TU worked on improving its foreign newsgathering. for this purpose, it employed its own staff of correspondents and concluded contracts with other agencies. One of these contracts was concluded with 'United Press in order to get news from the United States. But the TU Failed to establish an independent network of correspondents in the US. It did so not because of technological reasons the telegraph and the wireless had existed for some time by then but due to lack of financial resources.

The Wolffsches Telegraphisches Bureau continued to depend on the Associated Press for news coverage of the United States in the 1920s. The WTB lost in importance, when the competing agency was founded in 1913. The TU and Wolff-Continental were merged into Deutsch. Nachrichten-Baro (DMB) by Nazis in 1934 and functioned till the end of World War II. Nazi Germany's DNB was, private business

(limited stock company) even though the private stockholders were in sympathy with the Government. The DNB was run as a private enterprise to keep up appearances. It was no longer to enter any news exchange agreements with foreign agencies, but, with the help of government subsidies, was to establish its own network of foreign correspondence to ensure complete autonomy and absolute news sovereignty.

The Domei News Agency was established in 1936 with the help of the Japanese government, succeeding Rengo, and taking over news and communication operations of Dentsu.<sup>16</sup> The main purpose of the establishment was to send news articles and voices of Japan to the world. It was the only news agency at that time in Japan. From 1931 onwards, Japan has expanded in war fronts towards China, then further into Asia and finally the Pacific area. The Domei News Agency dispatched a large number of war correspondents and photographers to the battlefields and it played a major role in reporting how the war has been going in the Asian and Pacific fronts. Domei News Agency issued almost daily The Domei Photo News for the ordinary Japanese people to know how the war was going. The Domei Photo News were printed and published approximately 100,000 copies every day and were delivered to schools, factories, shops and other places in Japan and overseas. They were pinned up on the wall to be widely seen by many people. Domei News Agency stopped in activity at the end of the Pacific War and dissolved in October 1945.

## **2.10 NEWS AGENCY DURING THE WORLD WAR II**

A wave of establishment or reorganization of news agencies came with the post-war creation of new governments in various European countries. In all, 24 agencies began operating between 1945 and 1949. However, when virtually whole of Europe was still in Hitler's grip, the Telegrfska Agencija Nova Jugoslavija (TANJUG) was founded on Yugoslav liberated territories on 5 November 1943. It began broadcasting over a radiotelegraph transmitter captured from the enemy. Tanjug started at Jajce, moved to Drvar, then to island of Vis the Adriatic, and to Aranjelovac before entering Belgrade with the People's Liberation Army on 20 October 1944. In Italy, National Associated Press Agency Agenzia Nazionale Stampa Associata (ANSA), was established in 1945, in succession to the Agenzia Telegrafice Stefani (ATS), which had been operating since 1853. ANSA is a cooperative company of 51 publishing concerns.

Membership is limited to daily newspapers. Weeklies, periodicals, radio and television can only subscribe to ANSA services without having any vote in the company itself.

The agency's aim, according to its statute, is to assure in the reciprocal interests of its members and in the climate of democratic liberties guaranteed by the Constitution, a broad service of journalistic information to be distributed to Italian newspaper publishing firms as well as to other clients using criteria of rigorous independence, impartiality and objectivity". In Japan, upon the dissolution of the state-owned Domei News Agency at the end of World War II, Kyodo, a non-profit cooperative of Japanese newspapers and Jiji Press Ltd., an independent 100% employee owned joint stock company, came into existence in November 1945.

On 13 March 1938 when the German troops entered Austria and the Austrian State ceased to exist no did Amtliche Nachrichtenstelle (ANA) its task being taken over by DNB. But when the Third Reich collapsed, DNB disappeared. ANA resurfaced on 2 August 1945 and was attached to the press department of Federal Chancellery. However, the previous pressure of occupying powers and the boycott of ANA by Anglo-American news agencies forced its end and emergence of the cooperative news agency APA. On 31 August 1946, APA entered in the Vienna commercial court's register of cooperatives after signing a contract with Republic of Austria and buying assets of ANA. The Austria Presse Agentur (APA) was established, as the national news agency owned by 14 different newspapers and the Austrian broadcasting station (ORE).

Deutsche Press & Agentur (DPA), began from scratch in 1949, with its headquarters in Hamburg. It was formed by the amalgamation of three separate news agencies DENA, DPD and SUEDENA set up by the United Kingdom, the United States and France in their respective occupation zones. DPA came up as a private, independent agency, owned and managed as a joint venture by the newspapers, radio and television of the Federal Republic of Germany. Among the fundamental obligations of the agency, spelt out in its constitution, is commitment to objectivity and fairness. Merger of DPA with DENA, DPD and SUEDENA was agreed in Goslar on 18 August with a start-up share capital of DM 350,000. The German Press Agency began operating on 1 September 1949.

## 2.11 WAVE OF INDEPENDENCE

Antara, Indonesia's National News Agency, was founded by Adam Malik, Soemanang, A. M. Sipanhocntar and Pandoe Kartawigoena on 13 December 1937 to serve the struggle for national independence from the Dutch colonisers and Japanese occupation. Antara was the first to announce the proclamation of Indonesian independence on 17 August 1945. Agencia Telenoticiosa Americana (Telam) was born on 14 April, 1945 as a response of the Argentine government to the control of information by UPI and AP. The Vietnam News Agency (VNA) was founded in September 1945.

The first wire service bulletin released by VNA in Vietnamese, English and French carried the Declaration of Independence of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (now the SRV) read by President Ho Chi Minh at Ha Nois Ba Dinh Square on 2 September 1945. The Korean Central News Agency (KCNA), the state-run agency of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was founded on 5 December 1946. It speaks for the Workers' Party of Korea, and the DPRK government with headquarters in the capital city of Pyongyang.

**Table – 2.2 Chronological list of telegraphic news agencies**

Foundation	Agency	Byline	Country	Type
1835	AgenceHavas (called Agence France-Presse)	Havas	France	World
1848-1857	Harbour News Association			National
1848	The Associated Press	AP	United State	World
1849-1933	Wolff Telegraphen Bureau	WTB	Germany	World
1850-1857	Telegraphic and General News Association		United State	National
1851	Reuters, Ltd.	Reuters	National	World
1853-1945	AgenziaTelegrajica Stefani	Stefani	Italy	National
1875-1893	New York Associated Press		United State	National
1859-1892	Western Associated Press		United State	National
1860-1918	KK Telegraphen Korrespondenz-Bureau		Austria Hungary	National

1862-1928	HeroldDepeschen Bureau		Germany	National
1866	Rtitzaus Bureau	Ritz-Bur	Denmark	National
1867-1938	AgenciaTelegrajicaFabra	Fabra	Spain	National
1867	NorskTelegrambyra	NBT	Norway	National
1867-1921	SvenskaTelegrambyran	ST	Sweden	National
1868-1928	BiosmansTelegraphenBiuro		Germany	National
1868-1917	Korrespondenz Hofmann		Germany	National
1868-1928	Telegraphische Bureau Louis Hirsch		Germany	National
1868	The Press Association	PA	United Kingdom	National
1872	The Exchange Telegraph Company, Ltd.	Extel	United Kingdom	National
1879	New Zealand Press Association, Ltd.	NZPA	New Zealand	National
1879-1944	Agence Fournier	Fournier	France	National
1881	Magyar TaviratiIroda	MTI	Hungary	National
1882	AgenciaMencheta	Mencheta	Spain	National
1885-1893	United PressI		United State	National
1886-1888	ShimbunYotatsu Kaisha		Japan	National
1887	SuomenTietotoimisto- FinskaNotisbyran	STT-FNB	Finland	National
1888-192	Teikoku Tsushin-sha		Japan	National
1894	AgenceTBIBgraphique Suisse	ATS	Switzerland	National
1900	AgenciaNoticiosaSaporiti	ANS	Argentina	National
1903-1917	Canadian Associated Press	CAP	Canada	National
1905	Athens News Agency-Agence d'Ath8nes	AA	Greece	National
1906	Associated Press of India	API	India	National
1907-1936	Nippon Dempo Tsushin-sha	Dentsu	Japan	National
1907	United Press Associations	UP	United States	World
1909	International News Service	INS	United States	World
1910-1938	Reuter South African Press Agency		Union of South Africa	National

1911-1925	Toho		Japan	National
1913-1915	SyndikatDeutscherÜberseedie nst		Germany	National
1914-1925	Kokusai		Japan	National
1915-1945	Transocean		Germany	National
1916-1945	Europa Presse	EP	Germany	National
1917	Persbiro Indonesia Aneta	PI-Aneta	Indonesia	National
1917	The Canadian Press	CP	Canada	National
1918-1940	Agence Radio	Radio	France	National
1918	CeskaTiskovaKancelar	CTK	Czechoslova kia	National
1918	BulgarskiTelegrafitschekaAge ntzia	BTA	Bulgaria	National
1918	TelegrafnoieAgenstvoSovietsk avoSoiuza	TASS	U.S.S.R	World
1919-1943	AgenceAvalla	Avalla	Yugoslavia	National
1919-1949	Rador Agency	Rador	Rumania	National
1919	Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.	JTA	United States	Specialized
1919	The Associated Negro Press, Inc.	ANP	United States	Specialized
1920	AnadoluAjansi	AA	Turkey	National
1920	AgenceBelga, S.A.	Belga	Belgium	National
1920	KatholischeInternationalePress eagentur	KIPA	Switzerland	Specialized
1920	National Catholic Welfare Conference News Service	NCWC	United States	Specialized
1920-1922	Presstelegrambolaget		Sweden	National
1921-1933	Telegraphen Union	TU	Germany	National
1922-1938	TidningarnasTelegrambyra	TT	Sweden	National
1921	AmtlicheNachrichtenstelle		Austria	National
1922	British United Press	BUP	Canada	National
1924	Central News Agency	CNA	China (Formosa)	National
1925	L'Informazione		Italy	National



1925-1936	Shimbun Rengo (previous name was Kokusai)	Rengo	Japan	National
1926	AgenziaInternazionale Fides	Fides Service	Italy	Specialized
1927	Bull's Presstjanst		Sweden	National
1928	Logos	Logs	Spain	National
1931	AgenciaMeridional, Ltda.		Brazil	National
1931	Far East News Agency	FENA	China (Formosa)	National
1932	Australian United Press, Ltd.	AUP	Australia	National
1933-1945	DeutschesNachrichtenbiuro	DNB	Germany	National
1933	United Press of India	UPI	India	National
1934	AlgemeenNederlandschPersbu reau	ANP	Netherlands	National
1934	Pars	Pars	Iran	National
1935	Australian Associated Press Ltd.	AAP	Australia	National
1935-1943	AgenciaNoticiosaTelegrafica Americana	ANTA	Mexico	National
1936-1945	Domei News Agency	Domei	Japan	National
1937	KantorberitaAntara	Antara	Indonesia	National
1938	AgenciaEfe, S.A.	Efe	Spain	National
1938	Press Telegraph	PT	Norway	National
1938	The South African Press Association	SAPA	Union of South Africa	National
1939	Bakhtar	Bakhtar	Afghanistan	National
1940	Overseas News Agency	ONA	United States	Specialized
1940	PrensaVenezolana	Peve	Venezuela	National
1940	Prensa y Radio Espaiiola	PYRESA	Spain	National
1941	Arab News Agency, Ltd.	ANA	United KingdomP	Specialized
1942-1951	AgenciaSul Americana de Noticias	Asapress	Brazil	National
1943	TelegrafiskaAgencija Nova Jugoslavija	Tanjug	Yugoslavia	National

1943-1951	Zpravodajská Agentura Slovenska	ZAS	Slovakia	National
1944	Agence France-Presse (called Agence Havas until 1940)	AFP	France	World
1944	Agence TBB Graphique Albanais	ATA	Albania	National
1944-1949	Agencia Transchile	Transchile	Chile	National
1944	Lusitania	Lusitania	Portugal	National
1944	Hsin Hua (New China) News Agency	NCNA	China	National
1945	Agencia Nacional de Informaciones	ANI	Uruguay	National
1945	Agencia Noticiosa Prensa, Radio y Cine	PRYC	Italy	National
1945	Agenzia Nazionale Stampa Associata	ANSA	Chile	National
1945-1946	Deutsche Nachrichtenagentur	Dana	U.S. Zone	National
1945-1949	Deutscher Pressedienst	DPD	British Zone	National
1945	Haptong Tongshin (Korean Pacific Press)	KPP	Korea (Southern region)	National
1945	Jiji Press, Ltd.	JP	Japan	National
1945	Kyodo News Service, The	Kyodo	Japan	National
1945	Polska Agencja Prasowa	PAP	Poland	National
1945	Radiopress, Inc.	Radiopress	Japan	National
1945-1947	Rheina		French Zone	National
1946	Austria Presseagentur	APA	Austria	National
1946	Katholiek Nederlands Persbureau	KNP	Netherlands	Specialized
1946	Min Ben News Agency	MBNA	China (Formosa)	National
1946	Sudanese Press Agency	SPA	Anglo-Egyptian Sudan	National
1946	Telenoticiosa Americana	Telam	Argentina	National
1947	Agencia de Noticias e de	ANI	Portugal	National

	Informapoes			
1947	Burma Press Syndicate, Ltd.	BPS	Burma	National
1948	AgenciaNoticiosaCorporacion de Periodistas	Coper	Chile	National
1948	Agenzia Astra	Astra	Trieste	National
1948-1950	Asociaci6n Noticiosa Argentina	ANA	Argentina	National
1948	Chung-Yang Tongshin	Chung-Yang	Korea (Northern region)	National
1948	Near & Far East News, Ltd.	NAFEN	United Kingdom	Specialized
1948	Star News Agency	Star	Pakistan'	Specialized
1948	Sudanese News Service	SNS	Anglo-Egyptian Sudan	National
1949	Agentie de InformatiiTelegrafice	Agerpres	Rumania	National
1949	The Associated Press of Pakistan	APP	Pakistan	National
1949	The Irish News Agency	INA	Ireland	National
1949	Pan-Asia Newspaper Alliance	PananeWS	Hong-Kong	National
1950	Philippine News Service	PNS	Philippines	National
1950	Turk HavadisAjansi	THA	Turkey	National
1950	ItimAgence	him	Israel	National
1951	AgenceKhmere de Presse	AKP	Cambodia	National
1951	Vietnam Presse	VP	Viet-Nam	National
1952	Near & Far East News (Asia), Ltd.	(Asia)	United Kingdoma	Specialized
1952	Ta Tao News Agency	TTNA	China (Formosa)	National
1952	Yugopress		Yugoslavia	National

Unesco, (1953). news agencies their structure and operation, Unesco by the united nations educational, scientific and cultural organization 19, avenue kleber, paris-16 printed by gorges lang, paris. p.15-17)

## **2.12 INDIA**

India the idea of the take-over of Associated Press of India (API) from Reuters was mooted in 1946 at a meeting of the Indian and Eastern Newspapers Society (IENS), a body of newspaper owners of the region, in Lahore. Among those who supported the scheme were Devdas Gandhi of the Hindustan Times, Ksturi Srinivasan of the Hinda and Tushar Kanti Ghosh of Amrit Bazar Patrika. The Press Trust of India was incorporated in Madras on 27 August 1947. In 1948 the Press Trust of India, cooperative of Indian newspapers, arrived at a three-year agreement with Reuters under which it took over the Associated Press of India and joined Reuters as a partner in the collection and dissemination of news from all over the world. Press Trust of India (PTI) went into operation on 1 February 1949. From 1953 PTI became a free agent, as the PTI board on the basis of experience turned down Reuters' new proposal

## **2.13 ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN (AAP)**

Associated Press of Pakistan (AAP) was established in 1948. Initially it was run through a trust, but it was taken over by the Government through an ordinance on 15 June 1961. In Egypt, the Middle East News Agency (MENA) was established on 15 December 1955 as a joint stock company owned by Egyptian press establishments in 1960, MENA was nationalized along with other press establishments and was affiliated to the Ministry of Information. In 1978, MENA become a national press establishment affiliated to Shura (consultative) council. like other national press organizations.

Pakistan Press International (PPI), a private limited company with Karachi as headquarters was also established in 1956. Prensa Latina (PL), with headquarters in Havana, Cuba, was founded on 15 June, 1959, shortly after the triumph of the Cuban Revolution. Maghreb Arab Press (MAP), was created in 1959 in Morocco. Algeria press Service (APS) Algeria's News Agency, was founded on 1 December 1961 in the wake of the national liberation war, to be in standard-bearer on the world media scene.

#### **2.14 GHANA NEWS AGENCY (GNA)**

Ghana News Agency (GNA) was established in 1957 as the first news agency in Sub-Saharan Africa, GNA contributed to African and Ghanaian emancipation. Ghana's first President, Dr. Kwame Nkumah, regarded GNA as a counter-weight to biased reporting by international news agencies. After three years of existence as a government department, on 1 July 1960 (the day when Ghana was declared a republic). GNA became a state corporation. A move was first made in 1957 to start a Nigerian national news agency.

The agency was to be a co-operative to be controlled by leading broadcasting and newspaper interests in Nigeria. That move collapsed when the Daily Times withdrew from the arrangement. Three conferences on the development of information media in Africa were sponsored by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in Dakar. in 1961. Paris in 1962 and Tunis in 1963. These conferences led to the formation of the Union of African News Agencies. In this wave of agency expansion during 1960 - 62, a total of 23 agencies were founded.

#### **2.15 ORGANIZATION OF ASIAN NEWS AGENCIES (OANA)**

Organization of Asian News Agencies was founded in Bangkok at a meeting of Asian news agencies organized under The aegis of Unesco on 22 December 1961. The meeting was participated by Antara, APP, Bakhtar, CNA, Kyodo, PNS, PTI, Orient Press, VP, Information Ministers of Ceylon, Iran, Malaysia and Nepal, Thai Newspapers Association and 20 observers, including AP, Reuters, AFP and various UN bodies and international press bodies. According to the Unesco Report on World Communications (1975), there were news agencies from 90 sovereign countries of the world. But 40 countries had none and these included 25 countries with populations of more than one million.

Agencies were directly controlled by the state in 50 of these 90 countries, in the 40 others, the agencies were cooperatively owned and run by the newspapers and the media. In many of these countries, even where the agencies ostensibly were autonomous corporations, owing to the political set-up, the State cast a big shadow on the news agencies. On 1 December 1953, the International Press Institute<sup>33</sup>, then

based in Zurich<sup>34</sup>, issued in report on The Flow of the News which was a study done in cooperation with editors, agency executives and foreign correspondents in 10 countries – eight countries from Western Europe and other two from USA and India.

This study, performed by the press and for the press, noted the lack of balance in the press picture of another country. It found that news agency coverage was centered heavily on a few major countries United States, United Kingdom, Germany, France and one or two others and on international organisations in which these are associated. The question of adequate and equitable flow of information among all nations, developed or undeveloped, had been reviewed within the framework of the United Nations.

The General Assembly at its seventh session in 1952 decided to have a survey made of the state of mass media, and entrusted the task to UNESCO in 1957, the Director General of UNESCO conceded the inadequacy of data on this subject and reported that when the factual position was not fully known it was not possible to formulate any programme. Subsequently, several conferences held in different regions brought into focus the need, both to develop national media and to encourage international cooperation in this field, especially in the developing world. (OANA Today and tomorrow in OANA newsletter silver jubilee 1961 – 1986, p. 23.)

## **2.16 NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT (NAM)**

NAM The first official and most important inter-governmental conference of the Afro-Asian Block was held in Bandung, Indonesia, in 1955. This conference is generally seen as the founding meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM). Most of the 29 participating states had recently been decolonised and the anti-colonial sentiments expressed during the conference were very strong. The Final Communiqué of the Bandung Conference condemned colonialism on various grounds.

It called colonialism a 'means of cultural repression' and defined colonialism as 'the subjection of peoples to alien subjugation, domination and exploitation'. When the NAM was launched the area of information was not considered that important. However, we find mention of cultural development and cultural exchanges in the Belgrade Summit Declaration. The first clear expression of the issues related to the

media is found in the Action Program of Economic Cooperation adopted at NAM by the Heads of the State and Government at Algiers (September 5-9, 1973):

1. The developing countries should get together in the domain of mass communication in order to adopt joint measures to promote the mutual exchange of ideas which are inspired by the following principles:
  - (a) Reorganisation of existing communication networks which are inherited from the colonial past and which have prevented them from communicating freely, directly and rapidly.
  - (b) An initiative for joint measures to revise current multinational agreement with the aim of revising the tariff for news reports and facilitating faster and cheaper communication.
  - (c) Urgent measures to accelerate the process of collective acquisition of communication satellites and elaboration of a code of conduct for the manner of their use.
  - (d) Closer contacts between information agencies, universities, libraries, planning and research bodies and other institutions should be encouraged so that developing countries can “rty out an exchange of experience and technological know-how and share their ideas.
2. The nonaligned nations should exchange and disseminate information on mutual achievements in all domains through newspapers, journals, radio, television and information media in their countries.

In January 1975 news agencies of 12 non-aligned countries, with a common wish for mutual exchange of information, launched the Pool. Among the first reports of the Pool were statements of 17 heads of state or government. Three months later, the Coordinating Bureau of Non-Aligned Countries, meeting in Havana, expressed satisfaction at the initiative, and offered its moral and political support for the development of the Pool. In August 1975, Tanjug reported to the Conference of Foreign Ministers of Non-Aligned Countries in Lima, Peru, that the number of participating agencies had increased to about 40.

The conference noted with satisfaction the results achieved in promoting cooperation among the non-aligned countries in the field of mass media, including the establishment of the Pool of non-aligned agencies in January 1975. This conference also decided that a special meeting of representatives of governments and news agencies of non-aligned countries be convened to prepare a draft constitution for Pool members, and accepted India's offer to host it in the following year. Tunisia was appointed as coordinator in this field. The conference also supported the holding of a symposium on mass media in non-aligned countries in Tunisia. In preparation of the meeting of representatives of governments and news agencies of non-aligned countries to be held in India, a workshop of news agencies of India.

Tunisia and Yugoslavia was held in Belgrade at the end of January 1976 to draw up a draft constitution for the Pool. This was closely followed in March 1976 by the Tunis symposium on cooperation among non-aligned nations in the field of information. Three years after Algiers, this Symposium on Communication held in Tunisia paved the way for the first Conference of Ministers of Information of the Non-Aligned Countries in New Delhi. Nearly 200 participants, comprising leading personalities from mass media, government representatives and public and scientific workers from more than 50 countries attending the symposium unanimously concluded that the non-aligned and developing countries had unequal position in the international flow of information and the existing systems of communication.

Delegations from 59 countries, led by their respective Ministers of Information and heads of leading news agencies, and seven observers, attended the First General Conference of the News Agencies Pool of Non-Aligned Countries held in New Delhi, India, from 8 to 13 July 1976. Inaugurating the conference, the Prime Minister of India, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, said the non-aligned countries, despite the extraordinary diversity among them, shared a common past, a common present and a common future. They had suffered from colonial rule economic exploitation, cultural suppression and psychological frustration and they prized their regained freedom. Yet freedom could not be consolidated without economic strength. The non-aligned countries, therefore, wanted an equitable share of the world's resources and technology and a future free from wars and tension.



These goals, she said, made non-alignment one of the most purposive and powerful movements in the world's history. It was based on the positive values of trust, hope and willingness to cooperate. As against that, alignment was negative, inasmuch as it involved teaming up against others out of fear and suspicion. Mrs. Gandhi pointed out that the non-aligned countries were still handicapped by their colonial past. "The European language we speak itself becomes a conditioning element we imbibe their prejudices. Even our image of ourselves, not to speak of the view of other countries, tends to conform to theirs." The conference noted that the serious inadequacy and imbalance in the prevailing world information set-up were the result of concentration of the means of communicating information in the hands of a few news agencies located in certain developed countries.

These agencies alone decided what news would be purveyed, and how it would be purveyed, to the rest of the world. The people of developing countries, especially the non-aligned nations, were thus forced to see each other, and even themselves, through the eyes of these news agencies. The international news media misrepresented the efforts of the non-aligned countries for world peace, justice and the establishment of a just world economic order, and also sought to divide the movement.

The non-aligned countries resolved to rectify this situation through greater collective self-reliance. They emphasised that the establishment of a New International Order for Information was as necessary as the New International Economic Order, and that the Pool was an important step towards the establishment of New International Information Order (NIIO). The conference made a Declaration on Information and adopted a constitution for the Pool with a view to facilitating dissemination of correct and factual information about the non-aligned countries. The Fifth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Colombo, Sri Lanka, from 16 to 19 August 1976, welcomed and endorsed the Declaration on Information and also the other decisions taken by the New Delhi conference. It described them as an important step towards further cooperation among the non-aligned countries in establishing a balanced and equitable distribution of news and information to the peoples of the world. It said the emancipation and development of national information media was an integral part of the overall struggle for political, economic and social independence.

The Statute of the News Agencies Pool of the Non-Aligned Countries was approved by the Colombo Summit. Mrs. Indira Gandhi said in Colombo, "Since Algiers we have been formulating programmes of cooperation amongst the non-aligned. It is now time to pool our resources and our experience. The focus should be on the functional cooperation. The Non-Aligned News Agencies Pool is an example of our determination to be better informed about each other, not just political but also economic level." (Jaipal. Rikshi,(1983) Non-Alignment: Origin Growth and Potential for world Peace, Allied Publishers Private Limited, New Delhi,)

(Yadava.S.Jaiswan (1983) for resolutions and decision about establishment of the News Pool see News Agencies Pool of Non-Aligned Countries : A perspective (1983) , published by Indian Institute of Mass Communication for Coordinating Committee, Allied Publishers, Private Limited, New Delhi.)

(News Agencies Pool of –Aligend Countries ibid, p.17.

## **2.17 NEW WORLD INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS ORDER (NWICO)**

The debate about a New World Information and Communications Order (NWICO) tended to focus upon media ownership and upon the contending concepts of information as commodity and information as social good, upon the freedom of information as an individual versus a collective right. The NWICO debate raged throughout much of the 1970s and 1980s in the halls of the United Nations, and particularly within UNESCO.

NWICO proponents and opponents alike accepted the premise of a link between economic progress and the availability of information. However, liberal theorists maintained that national cultures and sovereignty were not threatened by information concentration, while structuralists and socialist analysts argued that they were. In particular the NWICO proponents mostly drawn from the ranks of non-aligned nations, claimed that Western ownership and control of both the news media and their distribution channels constituted a form of cultural dominance whose covert goal was capitalist economic expansion. This argument, played out in forums such as the Non-Aligned Movement and UNESCO conferences, drew support from the Soviet Union, and hostility from Western administrations. It was partly due to fears of the growing

politicisation of Unesco that the United States and Great Britain withdrew from that organisation in the mid-1980s.

There have been other efforts to create alternatives and most important among such efforts in news agency field is the Inter Press Service (IPS). It was founded in 1964 by a group of journalists including Roberto Savio as a cooperative from 1964 to 1968 it served certain Latin American Governments to conduct a dialogue between Europe and Latin America to improve understanding of projects of same political orientation. Between 1968 and 1971, the political situation changed considerably and soon, IPS offices were closed down. From 1971 onwards, IPS developed into a specialised news agency aiming at becoming a third world agency. IPS had, in the middle of the 1980s, correspondents posted in 50 countries and stringers regularly reported from numerous other capitals. Within three decades IPS services were available through online computer services, electronic databases, printed bulletins or daily teleprinter. It claimed to be the world's fifth largest news agency. With regional editorial and managerial centers in Asia, Africa, the Caribbean, Latin America, North America and Europe, IPS guarantees the cultural diversity of its news report. From the world desk in Amsterdam,

The Netherlands, IPS coordinated its global service. Despite financial difficulties, IPS still survives. IPS World Service produces 30 reports a day on events and processes affecting the peoples and nations of the South. Primary languages are English and Spanish. Reports are translated into many other languages and widely distributed. IPS began Internet distribution in 1994, using a website set up by the Norwegian telecommunications company, Telenor. The home page the Global Gateway, based in Rome, was launched in 1996, with a Spanish language equivalent added in 1999, produced in Montevideo. IPS leverages its Internet presence through arrangements with several web portals, including One World Online. A keyword searchable archive dates from 1994. Visitors see headlines and the first lines of items only subscribers can access complete texts. A text-based graphic design accommodates users with slow Internet connectivity. 7,000 hits a day come mainly from the US. IPS also sends customised news packages to over 5,000 subscribers, mostly NGOs, UN and E. U. officials, media and educational institutions and personnel, libraries, trade councils and government ministries. Distributing via the Internet portals greatly extends the reach of IPS services. IPS, One World and the Panos Institute together are designing

Inter World Radio to distribute news scripts to radio stations for reading directly on the air.

In the US the main distribution channel is Global Information Network (GIN) daily distributing about 70 English and Spanish language reports to over 300 clients, two-thirds of whom are African-American newspapers, and many of whose readers do not have web access. Some national agencies (e.g. OPECNA, QNA, and WAM) use IPS channels to reach a larger audience. The web also facilitates in-house correspondence among IPS correspondents and bureaus." In Brazil newspaper groups launched their own news agencies. Agencia Estado, of Estado group, distributes information by fax, satellite, FM, pagers and dedicated lines.

It was founded in 1970 as part of Group Estado which began with newspaper O Estado de S. Paulo (1875) and now also owns Jornal da Tarde (1966) OESP Midia Direta (1984) Radio Eldorado (1958) Agencia Estado (1970) and OESP Grafica (1988). In 1991, the agency started a broadcast service, in 1995 Brazil Financial Wire, in 1998 Release online and in 1998 Info cast. Similarly Agency O Globo<sup>40</sup>, established in 1974, is a division of Globo Organisation, which includes the leading broadcast television network, a publishing company, a radio network, an Internet division and three newspapers. The material distributed by Agency O Globe includes the content of three newspapers O Globe, Extra and Diario de S. Paulo, as well as real time information produced by its Internet division, Globo Online. (The New World order and the Geopolitics of Information by Christopher Brown- Syed appeared in: LIBRES: Library and Information Science Research, 19 January 1993.)

## **2.18 AFRICA AND LATIN AMERICA**

UNESCO has since early eighties supported the establishment of national news agencies with a view to improving news collection and dissemination within nations and promoting greater diversity of news sources in international news. These projects, CANAD (Central African News Agencies Development Project), SEANAD (Southern and East Africa News Agency Development Project), and WANAD (West African News Agency Development Project), collectively, generated or helped to sustain an impressive number of national news agencies in Africa during the 1980, and 1990, (e.g. 13 in the case of WANAD, 12 in the case of SEANAD). However, the

projects had not been able to establish any one model of appropriate intervention because the circumstances of each country, each agency, were so different one from another. In Zimbabwe, the national news agency, Ziana, was strong, while in Tanzania; Shihata had almost perished (and is now mine). In addition to training, the projects also helped supply equipment, ranging from basic start-up technology (even typewriters) to state-of-the-art computers. News exchange was another area of activity. SEANAD supported the design of electronic boxes' by telephone, a system that was later transformed into software for writing, filing and exchange of news items.

The server was based in Zimbabwe, and other agencies were given PCs: the agencies only had to dial the server to offer and collect news stories. There were differences between Francophone and Anglophone African countries. In the territories that had been governed by France, news agencies began life essentially as mailboxes for Agence France-Press, the world's only French language international agency. Other influences were Belgian (e.g. AZAP in Zaire) and Portuguese (e.g. Angop in Angola). Unesco's many initiatives included support for PANA (Africa) and CANA (the Caribbean) from the 1960s, to the 1980s, the national agencies typically experienced an uneasy mixture of autonomy and dependence; their editorial content was primed to provide what has been disparagingly referred to as 'protocol' news. Motivated staff was hard to maintain, markers were weak, and subject to government intervention. However, by the turn of the year 2000, it was becoming clear that many national news agencies were in crisis.

In many cases, agency technologies are often obsolete, and in countries whose governments do not appreciate the content that news agencies produce, the agencies are perishing through a mixture of political intervention and inadequate financial support. For example, Zimbabwe Inter-Africa News Agency (ZIANA), founded in 1981, was a rather successful national news agency owned by Zimbabwe Mass Media Trust based in Harare. It has folded up for political reasons; and New Ziana, which has replaced it, is not so successful for lack of funds. In 1992, there were 48 national news agencies, almost all of which were under the tutelage of public authorities through government institutions such as the information ministries or sometimes directly under the control of the President's office. From the onset, they served as

national intermediaries for the distribution of teleprinted news essentially generated by the Western agencies.

Following the acute crisis of the early 1990s, the Pan-African News agency (PANA) kicked off structural transformation process spearheaded by Egypt and Nigeria who successively occupied the chair of its board of directors. In 1993, a plan of recovery under the aegis of the OAU Secretary General and UNESCO was instituted to professionalise the agency and diversify its services. Finally, with the backing of Unesco. PANA was liquidated in October 1997. In its place, a company, Panapress Ltd. regrouping public and private shareholders was set up with a capital of 12.9 million dollars. It is now a commercial company with 75 percent ownership by African private investors, and 25 percent by African states.

With correspondents and stringers in 51 countries, it is committed to "providing accurate, objective, yet fresh view of African people, politics and business climates. It has its headquarters in Dakar, Senegal. Panapress fee-based content can be packaged to suit the content needs of individuals, organisations, print and broadcast media and can be delivered via e-mail or using the Panapress self-service interface UNESCO also supported establishment of Caribbean News Agency (CANA), an independent institution serving 13 Commonwealth Caribbean countries<sup>43</sup> from Belize in the north to Guyana in the south. It started operation on 7 January 1976 as a cooperative of 16 media organisations located in six of these countries, headquartered in Bridgetown, Barbados, where it is registered as a limited liability company. It serves over 100 clients with wire, radio, Internet and photo services throughout the Caribbean. (Panapress website, 9 December 2004.)

The Caribbean Media Corporation (CMC) has evolved from the merger of the commercial operations of the Caribbean News Agency Ltd. (CANA) and the Caribbean Broadcasting Union<sup>45</sup> (CBU). A Chief Operating Officer, reporting to a Board of Directors drawn from the two constituent companies, leads CMC. This demonstrates how in regions of the developing world that share economic and other structures, a regional news agency may have greater viability than isolated national news agencies. CMC combines traditional news agency, internet and audio-visual operations, and is increasingly commercialising its operations.

Mention should also be made here of (Agencia Latinoamericana de Informacion (LATIN) created on 13 January, 1970, by 13 leading newspapers of Latin America.) The founders engaged Reuters as managing agent of Latin with the responsibilities of selecting and training Latin America journalists, management and technical staff for the agency, setting up communication and administrative structure.

On 1 July 1971 when the service was launched, it had 44 subscribers; and in December 1977 the number of subscribers was 156. Latin content combined news from Latin correspondents in Latin America and Washington, world news from Reuters and summary of the New York Times. It initially transmitted 18 hours a day in November 1977, it became a 24-hour news service. In May 1981 Latin ceased to exist.

## **2.19 NEWS AGENCY IN POST-COLD WAR ERA**

After the fall of communism in Eastern Europe and disintegration of the Soviet Union and the later disintegration of Yugoslavia, there was another wave of establishment of new private news agency initiatives and reorganisation of existing news agencies. State agencies have faced reduction in State funds. TASS has become ITAR-TASS, but agencies of different republics can now have independent arrangements with foreign agencies and ITAR-TASS. Tanjug exists but with reduced importance. In Romania, Agerpes, after the reorganisation on 8 January 1990, has become Rompres-Romania's official "mouthpiece" organised as a public institution of national concern. Since the beginning of 1996, the Czech News Agency (CTK) has existed without any state or other subsidy. It covers all its expenses solely from its own commercial activities. Bulgarian Telegraph Agency has closed 50 correspondent bureaus, abroad, and is now almost fully dependent on the international and regional agencies for foreign news. Some private initiatives have succeeded and others have failed. Interfax, founded in 1989 by Mikhail Komissar, with colleagues from Radio Moscow, is a major success story. The Interfax news agency is part of the Interfax Information Services Group which is composed of about thirty companies, including national, regional and specialised news agencies. Baltic News Service (BNS) was founded in Moscow in April 1990, at the height of the Baltic states' struggle for

freedom, to bring news directly from the three Baltic countries to Moscow since then BNS has grown fast to be the Baltic region's leading and largest news agency.

Now it is a member of Alma Media Group, Finland. Belgrade based BETA News Agency was established in 1992 by nine journalists to provide "full and objective coverage of events in Serbia and Montenegro and Southeast Europe," It calls itself a regional independent news service and maintains the site Clean Hands that deals with corruption in Serbia and Montenegro and neighborhood. It is funded by US-based IREX organization (May 2002 – December, 2004) and Norwegian People's Aid of the leading agencies which were called big four during the NWICO debate AFP and AP are on sound footing because of their ownership structure.

That was not the case with the other two. On the occasion of UP's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, 21 June 1975, Time Magazine said: undertaking the United Press today is the world most enterprising wire-news merchants outside of the US include more than 30 national and other news agencies which relay its reports to additional thousands of newspaper and broadcasters. In the US, UPI's clients include 1134 newspapers and other publication and 3699 broadcast in 1982 Scripps family sold UPI. Tennessee entrepreneurs, Douglas Rush and William Geissler, took over the news service from the owners of the Scripps Howard newspaper chain. Under their ownership UPI continued to lose money, eventually filing for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in 1985. The company's headquarters move New York City to Washington D.C. Mexican publisher Mario Vazquez Rana purchased it out of bankruptcy in 1986 in 1991 UPI was purchased out of its second bankruptcy by a group of Saudi investors and expanded its involvement in the Middle East. In 2000, News World communications a middle group founded by Rev. Sun Myung Moon that includes The Washington Times newspaper purchased UPI. Now UPI products include original content in English, Spanish and Arabic. Besides headquarters in Washington D.C it has offices in Beirut, Hong Kong, London, Santiago. Seoul and Tokyo. Though it was United Press which started feeding television news clips to television stations, today the market dominated by Reuters and AP. United Press launched the first International television news film service in 1952 as United Press Movie tone News. It had two products a newsreel that was distributed to theaters and a news film that was distributed to television stations. It became UPI News Films from 1963 to 1967 when ITN joined it to make it UPITN. When ABC purchased it became WTN and



was eventually owned by Disney. In the third quarter of 1999, Disney decided that WTN was not part of its core business.

It needed cash to meet third quarter projections and it sold the company to AP for \$55 million. AP merged it with APTV to make it APTN. Another news film agency Visnews was launched in 1957 as a joint venture of BBC, Reuters and NBC. By 1980, Visnews had about 30 overseas bureaus and 400 freelance cameramen. In 1985, cash-rich Reuters bought Visnews and later renamed it Reuters Television. But the emergence of global television news, led by companies such as CNN and BBC World Television, has to be noted. Though they may subscribe to APTN and Reuters Television, their own channels are distributed by satellite or by cable, or provide news to terrestrial broadcasters and through the Internet. Charles-Louis Haws, who invented the business of news agencies. Would never have imagined the growth and diversity it will achieve in less than two centuries. In that carrier pigeon and telegraph era, who could have imagined about mobile phones and the Internet.

## **2.20 NEWS AGENCY IN ASIA**

Following news agency in Asia are stated below

### **2.20.1 Afghanistan - Bakhtar News Agency**

Founded in 1939. Address: The Bakhtar news agency, Government Press Department, Kabul, Afghanistan. The head office of Bakhtar is in Kabul, this being the centre for both the reception and despatch of news. The agency is a major source of news for all media in Afghanistan gathering domestic and international news and providing information to outlets. The agency has a correspondent in each of the main cities: Kandahar, Herat, Mazar-i-Sharif, Farrah, Gardez, Faizabad, Maimana, Khanabad, Ghazni, Jalalabad and Torkham. Bakhtar has contracts with four foreign agencies: UP (New York); AFF (Paris); TASS (Moscow) and Press Trust of India (Bombay) for the use of their international news services. A full service of foreign news, however, is not received from any of these agencies. Under its contract with UP, Bakhtar receives a shortened file of world news from the UP bureau in Bombay.

### **2.20.2 India**

Keshab Chandra Roy a journalist from Calcutta went to Simla, the summer capital of the Government of India, and became special correspondent of several Indian newspapers. As early as 1908, Roy saw the possibilities of starting a national news agency. he learnt in 1906 that England had adopted the multi-address telegraph system, enabling newspapers to sent press telegrams and receive them at special rates.

Along with some British journalists, he persuaded the viceroy, Lord Minto, to institute a similar system in India which proved a boon and paved way for syndication of news messages. Roy was an admirer of the AP and dreamt of starting a similar agency in India. In 1910 he launched an agency - the Press Bureau, with offices at Bombay, Calcutta and Madras. He argued that Indian newspapers could not pay separate telegraphic rates and so correspondents' messages to The Press Bureau offices would be copied and distributed. By 1913 the Press Bureau had worked for three years and was in red because the Indian newspapers were not paying the bills. Its subscribers included the Statesman and the Madras mail. Roy had to sell his property to keep the agency going. About this time, Edward E. Coates, the representative of the Statesman of England and Reuters, was persuaded by the Finance Member of Viceroy's Executive council to start an Indian news agency as he could know of failure of a bank in Madras full one week later.

This agency supplied Indian news to about a hundred officials all over the country and entered into an agreement with Reuters for the supply of foreign news. Sir Roderick Jones, Reuters' chairman persuaded Roy to amalgamate his agency with Coates and form a new one, which he called Eastern News Agency. ' It was, however, called the Associated Press of India (API)'. Coates sold his interest and retired while Roy took charge of the news operations in 1919 under the overall control of the Reuters general manager based in Bombay.' Roy is credited with great persuasive skills. The Indian Telegraph Act was amended, at Roy's instance, to secure for news agencies the facilities available to registered newspapers. It was again Roy who persuaded Hugh Keeling, the chief engineer, to allot to the agency the site in New Delhi's Parliament Street on which the Press Trust of India building was to come up many years later. Reuters' outward service from India was supplemented by Reut- Buck providing amplification of certain messages, which the Government was interested in and

Globe-Reut provided for similar amplification worldwide. The British Government started the British Official Wireless, compiled by the British Foreign Office. Messages were relayed on wireless between Rugby in England and Kirkee in India.

### **2.20.3 The Free Press**

The combination of Reuters and the Associated Press meant official control and this became apparent in the early twenties with Gandhi's movements. S. Sadanand launched the Free Press Agency (FPA) in 1927. He said in his statement of objects and reasons that public opinion was moulded entirely by news supplied from day to day and it was "difficult if not impossible to mould healthy public opinion owing to the monopoly held in the supply of news by subsidised news agencies." The FPA had a foreign section as well. Cables of some of the leading news agencies of the world were selected and pooled by the London office and sent out to India. Reuters often lost this race.

The full weight of the imperial authority was deployed to thwart this enterprise. Official pressure was exerted on Sadanand's fellow directors and four of them resigned in 1929 and the fifth did so in 1930. The Press Ordinance of May 1930 came down with a heavy hand on newspapers publishing FPA news. The Free Press telegrams were subjected to a strict censorship and newspapers grew reluctant to publish news supplied by the agency for the fear of offending the Press Ordinance or other emergency press laws. API also exerted pressure by insisting that its service would not be available to newspapers subscribing to the other agency. Sadanand sought other ways of continuing the battle, and he started the Free Press: journal as a morning daily in June 1930 from Bombay; associated newspapers were started publishing Free Press news exclusively.

In 1930 a smuggled copy of the Free Press journal was the cause of much concern in the Reuters office in Bombay and cables were sent home of Reuters being beaten by the opposition. Important FPA scoops included the Chittagong armoury raid case in February 1933. K. Rama Rao, one of the most respected journalists of his times, dug up the background of the case and printed the story of the arrest of Surya Sen, the leader there was a protest against a news agency running newspapers, and when his directors arrived at an agreement with the Associated Press, Sadanand had to give up his chain newspaper enterprise. In 1935. When his newspapers' securities were

confiscated, Sadanand had to close down his agency. Sadanand went bankrupt through the forfeiture of the heavy securities he had to pay repeatedly for the violation of the imperial code. Penalty had to be paid for an editorial entitled “Swaraj is the only remedy” in the agency's paper Free Press Journal and for publishing extracts from an article by Mahatma Gandhi and for a report of Vithalbai Patel's speech in New York. If Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi was a freedom fighter, journalist Swaminath Sadanand was a journalist freedom fighter. He fought for the freedom of the press not only when the British were ruling India but also after independence when he could warn about the dangers of Dominance of the world news by a few news agencies.

He did not invent the phrase “new world information and communication order” but he could see the problem from which the world is suffering even today. In his early journalistic career, Sadanand worked with Reuters (rather, its subsidiary Associated Press of India) for a while. Hardly anything is available on that period but it is clear that his desire to have an independent Indian news agency was born during that time. He had also been to Burma before coming back to Bombay to launch Free Press of India News Agency.

#### **2.20.4 United Press of India**

The United Press of India was started from Calcutta in 1933 by B. Sen Gupta, who had resigned from the Free Press. Sen Gupta was the Managing Director and Dr. B. C. Roy, Chairman of Board of Directors. The news agency had financial and other difficulties from the beginning. The competition was with the Associated Press with its speedy teleprinter transmission. When Dr. Rajendra Prasad inaugurated the United Press teleprinter services in 1948, the news agency had a fresh lease of life. The agency finally closed down in 1958, as newspapers were unwilling to keep it alive. C. Raghavan wrote about the collapse in 1977, “At that time, on behalf of the Indian Federation of working Journalists, I repeatedly met the Home Minister, the late Govind Ballabh Pant, in an effort to prevent the closure. Pandit Pant was willing to declare a moratorium on UPI's debt to the Post and Telegraph Department quite a substantial sum provided he was assured by the owners and newspapers that they would meet the other debts, including the Provident Fund dues of employees, and assure that the service could be run economically. The newspapers were unwilling

and the owners were unable to do anything. And so the United Press of India (UPI) collapsed”.

### **2.20.5 Press Trust of India**

The Press Trust of India, was incorporated in Madras on 27 August 1947. This was within a fortnight of what Jawaharlal Nehru described as India's “Tryst with Destiny” at the historic central hall of Parliament on the night of 14 - 15 August. In 1948, Indian newspapers formed the Press Trust of India, on the basis of cooperative ownership. It arrived at a three-year agreement with Reuters under which it took over the Associated Press and joined Reuters as a partner in the collection and dissemination of news from all over the world. At the end of four years, the agreement was ended and the Press Trust of India began purchasing Reuters’ services in bulk and distributing them to its subscribers in India.

The idea of the takeover of API from Reuters was mooted in 1946 at a meeting of the Indian and Eastern Newspapers Society (IENS) in Lahore. Among those who supported the scheme were Devdas Gandhi of the Hindustan Times, Kasturi Srinivasan of the Hindu and Tushar Kanti Ghosh of Amrit Bazar Patrika. Meanwhile, the Labour government which had come to power in England in the wake of the Tory defeat in 1945, had sounded Reuters to come to terms with the Indian newspapers about the transfer of its interests. Reuters were reluctant to give up its monopoly in India even at a time when the British had decided to transfer the power to Indians while agreeable to the handing over of the business of the internal agency, API, to the national news agency Reuters wanted to retain control over the foreign news service.

Then Reuters could manipulate the Indian and Eastern Newspaper Society (IENS) to get into a post-independence arrangement favouring Reuters all the way. The deadlock was finally resolved through the intercession of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the Member for Home and Information of the Government of India. He insisted on the total transfer of Reuters’s Indian interests to the Indian news agency, Press Trust of India, which the Reuter teleprinter line license due for renewal in July 1947, would not be renewed. Sardar Patel asked the IENS president to inform the Reuters that a new agreement be made for the immediate transfer. Reuters promptly agreed to a total transfer and invited an Indian newspaper delegation to visit England to negotiate a new deal, as the teleprinter line license of Reuters was due to be renewed in July 1947

and there was a government resolution that future licenses could be given only to Indian agencies. The new partnership deal was approved by IENS on 27 July 1948. The agreement was finally announced on 21 September 1948. On 14 January 1949, PTI remitted the required money and became a partner of Reuters with effect from 1 February 1949. Thus, the PressTrust of India (PTI) which had been registered as a company in August 1947 went into operation on 1 February 1949. PTI began as a non-profit venture. According to the Memorandum and the Articles of Association of the company, shareholding was restricted to newspapers regularly published in India, which subscribed to its services.

The shareholders could not be paid any dividends, with the income being invested solely on the promotion of professional activities originally set out for it. Its Constitution had also provided that control shall at no time pass into the hands of any interests, group or section. Administration was the responsibility of a general manager and a Board of 14 directors, of whom 10 were from the newspapers and 4 were public men. A chairman was elected annually. To direct the Indian desk in Reuters' headquarters in London, the PTI chose G. Parthasarathi, who has been assistant editor of the Hindu since 1936. K. Gopalan, a senior member of staff from API days was assigned to assist him. They reached London on 20 April 1949 to discover that the India desk consisted of six men. Five had no knowledge of Indian conditions and even Indian geography.

The sixth had a distant connection with India by virtue of having been a sub-editor of the Statesman in Calcutta about twenty years ago. But he was long past the age of retirement. Reuters violated the agreement by sending representatives to territories marked liar PTI in the agreement, without prior consultation as in the agreement. Another irritant was appointment of a British correspondent in New Delhi on a regular basis. Reuters also wanted an alteration in terms of agreement: In clause 3, in 'restatement of principles' forming the basis of partnership, it said, 'The whole is greater than the part and any rights or privileges of one part should not directly or indirectly affect the whole. On 13 August 1952 Dr B. V. Keslrar, Minister for Information and Broadcasting in the Government of India, wrote to K. Srinivasan, editor of the Hindu, "The Government expects the PTI to stand more and more on its own legs, not subservient to other international agencies but equal to them and not also forming a subsidiary part of any international cartel. If we find that PTI has

entered into an agreement which derogates from the position that we expect it to have and becomes subservient to any foreign and /or international network, we might have to think seriously how far we can continue to the PTI the facilities and cooperation that we have been extending to it until now.” Prime Minister Nehru" wrote to Srinivasan, “I am reluctant as Prime Minister to interfere in the partnership arrangements between the PTI and Reuters. That is the primary responsibility of the members of the PTI. But naturally, I am greatly interested in this matter because of its wider implications. I should like national news agencies to develop in India and I would like to judge every proposal from that point of view.” The basic difference between PTI and Reuters, he thought, was reflected in the foreign policies of the two countries.

The agreement seemed to suggest that Reuters did not like PTI to give publicity to the Indian view in international affairs, especially in Asian countries, and also wanted to increase control over PTI. This aspect of the question had not been considered when the original agreement had been drawn, since India's foreign policy had not been developed then. The Prime Minister went on to explain that Indian policies in the Middle East and South East Asia the Indian area allotted to PTI caused apprehension to Reuters who attempted to neutralise or lessen PTI activities in this area.

They had even sent a correspondent to India and there had been tendentious propaganda by a Reuters man in Pakistan. Nehru did not see much advantage in PTI able to control news going out of India, “I am a little more interested in news that goes to and comes from the places like Cairo, Baghdad, Tehran, Rangoon, Singapore and Djakarta.” The new formula proposed by Reuters was rejected by the PTI board on 20 September 1952, thus putting an end to its partnership with PTI. "When PTI emerged a free agent in 1953, we felt as happy as Jawaharlal did at the end of the interval between India's attainment of dominion status and its emergence as a sovereign republic an interval during which he chafed at to couch communications to His Majesty in the phraseology of a subject addressing his liege.” The 30,000 km long teleprinter network that PTI inherited from API in 1949 had grown to 55,000 km by the end of 1975. Starting with 30 bureaus, the PTI had 70 bureaus spread over cities and towns. In 1959, PTI's exclusive partnership with Reuters for the purchase of Reuter news ended. PTI kept its windows on ‘the world scene open through arrangements for exchange of news with 14 foreign news agencies - Reuters (UK),

APP (France), UPI (USA), Tanjug (Yugoslavia), Antara (Indonesia), Polska Agencja Prasowa (Poland), Allgemeiner Deutscher Nachrichtendienst (German Democratic Republic), BSS (Bangladesh), Novosti (USSR), Bernama (Malaysia), Prensa Latina (Cuba), Agerpress (Rumania).

#### **2.20.6 United News of India**

The United News of India (UNI) was sponsored by eight newspapers, Hindu, Times of India, Statesman, Amrit Bazar Patrika, Hindustan Times, Hindustan Standard, Deccan Herald and Aryavarta. It was registered as a company on 19 December, 1959. On the first day of its operations, 21 March 1961, for some time the agency had to make do with old UPI teleprinter machines, rusted through disuse from this modest start the UNI grew into an important rival agency within a decade.

The UNI had launched a number of services. In 1968, it introduced a weekly background service of well-documented, in-depth backgrounders on current topics. In 1970, the UNI Agriculture News and Feature Service was launched, a pioneering effort in the field of agricultural journalism. The financial and commercial service provided trend reports on Indian and foreign markets. The last in the series was the UNI Airmail News Service (1971) designed to ensure a steady flow of processed and factual information on a variety of themes. UNI was also the first to venture in to the field of science reportage with a full-time science correspondent for world news. The UNI had arrangements with the Associated Press (USA), Deutsche Press-Agentur (West Germany), Agenzia Nazionale Stampa Associata (Italy), Agerpress (Rumania), Cetelta (Czechoslovakia), Jiji (Japan), the Eastern News Agency (Bangladesh).

#### **2.20.7 Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BBS)**

Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BS'S), the country's national news agency was launched on 1 January 1972 within days of birth of Bangladesh as an independent country. The Dhaka bureau of the Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) was turned into the national news agency of the new country. Beginning with a small strength in the head office in Dhaka and a bureau in Chittagong, BSS now has bureaus in Raishahi, Rangamati and Sylhet also. The national news agency has its correspondents in the 64 administrative districts of the country. The agency functions almost round-the-clock



to disseminate national, international, political economics development and other news to nearly 50 subscribers across the country.

The subscribers of BSS include all the leading newspapers, radio, television networks, international news agencies having bureaus in Dhaka, banks as well as government ministries. BSS subscribes to two major international wire services, Reuters and AFP. It also exchanges news with Press Trust of India (PTI), Associated Press of Pakistan (APP), Xinhua, the official news agency of China, Bernama of Malaysia and TransData of Australia. BSS transmits news features including IPS features. BSS has news exchange agreements with a host of other national news agencies.

The subscribers of BSS include all the leading newspapers, radio, television networks, international news agencies having bureaus in Dhaka, banks as well as government ministries. Right from the start its news service was in English. It introduced Bangla news service in 1999 in the backdrop of a swelling number of Bangla newspapers. Recently, it switched over to computerised news network. Earlier it used to depend on teleprinters to disseminate news to clients. With the launching of this website, BSS is planning to go online with clients news and features. There is a subscribers DANIDA-funded human rights desk in the agency.

#### **2.20.8 Hsin Hua (New China) News Agency (NCNA)**

The Hsin Hua News Agency was founded in Yenan in 1944 and transferred to Peking in 1949. It is only since it has been established in its new headquarters that it has had modern equipment at its disposal. The NCNA is an official government agency which forms Part Of the Information Department of the Peking Government. All its employees are civil servants. The agency has the monopoly of supplying news to all newspapers in the Continental area of China. The NCNA distributes domestic news to all Continental Chinese newspapers. It has organized a foreign service composed mainly of items taken from the TASS service which is received regularly. The agency distributes in London a daily mimeographed bulletin in English, made up of items taken from Radio Peking short-wave broadcasts which are monitored by the London staff of the agency. In Hong Kong, NCNA distributes a daily bulletin in English and Chinese, also made up of items from Radio Peking short-wave broadcasts.

### **2.20.9 Nepal - The National News Agency (RSS)**

The National News Agency (RSS), having nationwide network, is the largest and longest serving news agency in Nepal. It was established in 2018 BS under the Rastriya Samachar Samiti Act, 2019 BS, merging two privately owned news agencies with a view to facilitating newspapers and broadcast media. With the development of news media in Nepal, subscribers of RSS have so far reached more than 100 newspapers, radios, online media, and televisions. A pool of permanent and stringer reporters scattering throughout the country contribute to the news service and photo file every day.

It has arrangements for exchange of news with the reputed Associated Press (AP) of USA, Agence France Presse (AFP) of France, Xinhua of China, Kyodo of Japan, Press Trust of India and Associated Press of Pakistan for over three decades, and has started providing high quality photo service of national and international events subscribing from the AP, AFP, Xinhua and Kyodo recently. The RSS also exchanges news with these news agencies as part of bilateral arrangements.

Whether it is information-conscious readers in Kathmandu or villagers in rural Nepal, students at campuses, diplomatic missions in Kathmandu or abroad; or commercial, financial, and industrial establishments, RSS serves news and photos in a timely manner in the best traditions of news agency journalism, with speed, accuracy, and objectivity. RSS provides news and photo services in edit-friendly format so that it would be easier to secure, copy and edit. (<http://www.rss.com.np/login/auth?format#>)

### **2.20.10 Bhutan News Service**

Bhutan News Service, abbreviated as BNS, is the first news agency of Bhutan. It is run as an independent news agency by Bhutanese refugee journalists since 2004 from Kathmandu, the capital city of Nepal. This is, probably, first of its kind considering a very few refugee media or journalism in exile. The agency is solely operated by refugees who are mostly born or brought up in refugee camps and without previous media experiences.

The Bhutan News Service was founded in 2004 by a small group of Bhutanese refugee youths, who during the time believed that journalism was a noble means to keep community informed and continue advocating the refugee issue. Most of the

exiled publications were shut down, in particular following crunch financial assistance and or due to lack of human resources to continue volunteering without anything in return. Therefore, the news service emerged in as an alternative means to replace most of those publications, if not all. Initially, the works were limited to simply blogging. From 2006, BNS went online through its own news portal.

#### **2.20.11 Sri Lanka's - Lankapuvath News Agency**

Lankapuvath was established in 1978 as a result of an idea generated at the UNESCO. Lankapuvath is Sri Lanka's national and only news agency and is based in Colombo and consists of five partners, national dailies and main national electronic media institutions. The shareholders of Lankapuvath are Sri Lanka Rupavahini Corporation (SLRC), Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation (SLBC), Independent Television Network (ITN), and Associated Newspaper of Ceylon Limited (ANCL) well known as the "Lake House". It is managed by a Board of Directors composed of the Chairmen of above institutions.

Lankapuvath has provided comprehensive coverage of Sri Lankan and foreign news for over 25 years, drawing on its network of over 30 countries worldwide, via an active link with the National News Agencies of the Organisation of Asia-Pacific News Agencies (OANA Pool) Lankapuvath distributes news and images via the Internet, TV, SMS and mobile phones. This output is supplemented by additional services aimed at catering to news requests from a demanding public Lankapuvath operates 24 hours a day 7 days a week and mainly targets over 2 million Sri Lankans living overseas (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lankapuvath>).

#### **2.20.12 Malaysia - Bernama, News Agency**

The Malaysian National News Agency or BERNAMA, a statutory body, was set up by an Act of Parliament in 1967 and began operations in May 1968. A five-member Supervisory Council appointed by the Yang di-Pertuan Agong is created to ensure that BERNAMA is always guided by the provisions of the Act in implementing its objectives.

The agency has its offices in all the states in Malaysia and correspondents in Singapore and Jakarta and stringers or retainers in Washington, London, Manila, New Delhi, Dhaka, Melbourne and Vancouver. Equipped with fully computerised

operations, it provides general and economic news services and screen-based real time financial information services to subscribers in Malaysia and Singapore. BERNAMA's role as a source of reliable and latest news is well known among local & international media including government agencies, corporations, universities and individuals nationwide. Most Malaysian newspapers and electronic media and other international news agencies are BERNAMA subscribers. BERNAMA is operating in the information industry, which is competitive but has tremendous growth potential.

### **2.20.13 Japan – Kyodo News Agency**

KYODO NEWS, founded in November 1945 as a nonprofit cooperative organization, is the leading news agency in Japan. Kyodo covers accurately and promptly the ever-changing developments in Japan and the rest of the world, distributing news around the clock to domestic and overseas news media as well as international organizations and institutions. Most Japanese newspapers and broadcasting stations subscribe to Kyodo. Operating with an annual budget from membership dues and other subscription revenues, Kyodo is completely independent of government and commercial interests.

It has built a reputation as the most reliable, integrated news agency in Japan, distributing not only news stories but also photos, graphics, audio and video scripts. As one of the most influential news agencies in Asia, Kyodo offers English-language and Chinese-language services in addition to Japanese-language service. Kyodo covers Japan and the rest of the world from Japanese and Asian viewpoints. As part of its Asian news-gathering network, Kyodo has bureaus in Seoul, Pyongyang, Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Taipei, Manila, Hanoi, Phnom Penh, Bangkok, Kuala Lumpur, Singapore, Jakarta, New Delhi, Islamabad, Tehran, Kabul and Baghdad. Kyodo reporters based in other parts of the world also keep close watch on Asia-related news. Additionally, Kyodo has local correspondents in Vladivostok, Ulan Bator, Dili, Yangon, Kathmandu, Colombo and Dhaka, providing thorough news coverage from all of Asia. (<http://www.kyodonews.jp/english/about/globalnetwork.html>)

### **2.20.14 Indonesia - The Kantorberita Antara (Antara)**

The Kantorberita Antara (Antara) was founded on 13 December 1937 by a number of Indonesian journalists who considered it necessary to have a national news agency. In

December 1949, Antara was again recognized as the national news agency of Indonesia. The headquarters are in Jakarta. There are bureau and permanent correspondents in: Island of Java Bandung, Semarang, Surabaya, Jogjakarta and Solo; Island of Sumatra-Palembang and Medan; Island of Celebes Macassar. Antara has many half-time correspondents and stringers in small centres throughout Indonesia. It receives each day from its bureau and correspondents in Indonesia

The agency have a bureau in Amsterdam and correspondents in London, Paris, Bangkok and Tokyo. Antara intends to send more of its own correspondents to foreign countries in the near future. Antara operates 24 hours a day and distributes the following five daily bulletin services:

- (a) Two domestic news bulletins in Indonesian
- (b) Two bulletins of foreign news in Indonesian
- (c) Two bulletins in English of domestic and foreign
- (d) Two bulletins in English of economic and financial news
- (e) One bulletin of economic and financial news in Chinese

#### **2.20.15 Korea (Northern Region) : Chung-Yang Tongshin**

Chung-Yang Tongshin (by-line: Chung-Yang) was founded in 1948 in Pyongyang. The agency forms part of the government information service.

The agency's main bureau is in Pyong-Yang. Here are gathered and assembled the news items sent in by correspondents and received from TASS and the Hsin Hua (New China) News Agency. Besides its head office in Pyong-Yang the agency has correspondents in the principal cities of Korea (Northern region). It has *no* correspondents abroad. Two news bulletins in Korean are distributed each day by Chung-Yang Tongshin to two daily newspapers, about 10 weekly newspapers and several government departments.

#### **2.20.16 Korea (Southern Region) Haptong Tongshin**

This news agency was established on 1 November 1945 with the name of Haptong Tongshin in Korean and of Korean Pacific Press (KPP) in English, and took over

Japanese press facilities *in* Seoul after the liberation. It was registered as a limited company by the Korean civil court. The agency is headed by a president and board of directors.

There are editors for general news and for the radio. there are bureau at Seoul, Inchon, Suwon, Taijon, Chonju, Taigu, Masan, Chenju, Kwangju, Gunsan, In, Mokpo, Yeosu, Wonju and Cheju. Editions in the Korean language are distributed to nearly 40 newspaper offices in the Republic of Korea, central and local government offices and others, The agency has concluded contracts or agreements with the Associated Press (U.S.A.), Agence France-Presse (France), Kyodo News Service and Jiji Press (Japan).

(There is wide news agency that exist in the Asia .I select few news agency in Asia according to requirement of my research.)