

FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE  
PANAMA BUREAU  
DRAWER 927  
APO MIAMI 34004

4 August 1986  
MPA 6016

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, FBIS  
THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group  
SUBJECT : Monthly Report --Panama Bureau-- July 1986

I. GENERAL

Construction on the Internet site continued during July. The foundations for both the 13-meter Internet satellite dish and the adjacent equipment hut were laid, and the grounds were prepared for further construction. The three sea vans containing the antenna and accompanying equipment arrived, cleared customs, and are currently on site. Construction is slated to begin on 12 August. We still have not received word on our frequency allocation request, however. At month's end we had asked, with embassy approval, the Southern Command's Office of Treaty Affairs to begin making inquiries as to the status of both our Internet frequency allocation request and our frequency allocation request for the microwave communications link with the U.S. Embassy. We are hoping this approach will be successful in expediting the necessary approvals.

Two significant cruising discoveries occurred during July. Thanks to advance word from Headquarters, we were able to monitor the inauguration of the Intersputnik station from Managua and a subsequent speech by Daniel Ortega. The Intersputnik system also now allows Panama Bureau to monitor Cuban television, as evidenced by the bureau's coverage from television of Fidel Castro's 26 July speech on the anniversary of the invasion of the Moncada Barracks. We are now reviewing available Cuban television programming with an eye toward possible Internet coverage.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

July began with the week-long visit by Pope John Paul II to Colombia. The pontiff visited Bogota, Chiquinquirá, Cali, and Medellín. On 5 July the pope criticized the Nicaraguan Government's denial of reentry into the country of a second Nicaraguan churchman,

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Bishop Pablo Antonio Vega. Nicaraguan officials said the pope was misinformed about the reasons for the bishop's banishment, which they claimed was imposed because of Vega's alleged support for the contra rebels and his endorsement of the U.S. House of Representatives vote on aid for the contras.

Student demonstrations, which tied up Panama City traffic from 9 to 14 July, were staged in support of two journalists arrested on 9 July. One of the pair sought asylum in the Venezuelan Embassy and eventually fled to Caracas. The other was last reported to be hiding at the university, where he is also a part-time law professor. Students reportedly clashed with police on 11 July.

As an AFP bureau, Panama was affected by the nearly worldwide strike on 10 July and the longer one from 15 to 18 July. During that time, Panama Bureau was responsible for worldwide alerts from Madrid EFE, Buenos Aires REUTERS, and Hamburg DPA. Fortunately, the world cooperated and no alerts had to be filed.

The bureau covered the 6 July Mexican gubernatorial elections from both press and television. Although it took more than a week to count all the ballots, nobody was surprised when the ruling PRI managed to sweep the races. Some Mexican papers charged vote fraud or U.S. interference.

In El Salvador on 11 July the rebel forces issued a joint communique, monitored from the clandestine Radio Venceremos, in which the FDR and FMLN offered to engage in dialogue with the government to resolve the country's civil war. When the government responded by asking the rebels to lay down their arms and talk, the rebels issued another communique over Venceremos challenging the government to a "live debate." After the government's counterproposal to hold talks in Managua at the offices of LA PRENSA -- closed by the Nicaraguan Government -- the rebels issued another communique declining the offer.

Also on 11 July, the Managua remote line, down since 24 May, became functional again, only to go down and up several more times. As of month's end, however, the line is operational.

Alerted by Headquarters, and after a few false alarms, on 17 July the bureau monitored a pass feed on the Gorizont 14.0W satellite from Managua on the dedication of the Intersputnik station in Nicaragua. Preprogramming highlights included shots of the podium and audience seating being arranged as well as views of the inside of the facility with technicians operating and admiring the racks of equipment, much of which bore cyrillic inscriptions or directions. The same satellite provided another pass feed 2 days later which carried the Sandinist revolution anniversary celebration and President Daniel Ortega's speech. An interesting sidelight on the event was the bureau's observation that the pass feed carried the opening introduction of the dignitaries several times, as though the station were testing the equipment or resolving difficulties.

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With the completion of the testing or the resolution of difficulties, the program on the pass feed began again and this time continued to run. Also this time, the radios, which joined in network, joined the television pass feed and carried the ceremony and speech. Having the added dimension of the pass feed thus tipped the bureau off that the ceremony and speech were not broadcast live.

On 24 July Tegucigalpa Radio America reported that several top Nicaraguan contra leaders were wounded in an attack on a meeting being held in a house situated some 200-300 meters from Honduran President Azcona's residence. Early reports blamed a "Sandinist commando" unit. Managua denied responsibility.

In his annual speech commemorating the 1953 attack on the Moncada barracks, Fidel Castro ridiculed the idea of monetary incentives for workers and denounced U.S. support for the contras as well as U.S. policy toward South Africa. While Havana International Service in Spanish continued its recent trend by not carrying the Cuban leader's remarks live, Havana Television Service in Spanish did feature live coverage of Castro's remarks. The bureau filed substantive FYIs on the speech from a Havana Cubavision Television pass feed which was linked to the terrestrial stations. The pass feed also inaugurated Havana Cubavision Television via the 14.0W Gorizont. According to PRENSA LATINA and other sources, the service will eventually provide Cuban programming over a wide area, including the eastern third of the United States as well as all of the Caribbean; Central and South America; and parts of Africa, Europe, and the Mideast.

#### B. Communications

On 7 July an era ended when the Panama Automated Relay lost its last consumer — Panama Bureau. Panama Bureau was switched to a tonepack at tech control at Corozal which now connects its circuit directly to Ft. Detrick. Unfortunately, the end of the era appeared for a while to be simultaneously the end of Panama Bureau's primary communications mode. After some rewiring, reprogramming, and informing of everybody involved, the new system went up and the bureau acquired a new routing indicator.

#### C. Lateral Services

After reading a bureau-provided copy of a recent Trends piece on Nicaragua, the J-2 at Southcom requested that it be put on distribution for wirefiled Trends items on Central and South America and Cuba. This request was relayed to Liaison and Requirements Branch.

#### D. Technical

The battle against the Panamanian rainy season continued during July. We completed the drilling of holes in the bases of the drive motors and the blower motor housing to allow moisture accumulating from condensation to escape. We also found that two

air conditioners were leaking in the bases of the analysis and main radio antennas. We discovered the plastic drainage hose was twisted and was preventing the water from draining. This hose was replaced with a shorter hose leading directly out of the base of the antenna. Maintenance also continued on several of the rhombic antenna towers.

In early July it was discovered that some 160 feet of underground coaxial cable for the rhombic antennas had been stolen. The appropriate authorities were notified of the theft, and the cable has been replaced.

The following accountable property was procured locally:

Two portable color televisions, Hitachi, Model CK300, Serial Nos.: S6C-000170 and S6C-000172. Unit price: \$300.00.

One McCulloch Mac 95-A , Model 4000306, Serial No. 11-015790. Unit price: \$337.00 (String trimmers).

The following accountable property was received from Paraguay Bureau:

Two Crown recorders, Model SS-702, Serial Nos.: T-8146 (Amp-M-288) and T8145 (Amp-292). Crown recorder Serial No. T-8145 (Amp-292) is not functioning and will be cannibalized.

The following accountable property was received from Headquarters:

One Crown recorder amplifier, Serial No. 329 (for Crown recorder model SXM-702).

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

The following employees received PSIs effective 6 July 1986: [redacted] (FBN 2/1 - 2/2), [redacted] (FBN 5/6 -5/7), [redacted] (FBN 8/1 - 8/2), [redacted] (FBN 9/3 - 9/4), [redacted] (FBN 8/1 - 8/2 and [redacted] (FBN 8/1 - 8/2).

Interim bureau chief [redacted] departed Panama Bureau on 28 July 1986.

Editor trainee [redacted] arrived Panama 28 July for 12 weeks of training.

Erstwhile bureau secretary [redacted] departed Panama on 1 August to accompany her husband, who has been transferred to Washington. Recruitment for [redacted] successor is now underway.

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**B. Building and Grounds**

Contractor [ ] has completed 473 feet of the new Roset fence.

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**IV. VISITS**

To the bureau:

On 1 July, three members of the Linguist Team from the 142d MI (LING) Battalion, Utah National Guard, visited the bureau for a briefing and orientation. The Guardsmen are currently on TDY at the 193d Infantry Brigade at Ft. Clayton. Another group of three individuals from the 142d MI (LING) Battalion visited the bureau on 15 July for the same purpose.

On 8 July, five TDY reservists assigned to the Southern Command's Office of Treaty Affairs visited the bureau for a briefing and orientation tour.

On 23 July, four watch officers from the Southern Command's J-2 visited the bureau for a briefing and orientation tour.

From 31 July to 4 August, Paraguay Bureau technician [ ] visited the bureau for an orientation and briefing on Roset operations.

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From the bureau:

On 15 July, the interim bureau chief and deputy chief visited Mr. Jose Guanti, Intercomsa's representative on the Internet project, to discuss the progress of the Internet project and introduce the new deputy chief. Also on 15 July, the interim chief and deputy chief paid a courtesy call on Colonel J.C. Lucas, Director of the Southern Commands Operations Directorate, J-3.

On 16 July, the deputy chief, chief electronic technician [ ] communications section supervisor [ ] and assistant communications supervisor [ ] visited USAISC Tech Control to receive a briefing on the new tonepack configuration through which the bureau's primary communications circuit now must pass on the way to the Ft. Detrick switching center.

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On 31 July, the acting chief visited Colonel P.H. Corbett, the Southern Command's deputy chief of staff for treaty affairs, to discuss the status of the bureau's requests to the Panamanian Government for frequency allocations.

On 31 July, the acting chief visited David Miller, the U.S. Embassy's Counselor for Economic Affairs, also to discuss the status of the bureau's frequency allocation requests.

VI. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

On the night of 26 July, the Bureau's Social Activities Committee gave a farewell party for departing bureau secretary [redacted] who served admirably for almost two months as interim bureau chief. The party was held outdoors in the spacious swimming pool area of the bureau chief's apartment building and afforded a lovely view of the Bay of Panama. Despite a major Castro speech that reduced the number of late attendees somewhat, the salsa music played loud and long until 4:00 am Sunday. It was a fitting tribute to both [redacted] who both proved to be key people during this summer of transition at the bureau.

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Acting Chief  
Panama Bureau, FBI

Attachment  
Production Report

## Panama Bureau Production Report for July 1986

## I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	513870
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	33690
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	1261

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE: (minutes or issues per week)	11880.00 min.	90870.00 min.	212.00 issues

III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:  
(publishable words per month)

## ARGENTINA

Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish		3000	
Buenos Aires REUTER in English			0

## CHILE

Santiago Television Service in Spanish	0		
Santiago REUTER in English		470	

## CLANDESTINES

Clandestine Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador	0		
Clandestine Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador	28490		

## COLOMBIA

Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish	660		
Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish	0		
Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish	2990		
Bogota Television Service in Spanish	8760		
Bogota REUTER in Spanish		250	
Bogota REUTER in English		1390	

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish			1130
Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish			2870
COSTA RICA			
San Jose Domestic Service in Spanish	2990		
San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish	3830		
San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish	7010		
San Jose LA NACION in Spanish			2670
San Jose LA PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish			1320
San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish			1380
San Jose LIBERTAD REVOLUCIONARIA in Spanish			1630
San Jose LIBERTAD in Spanish			0
San Jose RUMBO CENTROAMERICANO in Spanish			120
CUBA			
Havana International Service in Quechua	140		
Havana International Service in Spanish	52620		
Havana Domestic Service in Spanish	9350		
Havana PRENSA LATINA in English		9060	
Havana PRENSA LATINA in Spanish		12790	
ECUADOR			
Quito Radio Quito in Spanish	270		
Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish	3460		
Quito REUTER in Spanish		190	
Quito REUTER in English		0	
EL SALVADOR			
San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish	8780		



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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish	7670		
San Salvador La Voz Panamericana in Spanish	3670		
San Salvador Radio Cadena 1080 in Spanish	940		
San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish	3280		
San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish	6780		
San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish	9240		
San Salvador Television Educativa in Spanish	1130		
San Salvador DIARIO LATINO in Spanish			0
San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish			0
San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish			990
San Salvador EL TIEMPO in Spanish			0
San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish			900
San Salvador PROCESO in Spanish			0
San Salvador THE NEWS GAZETTE in English			0
<b>FRANCE</b>			
Paris AFP in English		460	
Paris AFP in Spanish		18510	
<b>GERMANY</b>			
Hamburg DPA in Spanish		4190	
<b>GUATEMALA</b>			
Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish	3240		
Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish	150		
Guatemala City Radio Television Guatemala in Spanish	5120		

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Guatemala City TRECEVISION Television in Spanish	1830		
Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish			2000
Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish			1720
<b>HONDURAS</b>			
Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish	3740		
Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish	970		
Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish	2220		
Tegucigalpa Televisora Hondurena in Spanish	1990		
Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish	3620		
San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish			690
San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish			5800
Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish			1710
Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish			480
<b>MEXICO</b>			
Mexico City Red Nacional 13 IMEVISION Television in Spanish	9440		
Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish	4230		
Mexico City CERIGUA in Spanish		820	
Mexico City REUTER in English		240	
Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish			3380
Mexico City EL NACIONAL in Spanish			1020
Mexico City EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish			2660
Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish			6510
Mexico City THE NEWS in English			1020
Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish			4360

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
<b>NICARAGUA</b>			
Managua International Service in Spanish	8290		
Managua Domestic Service in Spanish	28210		
Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish	340		
Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish	22640		
Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish	6970		
Managua Television Feed in Spanish	1260		
Managua ANN Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish		0	
Managua ANN in Spanish		25000	
Managua PRENSA LATINA in Spanish		2920	
Managua SALPRESS-NOTISAL in Spanish		250	
Managua BARRICADA in Spanish			12640
Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish			3380
Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish			0
<b>PANAMA</b>			
Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish	1170		
Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish	1170		
Panama City TELEMETRO Television in Spanish	3650		
Panama City Television Service in Spanish	0		
Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish	1900		
Panama City ACAN in Spanish		25960	
Panama City CRITICA in Spanish			3200
Panama City DIALOGO SOCIAL in Spanish			0

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Panama City EL SIGLO in Spanish			3710
Panama City EXTRA in Spanish			4790
Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish			7150
Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish			10630
Panama City LA REPUBLICA DOMINICAL in Spanish			1200
Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish			2350
Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish			4980
Panama City QUIUBO GRAFICO in Spanish			490
Panama City STAR AND HERALD in English			560
Panama City THE SUNDAY REPUBLIC in English			0
<b>PERU</b>			
Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish	510		
Lima Television Peruana in Spanish	920		
Lima REUTER in English		750	
Lima REUTER in Spanish			0
<b>SPAIN</b>			
Madrid EFE in Spanish		15320	
<b>USSR</b>			
Moscow TASS in Spanish			0
<b>VENEZUELA</b>			
Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish	310		
Caracas Television Service in Spanish	12620		
Caracas REUTER in English		2050	

	<b>BROAD- CASTS</b>	<b>PRESS AGENCIES</b>	<b>PUBLI- CATIONS</b>
<b>Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish</b>			<b>1910</b>
<b>Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish</b>			<b>330</b>

## PANAMA BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR JULY 1986 -- ANNEX

TOTALS FROM ROSET SOURCES:

<b>CHILE</b>	
Santiago REUTER in English	470
<b>COLOMBIA</b>	
Bogota Television Service in Spanish	8,780
Bogota REUTER in English	1,390
Bogota REUTER in Spanish	250
<b>CUBA</b>	
Havana PRENSA LATINA in Spanish	12,790
<b>ECUADOR</b>	
Quito REUTER in Spanish	190
<b>MEXICO</b>	
Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish	4,230
Mexico City Red Nacional 13 IMEVISION Television in Spanish	9,440
Mexico City CERIGUA in Spanish	820
Mexico City REUTER in English	240
<b>NICARAGUA</b>	
Managua Television Feed in Spanish	1,260
Managua ANN in Spanish	25,000
Managua PRENSA LATINA in Spanish	2,920
Managua SALPRESS/NOTISAL in Spanish	250
<b>PERU</b>	
Lima Television Peruana in Spanish	920
Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish	510
Lima REUTER in English	750
<b>SPAIN</b>	
Madrid EFE in Spanish	910

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VENEZUELA

Caracas Television Service in

Spanish

12,620

Caracas REUTER in

English

2,050

TOTAL FOR JULY 1986

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85,790