

Biafran Ciphertexts from FRA

Biafran traffic from 1968?

In December 2019, just after we had made the first break into this traffic, Jan-Olof Grahn of the Swedish signal intelligence agency, Försvarets Radioanstalt — FRA, informed me that he had found three Biafran ciphertext messages in one of their files. The messages were not in the format they normally had when being received by radio, instead they were handwritten ciphertexts copied onto sheets of paper together with the station indicator, Biscaia, and their monthly date. Originally it was believed the messages were from 1969, however after they had been deciphered the plaintext made it clear that they must be from the year 1968.

Biscaia 16 March

CASER MSRNI FCDAAH ETRNY DSTEA TTNMR THHNO IENTN AELYN OSYRO
OENNT HMEER DLTOT NOUNE OBRET NERSS SEMCF REASE BHNEY UIETH
EEWNL CZMAS QISRM HHOXT AEEVEE TIRFL EROIE EOFIR +

Biscaia 28 March

MOPTO AETDR DJMZA NCRES RNRAO OENNS ZUTVR EOLDD EOOER APALF
CEIZE ETLIW SASFF LOERR PREVY ITSTE MGHNL NRESE ERCGN EIFUR
TCOSL OCENA TDEFU TDRIT CEFER REMLE ITEOO LFROO OTEEV TBIEF
LROOD FLETI CRULE EAANE OCNEW EMNAT ESRRN NNOAE FNUIG OSEHH
SSRUC EETZZ REEEB SONMA ROZZR EWRIU IXLUM REERR FAADD ROOBH
TEYCE BISPO CRRZE EEYEO LSREY TEOIE PACKI OTHRL +

Biscaia 3 April

NEIER RSATI ADHOC TRGIE BCANE MNOWR SECON RKERS EEIAK LGCMD
SRFKR NIVRO OAISD KDDL S OEREG ZFAAW ISBSH AEFNA GDESO TTTAA
AAF CO GYEIR DNOLU OASSL OKEHN EONMK IMAHE EOCRU MAWRN RSSOM
CRTFE FQOVT EEPFI RMNCS YUKCA SZZDM CHALO NRGIW WOMAO NEANG
SENMI EFFID SRRSP NCONN MLPOO VT SOO SBSEY AGNRR OEBBO OCIRE
MSFHB BYRLD OEEOE PZOFT TALLU LECRZ PUEHM ARAEE BTOTM GRUSI
OWEMK NRSOI DARZA CASFB IADEE MSEEF ZELEH HNNNR UTRRF NNOED +