


Opm-11-50


ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)				
Monthly Report -- Paraguay Bureau				
FROM:		EXTENSION	NO.	
Chief, Operations Group			DATE	
			September 1988	
TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)		DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS
		RECEIVED	FORWARDED	
COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)				
1.	C/Ops		13 Oct	Pg
2.				
3.	Ac/E&PS		10/14	W
4.	DD/FBIS		14 Oct	B
5.	D/FBIS			
6.				
7.	PO/RA		10/14	Con
8.	SA/CD		17 Oct	CD Bf
9.	C/E&PS			
7	D/FBIS			
	C/AS			
11.	D/AS		11/4	
	C/B&F/AS			
12.	C/PERG			
13.	SO			
14.	C/AG		7/11	
15.	Exec. Reg.			



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE
PARAGUAY BUREAU
ASUNCION, PARAGUAY

5413-88
1 October 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, FBIS

THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT : Monthly Report -- Paraguay Bureau --
September 1988

I. GENERAL

A. The new U.S. Ambassador to Paraguay, Timothy Towell, arrived in Asuncion on 25 September. He was greeted at the airport by the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps and by the Country Team and their spouses, including the acting Bureau Chief. The Country Team then assembled at the Ambassador's residence, where Ambassador Towell received the Chief of Protocol from the Paraguayan Foreign Ministry and was further greeted with a champagne toast. The following night, the Deputy Chief of Mission hosted a barbecue for Ambassador Towell, where the Country Team and their spouses were able to chat with the new ambassador and his wife more informally. The Bureau is already providing services to the new ambassador, including fielding a request for a video recording of local television coverage of his arrival statement.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. Paraguayan President Alfredo Stroessner created a stir by being absent from government house 30 August - 12 September after undergoing a reported prostate operation. Local media, which are tightly controlled, were also silent on his whereabouts. It was rumored on the street that the longest-ruling Latin American dictator was near death, and the U.S. dollar experienced a temporary surge in value as Paraguayans rushed to safeguard their savings. The bureau filed daily FYI's on Paraguayan media behavior, as well as secondary-source reports that surfaced in other Southern Cone media. On 12 September Paraguayan television showed the president in his office receiving foreign dignitaries, and Bureau personnel breathed a collective sigh of relief.

2. On 1 September, the Chilean Government lifted its ban on exiles entering the country. This set the stage for numerous items on returning exiles. Preparations for the 5 October plebiscite, in which Chileans will decide whether General Augusto Pinochet will remain in power for another 8 years, also precipitated a heavy file.

3. On the 11th, General Pinochet gave a state-of-the-nation address commemorating the 15th anniversary of the coup that brought his regime to power. The Bureau covered the event with FYI's and an out-of-turn excerpt, as well as filing extensive excerpts of Pinochet's speech.

4. On 29 September, the Bureau filed a series of immediate items on the hijacking of a Sao Paulo Airlines plane. The lone hijacker killed the plane's copilot, wounded 3 others, and held nearly 100 people hostage for over 7 hours before being wounded himself in a shoot-out with police. The hijacker's only demand was that he be flown to Brasilia to "get even" with President Sarney.

B. Cruising

1. The cruising monitor observed and reported that Asuncion Radio Primero de Marzo now owns a repeater station in Mariscal Estigarribia. It is zpv72 Radio Mariscal Estigarribia on 96.9 mhz fm stereo, and is a member of the Caracol Network.

2. TELAM Press Agency was observed to carry items attributed to BOLPRES, Secretaria General de Informaciones de la Presidencia de la Republica de Bolivia.

3. The cruising monitor reported observations on Santa Cruz, Bolivia, Radio El Mundo on 6015 khz, and sourceline approval for the station was obtained via admin message.

4. Radio Moscow frequency changes were observed and reported.

5. The cruising monitor reported observations of Lima Domestic Service on an SCPC carrier at RF 3755 mhz off the 53.0w Intelsat. The station has changed its name to "Radio Nacional Pachacutec."

6. It was reported that Chilean radio frequencies are now observed in a carrier off the 53.0w Intelsat, instead of the 27.5w Intelsat.

7. The cruising monitor confirmed Panama observations of Lima Radio Moderna at RF 4029 mhz off the 34.5w Intelsat.

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. BUILDING AND GROUNDS

1. The "Great Wall" project to replace the embassy's perimeter wall has reached FBIS. Our annex shook this month as contractors tipped over adjacent sections of the old wall, 30 feet at a time. The guy wires for our local HF antenna array were moved from the top of the old wall to a steel deadman previously set into concrete outside the bureau by the contractors in coordination with staff engineer [redacted]

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2. [redacted] new office, located beside the Bureau Chief's, is beginning to take shape through the efforts of GSO workmen.

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IV. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

[redacted]

STAT

[redacted]

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A/Chief, FBIS Paraguay Bureau

CC: Panama Bureau
Key West Bureau