

UPM-11-10-88
STAT

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET



SUBJECT: (Optional)

Monthly Report -- Panama Bureau

| | | | | |
|--|----------|-----------|------------------------|---|
| FROM: | | EXTENSION | NO. | |
| Chief, Operations Group | | | | DATE November 1988 |
| TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building) | DATE | | OFFICER'S INITIALS | COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.) |
| | RECEIVED | FORWARDED | | |
| 1. C/Ops | | 22 Dec | [Handwritten initials] | |
| 2. | | | | |
| 3. C/E&PS | | 12/27 | [Handwritten initials] | |
| 4. DD/FBIS | | 23 Dec | [Handwritten initials] | |
| 5. D/FBIS | | / | [Handwritten initials] | |
| 6. | | | | |
| 7. PO/RA | | 12/23 | [Handwritten initials] | |
| 8. SA/CD | | 27 Dec | [Handwritten initials] | |
| 9. | | | | |
| 10. C/AS | | 12/28 | [Handwritten initials] | |
| 11. DC/B&F/AS | | 12/27/88 | [Handwritten initials] | |
| 12. C/LOGS NOTE PARA II. C. (2) | | 1/3/89 | [Handwritten initials] | |
| 13. C/PER S | | | [Handwritten initials] | |
| 14. C/AG | | 28/12/88 | [Handwritten initials] | |
| 15. Exec. Reg. | | | | |

FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

PANAMA BUREAU

DRAWER 927
APO MIAMI 34004

6 December 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service
THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT : Monthly Report -- Panama Bureau -- November 1988

I. GENERAL

The semiannual swing through Central America to inspect our remote monitoring sites and to introduce myself to embassy officers and contractors was undertaken 31 October thru 4 November. All outstanding issues were resolved, including securing approval from Ambassador Hinton in Costa Rica to set up a remote monitoring site there as an emergency backup site for monitoring Nicaraguan media.

In view of media reports noting that the local population of the aedes egypti mosquito, the carrier of yellow and dengue fevers, has been growing in recent months, the embassy medical unit began offering yellow fever vaccines to all embassy personnel and their families. In addition to offering the vaccine at the medical unit, the embassy nurse and regional medical officer made a special visit to the bureau on 9 November to give the vaccine to all interested personnel. Thus far, approximately 100 bureau employees and family members have taken advantage of this offer.

Although there have been no recent reports of either yellow fever or dengue fever cases, we have been advised that airport immigration has begun checking shot records of arrivals on certain airlines, and we have encouraged all employees and their families to receive the vaccine.

II. OPERATIONS

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A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. In an effort to improve bureau responsiveness to collection requirements, senior editor [redacted] developed a collection guidance folder tailored to countries in our coverage area. The guidance has been refined and condensed to one sheet per country, and because the guidance is on computer, the requirements officer can easily issue replacement sheets as guidance changes. Folders were provided to each editor and monitor to aid in program summary preparation, selection, and quality control of bureau's responsiveness to established requirements.

*3 copies
sent to
[redacted]*

2. Also in the spirit of using the LAN to aid bureau operations, an expanded version of the much used monitorial glossary was added to the LAN in November.

B. Communications

1. On November, we successfully tested modem communication with Key West Bureau.

2. For the first time in recent memory, the bureau experienced simultaneous problems with both DTS and autodin communications systems 23-25 November. Although we retained our ability to send over DTS, we could not receive traffic until the problem mysteriously resolved itself on 25 November. The autodin problem, which was discovered to have been caused by a dislodged ac plug at the bureau, was also resolved on 25 November.

C. Technical

1. Bureau technicians were called upon to repair the Azimuth motor brake systems on two of the 13-meter satellite dishes.

2. The following accountable property was transferred to the local Army disposal office:

-- One Assembly Lynch Repeater, Type C120, Serial No. C225. Unit price: \$ 384.00.

-- One Tektronik Oscilloscope, Type 321, Serial No. 000438. Unit price: \$ 785.00

-- One Hickok Transistor Tester, Model 870, Serial No. 271-11556. Unit price: \$ 355.00.

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

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1. Chief editor [redacted] and editor [redacted] became the proud parents of [redacted] on 6 November. Coincidentally, [redacted] began maternity leave the next day.

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2. Senior monitor [redacted] was promoted to FBN-11, shift supervisor, effective 20 November.

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3. Editor-trainee [redacted] was promoted to GS-9 effective 6 November.

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B. Building and Grounds

Remodeling of the men's restroom was completed 28 November. Remodeling of the women's restroom is scheduled for completion by the end of December.

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Chief, Panama Bureau