

MPY-5028
6 May 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, FBIS
THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT : Monthly Report--Paraguay Bureau--April 1985

I. GENERAL

Following a speech in March by President Stroessner during which he called for a crackdown on corruption and immoral activity, the new Asuncion police chief has been conducting a campaign against immoral activity and to ensure that the citizenry's identity documentation is in order. Everyone under the age of 18 must be off the streets by midnight. The police also have closed -- probably only temporarily -- many nightspots, virtually eliminating the already slim entertainment possibilities. The police also have intensified roadblocks and street checks, spotchecking personal and vehicle documentation. For not carrying proper identification, one Embassy officer's dependent son was detained for over 4 hours at a local police station under rough conditions. No bureau personnel have been detained.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. The bureau's major story this month was Brazilian President-elect Tancredo Neves' 39-day hospitalization and death on the 21st. The bureau remained open 6 nights and opened on 3 successive Sunday mornings to cover events. Early in the month the bureau filed a series of flash messages from AFP reporting his death, which AFP retracted within minutes. The night Neves died the bureau filed the initial flash on his death from Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes, which broadcast live a statement by the presidential spokesman, 1 minute after the start of the statement. For this coverage and reporting on the political situation and the speech made by Acting President Jose Sarney the same night, the bureau earned high praise from Headquarters and from the BBC Newsburo, which said "it would be hard to beat your flash on Neves' death."

2. In Argentina an alleged palace coup in the making against President Alfonsin was the highlight. Early in the month an opposition Peronist Party senator reported that unnamed politicians were pushing for a palace coup aimed at deposing President Alfonsin and replacing him with Vice President Martinez.

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Subsequently, the Army chief of staff denied that the Army was involved. Then on the 21st, in a speech to the nation broadcast live over radio and television, Alfonsin made hard-hitting statements attacking unnamed politicians for plotting to undermine democracy. Following the president's charges, there was a flurry of accusations and denials by both politicians and military officers. On the 26th, Alfonsin again addressed the nation over radio and television from the balcony of Government House. In his 50-minute speech, which was covered live, Alfonsin again attacked those plotting against democracy and outlined a series of economic austerity measures that the country must implement to preserve Argentine democracy.

3. Peruvian coverage was highlighted by the general elections held on the 14th. Making true on its promise, the Shining Path increased its terrorist attacks in the days preceding the election in an attempt to keep people away from the polls. However, voter turnout was quite high and American Revolutionary Popular Alliance leader Alan Garcia soundly defeated his closest rival, United Left candidate Alfonso Barrantes. Even with his big win, Garcia could not claim victory because according to Peruvian law he had to win 51 percent of the vote and he only received 49 percent, necessitating a runoff election. As the month closed, Barrantes announced his withdrawal from the runoff, citing his slim chances and the monetary savings to the country. During the month, the bureau's Lima contractor was used to relay the speech President Belaunde made on election eve. The contractor called the bureau twice on his own initiative to relay Belaunde's press conference the day after the election and Barrantes' statement announcing his withdrawal. The bureau reassumed coverage of the Peruvian press, starting with the issues of the 11th, after a 10-month hiatus caused by a break in air service between Asuncion and Lima. The Embassy is sending the papers once a week via a new Lima-Asuncion flight with an overall lag time of 3-7 days.

4. In Uruguay the government has been concerned with what the interior minister on the 9th alleged was a destabilization plot being planned in secret meetings by high-ranking military officers. As a sign of the tension between the government and the military, Sanguinetti ordered the detention of an Army Colonel closely linked to ex-President Alvarez and six Navy officers for comments critical of the government's policies and a congressional investigation into criminal actions by the Navy under the military governments. On the 11th, the bureau covered live a speech to the nation on the economic situation and promising belt-tightening in the future. In a move to show its independent foreign policy, the government on the 9th restored commercial relations with Cuba after a 20-year break.

5. Events in Chile were marked by opposition to the government and terrorist actions against government installations. On the 26th, the government arrested 264 opposition leaders and members at a Socialist Party gathering in Santiago. This action has been widely criticized in political circles as well as by the Catholic Church. Bureau coverage of events was hampered when

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Santiago Domestic Service halted shortwave transmissions on 30 March for maintenance of equipment. Until broadcasts were resumed on the 4th, the Santiago contractor provided telephone feeds to the bureau. In addition, poor reception of Santiago Domestic's 2300 GMT cast has forced the bureau to rely on feeds from the contractor since the 19th.

6. After agreeing to hold joint maneuvers with U.S. forces in the Cochabamba region, the Bolivian Government on the 22d canceled the maneuvers. The government had come under increasing pressure from political and union sectors to cancel them, allegedly because they would imply a loss of sovereignty.

7. On 1 April, Paraguayan President Stroessner allowed local television to broadcast an interview he gave earlier to ABC television reporters at the Presidential Palace in Asuncion. The interview centered on the reported presence in Paraguay of Josef Mengele, the Auschwitz Angel of Death. The Embassy expressed great interest in the interview, and the bureau texted the interview and also filed a VSL, which was immediately requested by Headquarters.

B. Cruising

This past month the cruising monitor made the first observations using our new long-wire antenna, focusing attention on Uruguay and Argentina. (See next section.)

C. Technical

1. After suffering heavy damage last month in a brush fire, construction of the bureau's new 300-meter long-wire antenna was completed this month. The antenna, which is located in the ANTELCO field about 15 miles from the bureau, is oriented toward the south. It is hooked up to a DELTA multicoupler MOD SRMC 1 x 10 and to six receivers at the remote site. Reception of Buenos Aires Domestic Service and Uruguayan mediumwave stations have improved with this antenna. Cruising reports are being filed.

2. A carpenter has been contracted to build a console for the four mini-televisions that will be positioned at the monitor supervisor's booth. Once the console is installed, construction of the booth will be finished.

3. Embassy General Service technicians have started work on removing three regulating transformers and filters from the bureau's main power source. Another transformer hooked up by the Embassy outside the annex building has made these transformers redundant.

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

1. The bureau has begun advertising for the new associate editor's

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position.

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2. The bureau has put into pre-employment processing [redacted] for the vacant monitorial position.

IV. VISITS

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1. [redacted] a Latin America desk officer at DIA, visited the bureau on the 18th.

2. State INR publications procurement officer Karen Boushie visited the bureau on the 22d.

3. The bureau chief TDY to the States for the bureau chiefs conference and to Panama 5 Apr-2 May.

V. COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

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All bureau staff officers were invited to a reception at the residence of Ambassador Davis on 22 April in honor of a visit by the current Miss America, Sharlene Wells, who was born in Paraguay. Bureau editor [redacted] acted as an informal liaison between the Wells family and the Embassy in helping to make arrangements for the 4-day visit.

[redacted]
Chief, FBIS Paraguay Bureau

CC: C/ Panama Bureau
C/ Key West Bureau

Attachments: Monthly Production Report

PMS/clr
05/06/85

PARAGUAY BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR APRIL 1985

<u>TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES</u>			
			395,250
TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING THE MONTH:			322,270
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING THE MONTH:			72,980
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING THE MONTH:			918
	<u>BROAD-CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCY</u>	<u>PUBLIC-ATIONS</u>
I. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:	8,585 (min)	39,360 (min)	14,200 (issues)
II. <u>OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:</u>			
<u>ARGENTINA</u>			
Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish	10,850		
Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color Network in Spanish	570		
Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish		25,640	
Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish		15,860	
Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish		4,340	
Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English			21,810
Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish			910
Buenos Aires GENTE in Spanish			0
Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish			2,510
Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish			720
Buenos Aires AMBITO FINANCIERO in Spanish			0
<u>BOLIVIA</u>			
La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish	630		
La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish	8,560		
La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish			1,180
La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish			1,340

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	<u>BROAD-CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCY</u>	<u>PUBLIC-ATIONS</u>
<u>BRAZIL</u>			
Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese	10,440		
Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese	5,730		
Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese			11,250
Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese	25,410		
Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese			1,630
Porto Alegre Radio Gaucha in Portuguese	230		
Rio de Janeiro LATIN AMERICA DAILY POST in English			0
Rio de Janeiro MANCHETE in Portuguese			0
Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese			5,190
Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese			6,570
Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese			2,050
Sao Paulo VEJA in Portuguese			7,610
<u>CHILE</u>			
Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish	7,900		
Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish	8,140		
Santiago COSAS in Spanish			390
Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish			1,590
Santiago HOY in Spanish			0
Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish			880
Santiago QUE PASA in Spanish			0
<u>CHINA</u>			
Beijing in Spanish to Latin America	0		
<u>FRANCE</u>			
PARIS AFP in Spanish		40,940	

	<u>BROAD-CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCY</u>	<u>PUBLIC-ATIONS</u>
<u>PARAGUAY</u>			
Asuncion Domestic Service in Spanish	3,570		
Asuncion Red Privada de Teledifusora Paraguaya Television in Spanish	3,650		
Asuncion EL DIARIO NOTICIAS in Spanish			130
Asuncion EL PUEBLO in Spanish			0
Asuncion HOY in Spanish			1,550
Asuncion PATRIA in Spanish			0
Asuncion SENDERO in Spanish			750
Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish			1,040
<u>PERU</u>			
Lima Domestic Service in Spanish	2,580		
Lima Television Service in Spanish	4,100		
Lima Cadena America Television in Spanish	2,590		
Lima Cadena Panamericana Television in Spanish	8,200		
Lima Television Lima in Spanish	2,080		
Lima Radio del Pacifico in Spanish	2,720		
Lima Radioprogramas del Peru in Spanish	2,710		
Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish			910
<u>SPAIN</u>			
MADRID EFE in Spanish		28,630	
<u>UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS</u>			
Moscow in Portuguese to Brazil	0		
Moscow in Spanish to Latin America	0		

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCY</u>	<u>PUBLIC- ATIONS</u>
<u>UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC -- CONTINUED</u>			
Moscow in			
Spanish to Chile	10,380		
Moscow in			
Spanish to Cuba	0		
Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in			
Spanish to Latin America	0		
Moscow Radio Magallanes in			
Spanish to Chile	0		
<u>URUGUAY</u>			
Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in			
Spanish	390		
Montevideo Radio Carve in			
Spanish	2,990		
Montevideo Radio Oriental in			
Spanish	120		
Montevideo EL DIA in			
Spanish			1,030
Montevideo OPINAR in			
Spanish			0
Montevideo LA HORA in			
Spanish			2,070