

**FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE
PANAMA BUREAU
DRAWER 927
APO MIAMI 34004**

8 July 1982
MPA #0018

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, FBIS
THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT : Monthly Report -- Panama Bureau -- June 1982

I. GENERAL

The bureau was asked by the 193rd Infantry Brigade Directorate of Facilities Engineering to provide comments on a new Panamanian proposal for the planned Pacific Coast Highway. A Panamanian proposal in December 1981 which would have significantly altered the path of the road from that shown in Canal Treaty maps and would have placed it through the Bureau's antenna field, was firmly rejected by the U.S. side. The latest proposal places the road on the far side of a ridge at the southern end of the antenna field. The Bureau's comments on the proposal indicated that although a route a little further south would be preferable, the current proposal was acceptable. Road construction is not expected to begin for about 2 years.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. A rash of monitorial illnesses kept the bureau on short staffing throughout the month. Two monitors underwent successful surgery, a third was disabled by a peptic ulcer and a fourth was laid low by a case of measles. Fortunately, the bureau's coverage load remained light enough during the month so that all essential coverage could be maintained and no serious processing backlogs developed.

2. Recruiting to fill two vacant monitorial positions brought a total of 67 responses to ads placed in two local papers. Thirty four candidates have been selected for interviews and testing which are expected to be completed by mid-July. Meanwhile, the Panama Social Security authorities finally advised the bureau that [redacted] selected from the January recruitment effort, had passed all of the tests and would be admitted to the PSS "voluntary program". Headquarters has been asked for permission to hire; hopefully, he will be on board by mid-July.

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3. Bureau support of Key West and Paraguay bureaus continued during the month. Monitor [redacted] remained on TDY in Key West; editor [redacted] and teletypist [redacted] began TDY's in Paraguay. Paraguay monitor [redacted] visited the Bureau 8 - 11 June for familiarization TDY during his return to Paraguay from Key West.

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4. The Bureau Chief visited Guatemala City 22 - 25 June to hire a new contractor to provide press readings and radio and TV feeds. [redacted] official, will begin work on 1 July.

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5. A long-expected anti-Sandinist clandestine radio, The Voice of Sandino, began broadcasting during the month. Representing the forces of Sandinist dissident Eden Pastora, it was heard for only 4 days early in the month before disappearing. The search for its expected return continues.

On 15 June, the mandatory Nicaraguan national network "The Voice of the Defense of the Fatherland" was terminated and Nicaraguan government and commercial stations resumed their own newscasts. On the same date Managua International Service resumed broadcasts daily from 0200-0600 GMT. On 28 June the Sistema Sandinista Television Network resumed broadcasts of the "Face the People" meetings between government leaders and the people. Radio Sandino's weekly phone-in program, "Direct Line," resumed 1 July.

Despite this apparent return to normalcy, however, no domestic outlet is now available for opposition statements. The main opposition radio station, Managua Radio Corporacion, has been virtually silenced, and the sole opposition newspaper, LA PRENSA, is still required to submit its issues to prior censorship.

6. The Bureau was informed that service on the landline Buenos Aires LATIN circuit is now provided only during daytime hours on weekdays. Because of this restricted maintenance, our LATIN coverage has deteriorated sharply in recent weeks and has had to be backstopped by Paraguay Bureau on several occasions.

B. Lateral Services

1. In response to a Southcom request, the bureau prepared audio cassettes of local media reports on a 4 June press conference given by Southcom Deputy Commander Maj Gen William Masterson. The press conference was called to respond to charges that The U.S. Air Force was using Howard Air Force Base to assist the British in the Falklands fighting.

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2. The Bureau also provided expedited processing of Panamanian President Royo's 14 June UN speech so that a copy of the translation could be prepared for Southcom Commander Lt. Gen. Wallace Nutting prior to his departure for the States the next morning.

3. Two officers and four NCOs from the Panamanian National Guard Center for Investigation and Development (CID) visited the bureau 15 June accompanied by a member of the U.S. Embassy Military Group. The CID personnel had requested a tour and briefing on our operation to assist them in establishing a similar operation to cover Panamanian domestic radios. In a subsequent letter to the MilGroup Commander, the CID director expressed appreciation for the interesting and detailed briefing.

C. Technical

1. All TRG antenna multicouplers have been replaced by new Delta multicouplers following minor modifications deemed necessary after an extended period of testing.

2. One Extel model AH-11RS RO printer (serial No. 105377) was received in May. Unit price is \$1,100. One Frederick 1251 Demodulator Display Unit (serial No. FE-5875) was transferred to Paraguay Bureau in June. Unit price is \$900.

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

1. [redacted] began 30 days LWOP 22 June to recuperate from surgery. STAT

2. Teletypists [redacted] received PSIs in June from NX-5/7 to NX-5/8 from NX-5/5 to NX-5/6 respectively. STAT
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B. Buildings and Grounds

1. Contractor [redacted] completed the second mowing of the antenna field. STAT

2. Contractor [redacted] completed above ground maintenance on three antennas. [redacted] also repaired guy wires to four antennas which had been damaged by armored personnel carriers during training maneuvers. STAT
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IV. VISITS

1. To the Bureau: Maj. Erick Kjonnerod of the U.S. Embassy Military Group and Lt. Zuniga, 2d Lt. Pineda, SFC Vasquez, SSG Rivera, SSG Herrera and SSG Gonzalez from the Panama National Guard Center for Investigation and Development 15 June.

2. From the Bureau: Bureau Chief to Guatemala TDY 22-25 June.

V. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Omitted from last month's report: Five members of the bureau staff successfully completed training in cardiovascular pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) in May. The course was given at the bureau by Regional Medical Officer [redacted] and required about 12 hours over a 3-day period. Receiving Red Cross cards upon completion of the course were [redacted]

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[redacted] A second course is planned for July.

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[redacted]
Chief, Panama Bureau, FBIS

Attachment:
Monthly Production Report

PANAMA BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR JUNE 1982

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	283,710
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	8,950
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	829

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
II. <u>INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:</u> (minutes or issues per week)	7,525 min	38,010 min	119.00 issues

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

ARGENTINA

Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish		4,930	
Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish		0	
Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish		0	

AUSTRIA

Vienna OPECNA in Spanish		380	
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COLOMBIA

Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish	1,850		
Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish	1,900		
Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish	1,380		
Bogota Radio Santa Fe in Spanish	110		
Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish	1,330		

(CLANDESTINE)

Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador	20,120		
Radio 15 September in Spanish to Nicaragua	4,340		
Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua	600		

COSTA RICA

San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish	8,010		
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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
San Jose LA NACION in Spanish			4,920
CUBA			
Havana International Service in Spanish	41,580		
Havana PRELA in English		5,530	
Havana PRELA in Portuguese		200	
ECUADOR			
Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish	3,350		
Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish	1,020		
Quito Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish		0	
EL SALVADOR			
San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish	2,300		
San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish	2,410		
San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish	3,140		
San Salvador Radio Cadena Central in Spanish	410		
San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish			2,040
San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish			2,160
San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish			3,580
San Salvador DIARIO LATINO in Spanish			590
San Salvador ORIENTACION in Spanish			500
San Salvador THE NEWS GAZETTE in English			1,090
FRANCE			
Paris AFP in English		1,820	
Paris AFP in Spanish		19,140	
GUATEMALA			
Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo Network in Spanish	780		

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	BROAD-CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI-CATIONS
Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish	3,720		
Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish	5,430		
Guatemala City Trece-Vision in Spanish	3,840		
Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish	5,080		
Guatemala City Radio Fabulosa in Spanish	290		
Guatemala City DIARIO DE CENTROAMERICA in Spanish			1,280
Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish			2,600
Guatemala City DIARIO EL GRAFICO in Spanish			0
HONDURAS			
Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish	3,390		
Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish	1,370		
Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish	5,850		
Tegucigalpa Televisora Hondurena in Spanish	450		
Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish			1,510
Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish			860
San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish			2,990
San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish			1,550
MEXICO			
Mexico City International Service in Spanish	1,890		
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NICARAGUA			
Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish	2,310		
Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish	2,670		
Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish	5,080		

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Managua Domestic Service in Spanish	23,740		
Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish	900		
Managua Radio Mundial in Spanish	90		
Managua BARRICADA in Spanish			2,290
Managua BARRICADA INTERNACIONAL in Spanish			500
Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish			2,540
Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish			50
PANAMA			
Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish	3,650		
Panama City Circuito RPC-Television in Spanish	6,270		
Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish	2,490		
Panama City ACAN in Spanish		17,240	
Panama City CRITICA in Spanish			3,410
Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish			3,700
Panama City STAR & HERALD in English			0
Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish			2,480
Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish			1,750
Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish			3,420
Panama City QUIUBO in Spanish			1,380
SPAIN			
Madrid EFE in Spanish		9,550	
UNITED KINGDOM			
London REUTER in English		0	
London REUTER in French		0	

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
VENEZUELA			
Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish	480		
Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish	280		
Caracas Domestic Service in Spanish	3,830		