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FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE
PANAMA BUREAU
DRAWER 927
APO MIAMI 34004

5 June 1986
MPA-6014

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service
THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT : Monthly Report -- Panama Bureau -- May 1986

I. GENERAL

Panama Bureau hosted three distinguished BBC visitors in May. Mr. Eric Bowman, general manager of the BBC Monitoring Service; Mr. Godfrey Offord, head of the BBC Reception Department on the Monitoring Side; and Mr. Henry Pavlovich, editor of the BBC News and Publications Side visited Panama while returning to London from the annual FBIS-BBC coordination meeting held in Washington, D.C. During their 2-day visit, the three guests toured the bureau and received briefings on all aspects of current operations. The bureau's Central American remote operation and ROSET satellite coverage received special attention. Sightseeing tours to Old Panama, the Panama Canal, and historic spots around Panama City were on the agenda as was dining on Panama's renowned seafood in some area restaurants. The visit concluded with a small dinner party hosted by the acting chief and [redacted]

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Through the good offices of the Honorable Arthur H. Davis, Jr., U.S. Ambassador to Panama, the bureau submitted two requests for frequency allocation to the Panamanian Government:

--On 2 May the embassy received the bureau application for frequency allocation for our INTERNET send and receive satellite communications system; On 16 May the embassy presented a formal diplomatic note accompanying the application to the Panamanian Foreign Ministry.

--On 21 May the embassy received the bureau application for frequency allocation for our planned Motorola microwave communications system; On 30 May the embassy presented a formal diplomatic note accompanying the application to the Panamanian Foreign Ministry.

To prepare for construction and installation of the bureau's INTERNET facility, nine construction projects were begun during the month. At month's end, all local preparations were completed and the bureau was awaiting the arrival of a contractor who would begin actual site preparation and construction.

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II. OPERATIONS

A. Editorial/Monitorial

Peace negotiations in Central America, and the inauguration of one Latin American president and the election of two others headlined the news in Panama Bureau's coverage area in May.

In Costa Rica, President-elect Oscar Arias assumed the presidency in a 2-hour and 47-minute ceremony that the bureau covered live from San Jose Radio Reloj. In his inaugural address, Oscar Arias reiterated Costa Rica's "commitment to defend and strengthen peace and neutrality." Arias also underscored his country's support for the Contradora group, confirming his readiness to sign a Central American peace document on 6 June in Panama City.

On May 10 the bureau began to monitor news agency reports indicating that several ARDE leaders had withdrawn their support for Eden Pastora, and were preparing to join another contra group. In the following days, additional reports emerged alleging that Pastora was about to lay down his arms for the last time; he surrendered formally to Costa Rican authorities at the Nicaraguan border on 16 May. In a brief news conference given on the same day, and reported by the ACAN news agency, Pastora said that he was withdrawing "from the armed struggle because we believe there is no possibility of achieving a military victory."

In the Dominican Republic, the presidential elections began on 16 May. The election developed as a race between Jacobo Majluta, the candidate of the ruling Dominican Revolutionary Party (PRD), and Joaquin Balaguer, of the Social Christian Reformist Party (PRSC). Although no major incidents of violence were reported during the elections, the vote count was marred by accusations of fraud and the resignation of important officials of the Central Electoral Board. The final results were not confirmed until 27 May, when Balaguer announced his victory and Majluta conceded defeat.

The 2-day summit of the Central American presidents began in Esquipulas, Guatemala, on 24 May. Organized by Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo, the summit was attended, in addition to Cerezo, by the presidents of El Salvador, Costa Rica, Honduras, and Nicaragua. Tension flared during the summit between Costa Rica's Oscar Arias and Nicaragua's Daniel Ortega over Arias' refusal to sign the final summit communique unless wording to the effect that all the participating heads of state had been freely elected was changed. In the final document that was signed, and which Cerezo read over Guatemala radio on 25 May, the five presidents agreed to continue the Contadora process, formally create a Central American parliament, and advance "processes for the economic and social integration of the area."

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Efforts continued during the month to bring to a successful conclusion the Contadora group's efforts in Central America. Meetings were held between representatives of the Central American countries with their Contadora counterparts on 16-18 May, and again on 27-28 May, in an effort to resolve the remaining part of the agreement dealing with military issues. Several new proposals were presented. A plan announced by Nicaragua's President Daniel Ortega on 26 May outlined 14 military matters that Managua would be willing to regulate or negotiate. Little or no progress in the negotiations was made, however, and the most recent Contadora session ended without concrete results.

In Colombia on 25 May, Liberal Party candidate Virgilio Barco easily defeated his closest challenger, Conservative Party candidate Alvaro Gomez in the presidential elections. Panama Bureau filed several reports from Bogota Television Service providing preliminary election results as well as Barco's declaration of victory speech on the night of 25 May

On 31 May the bureau monitored French Overseas Television broadcasting an Ariane rocket launch from Kourou, French Guiana. The rocket's third stage failed to ignite and the rocket and its onboard satellites were destroyed some 200 kilometers into the flight. A VSL was filed and a videorecording of the event was sent to headquarters.

B. Communications

On 21 May, USAISC Panama officially requested that FBIS Panama rehome its AUTODIN Mode V circuit B-024 on a "tone-pack" to Fort Detrick. FBIS Headquarters began the telecommunications service request on the bureau's behalf and proposed a switchover date of 7 July.

Also in May, headquarters advised that approval and funding was received for a second microwave channel to connect the bureau at Chiva Chiva with the American Embassy in Panama City via a repeater station on Ancon Hill. The bureau would use this system as its primary communications link. The American Embassy was asked to present the frequency allocation application to the Panamanian Foreign Ministry. The application was delivered to the Panamanian Government on 30 May. The Panamanian communications office INTEL was advised of the bureau's plans to realign its major communications circuits via the embassy. INTEL officials were very helpful and no significant problems with a switchover are foreseen.

C. Lateral Services

At the request of the U.S. Southern Command in Panama, in May the bureau began providing SOUTHCOM Treaty Affairs Office with a videotape of the 1 and 1/2 hour Sunday morning program "Everything for the Fatherland" monitored from Panamanian television. Air Force Colonel Pat Corbett, the deputy chief of staff for Treaty Affairs, expressed his gratitude for the special services provided by FBIS. It was mentioned that FBIS headquarters had inquired about our obtaining some aerial photography of the Panama Bureau facility and ROSET antennas. Col. Corbett arranged for a helicopter flyover and photographs of the FBIS operations area in late

May. We expect to receive the prints and negatives in early June. The photos and the negatives will be pouched to the Chief, FED upon receipt.

On 29 May, the bureau provided Colonel Paul Morgan, G-2 of the 193rd Infantry Brigade, with English and Spanish language versions of the Nicaraguan and FSLN anthems. Col. Morgan said the request was for a speech being prepared for Major General James Taylor, commanding general 193rd Infantry Brigade.

D. Technical

During the month, the following accountable property was received:

One five-channel teletype timer, S.T. Research Model TTP-5 5060 HZ Serial No. 86001. Unit Price: \$4,950.00

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

The following employees received PSI's during May: [redacted] from FBN-12/4 to 12/5; [redacted] from FBN-6/1 to 6/2; [redacted] from FBN-5/1 to 5/2; [redacted] from FBN-3/1 to 3/2.

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At a ceremony on 30 May federal service pins were awarded to the following bureau employees:

[redacted] 25 Years
[redacted] 20 Years
[redacted] 20 Years
[redacted] 10 Years

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Senior Editor [redacted] departed Panama 12 May en route to home leave and reassignment as deputy bureau chief in Amman, Jordan.

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Editorial trainee [redacted] departed Panama on 9 May after a 3-month TDY.

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B. Building and Grounds

During May, bureau contractors completed the following projects:

Cedeno and Choy--removed and relocated underground utilities in the area where the INTERNET antenna pad will be sited; constructed a new door in the bureau chief's office; and removed the double chain-link security fence from along the entire east side of the operations building.

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[redacted]—constructed a 300-foot drainage ditch conduit of concrete in the ROSET/INTERNET antenna field; and resodded approximately 2000 meters of the ROSET/INTERNET antenna field.

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IV. VISITS

[redacted] Chief, FSB/FED, visited from 5 to 8 May to examine and site Panama Bureau's future INTERNET facility.

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From 9 to 12 May the bureau was visited by BBC officials returning to London from the annual FBIS-BBC Coordination Meeting that was held in Washington, D.C. The BBC officials were: Mr. Eric Bowman, general manager of the BBC Monitoring Service; Mr. Godfrey Offord, head of the BBC Reception Department on the Monitoring Side; and Mr. Henry Pavlovich, editor of the BBC News and Publications Side.

On 9 May four members of the Linguist Team of the 142d MI (LING) Battalion, of the Utah National Guard, were briefed on bureau operations. This visit was one of the continuing series of briefings offered by the bureau to various National Guard units at the special request of the G-2 at the 193d Infantry Brigade on Fort Clayton.

[redacted]

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Acting Chief, Panama Bureau

Attachment:
Production Report

Panama Bureau Production Report for May 1986

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	517700
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	20000
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	1354

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE: (minutes or issues per week)	11715.00 min.	90870.00 min.	212.00 issues

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

ARGENTINA

Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish		2610	
Buenos Aires REUTER in English		190	

CHILE

Santiago Television Service in Spanish	0		
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CLANDESTINES

Clandestine Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador	6790		
Clandestine Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador	11970		

COLOMBIA

Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish	1410		
Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish	0		
Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish	3130		
Bogota Television Service in Spanish	7000		
Bogota REUTER in Spanish		0	
Bogota REUTER in English		1280	
Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish			2040

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish			10840
COSTA RICA			
San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish	3590		
San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish	17970		
San Jose LA NACION in Spanish			5590
San Jose LA PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish			4900
San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish			2940
San Jose LIBERTAD REVOLUCIONARIA in Spanish			0
San Jose LIBERTAD in Spanish			0
San Jose RUMBO CENTROAMERICANO in Spanish			0
CUBA			
Havana International Service in Quechua	390		
Havana International Service in Spanish	57800		
Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish	1840		
Havana EFE in Spanish		630	
Havana PRENSA LATINA in English		4910	
Havana PRENSA LATINA in Spanish		7970	
ECUADOR			
Quito Radio Quito in Spanish	2430		
Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish	6980		
Quito REUTER in Spanish		670	
Quito REUTER in English			0
EL SALVADOR			
San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish	1700		

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
San Salvador Channel 2 Television in Spanish	670		
San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish	0		
San Salvador La Voz Panamericana in Spanish	1320		
San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish	1210		
San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish	7190		
San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish	6070		
San Salvador Television Educativa in Spanish	5720		
San Salvador DIARIO LATINO in Spanish			250
San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish			960
San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish			260
San Salvador EL TIEMPO in Spanish			0
San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish			1130
San Salvador PROCESO in Spanish			0
San Salvador THE NEWS GAZETTE in English			0
FRANCE			
Paris AFP in English		80	
Paris AFP in Spanish		22620	
GERMANY			
Hamburg DPA in Spanish		8580	
GUATEMALA			
Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish	8710		
Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish	4110		
Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish	130		

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Guatemala City Radio Television Guatemala in Spanish	3420		
Guatemala City Super Radio in Spanish	90		
Guatemala City TELEONCE Television in Spanish	0		
Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish			1400
Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish			2800
HONDURAS			
Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish	10010		
Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish	1320		
Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish	1700		
Tegucigalpa Televisora Hondurena in Spanish	2430		
Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish	4780		
San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish			1130
San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish			1830
Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish			610
Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish			190
MEXICO			
Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish	2100		
Mexico CityXHDF Television Network in Spanish	11810		
Mexico City CERIGUA in Spanish		1330	
Mexico City ENFOPRENSA in Spanish		200	
Mexico City REUTER in English		1430	
Mexico City REUTER in Spanish		0	
Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish			4080

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Mexico City EL NACIONAL in Spanish			560
Mexico City EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish			1810
Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish			21730
Mexico City THE NEWS in English			2220
Mexico City UNOMASUND in Spanish			1870
NICARAGUA			
Managua International Service in Spanish	9410		
Managua Domestic Service in Spanish	15000		
Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish	1540		
Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish	1980		
Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish	4230		
Managua ANN Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish		1630	
Managua ANN in Spanish		14040	
Managua PRENSA LATINA in Spanish		3870	
Managua SALPRESS-NOTISAL in Spanish		280	
Managua BARRICADA in Spanish			15570
Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish			5540
Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish			1790
PANAMA			
Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish	2100		
Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish	4210		
Panama City Television Service in Spanish	0		
Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish	8200		

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Panama City ACAN in Spanish		34680	
Panama City CRITICA in Spanish			2070
Panama City DIALOGO SOCIAL in Spanish			0
Panama City EL SIGLO in Spanish			3100
Panama City EXTRA in Spanish			1970
Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish			9100
Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish			18290
Panama City LA REPUBLICA DOMINICAL in Spanish			3590
Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish			1790
Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish			1730
Panama City QUIUBO GRAFICO in Spanish			580
Panama City STAR AND HERALD in English			80
Panama City THE SUNDAY REPUBLIC in English			0
PERU			
Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish	0		
Lima Television Peruana in Spanish	0		
Lima REUTER in English		260	
Lima REUTER in Spanish		340	
SPAIN			
Madrid EFE in Spanish		24370	
USSR			
Moscow TASS in Spanish		570	
VENEZUELA			
Caracas Television Service in Spanish	5300		

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Caracas REUTER in English		2150	
Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish			70
Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish			840

PANAMA BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR MAY 1986 -- ANNEX

TOTALS FROM ROSET SOURCES:

ARGENTINA

Buenos Aires REUTER in English	190
Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish	200

COLOMBIA

Bogota Television Service in Spanish	7,000
Bogota REUTER in English	1,280

CUBA

Havana PRENSA LATINA in Spanish	7,970
Havana EFE in Spanish	630

ECUADOR

Quito REUTER in Spanish	670
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GERMANY

Hamburg DPA in Spanish	760
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MEXICO

Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish	2,100
Mexico City XHDF Television Network in Spanish	11,810
Mexico City CERIGUA in Spanish	1,330
Mexico City ENFOPRENSA in Spanish	200
Mexico City REUTER in English	1,430

NICARAGUA

Managua ANN Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish	1,630
Managua ANN in Spanish	14,040
Managua PRENSA LATINA in Spanish	3,870
Managua SALPRESS-NOTISAL in Spanish	280

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PERU	
Lima REUTER in English	260
Lima REUTER in Spanish	340
SPAIN	
Madrid EFE in Spanish	1,020
USSR	
Moscow TASS in Spanish	570
VENEZUELA	
Caracas Television Service in Spanish	5,300
Caracas REUTER in English	2,150
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TOTAL FOR MAY 1986	65,030