


ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET				
SUBJECT: (Optional)				
Monthly Report -- Panama Bureau				
FROM:		EXTENSION	NO.	
Chief, Operations Group			DATE	
			April 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	17 MAY 1988		<i>JM</i>
2.				<i>AG</i>
3.	C/E&PS	5-18		<i>J</i>
4.	<del>DD/FBIS</del>			
5.	D/FBIS	-		<i>rc</i>
6.				
7.	PO/RA	5/18		<i>Om</i>
8.	SA/CD	5/18		<i>Est</i>
9.	<i>DD/FBI</i>	5/19		<i>B</i>
10.	C/AS	19 May		<i>OP</i>
11.	C/B&F/AS			<i>WB</i> <i>B</i>
12.				
13.				
14.	C/AG	4/5		<i>rc</i>
15.	Exec. Reg.			

FBIS-5210-88  
2 May 1988

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

I. GENERAL

A. As the U.S. Government and Panamanian regime continued to spar, both U.S. and local employees began to feel the effects with greater intensity. First, the arrival of 1,300 U.S. military personnel sparked rumors of a U.S. invasion, and firefights between U.S. marines and unidentified "intruders" near Howard Air Force Base further aggravated tension. On 8 April, President Reagan invoked the International Emergency Economic Protection Act, which, by prohibiting all U.S. payments to the current regime, led to nonpayment of utilities for offbase staffers (and subsequent power cuts) and withholding of local employees' social security and income tax payments. Although the Treasury Department clarified some of the restrictions toward month's end, there is still a great deal of uncertainty as to how much impact these restrictions will have on the lives of bureau employees and bureau operations in the weeks to come.

On the political front, the Solis regime attempted to restore some degree of normalcy despite the continuing severe economic situation. Although banks remain closed except to receive deposits, by month's end the state of emergency had been lifted, a new left-leaning cabinet installed, and an increasing number of countries appeared willing to send aid to Panama. In general, April was not a bad month for the Noriega/Solis regime.

B. The arrest of alleged drug kingpin Ramon Matta in Tegucigalpa on 6 April resulted in a violent demonstration against the U.S. Embassy by a mob unhappy with the way Matta was arrested and taken to the United States. Among the embassy property damaged during the demonstration was the annex building housing the bureau's remote site equipment. Despite the violence and lack of access to our remote site equipment, the bureau's contractor in Tegucigalpa established contact with the bureau and continuously fed material over commercial telephone from his home, allowing us to provide comprehensive coverage. Remote line operation was reestablished two weeks later following

a visit by Chief Technician [redacted] to move and install our equipment in the new temporary USIS location.

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## II. OPERATIONS

### A. Monitorial/Editorial

In previous months, countries in Central America had been considerate enough to have their respective crises on different days, or at least different shifts. However, courtesy went out the window in April as on numerous occasions bureau editors and monitors were faced with multiple crisis, open watch, and speech coverage. Events in Panama and Nicaragua continued to top the list, but Honduras took occasional center stage during the second and third weeks in April with the violence against the U.S. Embassy and subsequent state of emergency.

### B. Communications

1. On 18 April the bureau successfully inaugurated the new message format in the field. Although Bach 2.1 requires FBA bureaus to rekey material to avoid possible format errors, which negates some of the time saved by FBA, the time added to processing has not been substantial.

2. Staff communications officer [redacted] and Acting Communications Section Chief [redacted] collaborated in drawing up step-by-step instructions for editors in opening the communications circuit and transmitting items in the event a communications operator is unavailable. No sooner had the instructions been completed, however, than changes became necessary as a result of the introduction of Bach 2.1.

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3. All editors have completed trial runs in modem operation between the bureau and local remote site. Instructions have been simplified to the extent possible, and all editors should be able to successfully transmit material over modem as long as our phones remain in order.

### C. Lateral Services

At a meeting at the ambassador's residence on 15 April to brief embassy employees and dependents on the current situation, the consul general noted that reading FBIS copy on Panama was the best way to stay informed. As a result, the bureau's file is now available in the Community Liaison Office for general mission consumption.

D. Technical

Chief Technician [redacted] made a swing through Tegucigalpa, Managua, and San Jose in mid-month. In addition to moving our remote site equipment in Tegucigalpa, Guillermo replaced a faulty power supply in Managua and oversaw the prewiring for our planned remote operation in San Jose to begin in early May.

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III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

1. Main Radio boardman [redacted] and his wife, [redacted] became the proud parents of an 8-lb, 14-oz boy, [redacted] on 6 April.

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2. Editor [redacted] departed Panama 11 April upon completion of his editorial training.

B. Building and Grounds

While riding the bureau bus home on 15 April, senior editor [redacted] again demonstrated his well-developed eye for detail when he spotted an intruder in the bureau's antenna field attempting to steal antenna wire. Chief Technician [redacted] led the charge with senior editor [redacted] in close pursuit. The intruder was apprehended, and [redacted] and security officer [redacted] stood guard while waiting 45 minutes for Ft. Clayton MP's to arrive. The MP's would have arrived sooner, but they had to call the bureau back 15 minutes after being summoned to get directions.

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IV. VISITS

Deputy Chief [redacted] to Ft. Clayton MP detachment commander Major Mansfield on 28 April for a courtesy call and to discuss security concerns.

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[redacted]

Chief, Panama Bureau

## Panama Bureau Production Report for APRIL 1988

## I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	359980
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	35600
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	811

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE: (minutes or issues per week)	16230.00 min.	74700.00 min.	220.00 issues
III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES: (publishable words per month)			

## CLANDESTINE

Clandestine Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador	0
Clandestine Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador	17450

## ARGENTINA

Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish	3780
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## COLOMBIA

Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish	1860
Bogota INRAVISION Television Cadena 1 in Spanish	6590
Bogota INRAVISION Television Cadena 2 in Spanish	1190
Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish	280
Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish	1790

## COSTA RICA

San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish	6450
San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish	2060
San Jose LA NACION in Spanish	210

- 2 -

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
San Jose LA PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish			0
San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish			910
San Jose LIBERTAD REVOLUCIONARIA in Spanish			0
San Jose LIBERTAD in Spanish			0
San Jose RUMBO in Spanish			0
CUBA			
Havana CUBAVISION Television in Spanish	800		
Havana International Service in Quechua	1460		
Havana International Service in Spanish	4530		
Havana PRENSA LATINA in English		2330	
Havana PRENSA LATINA in Spanish		17310	
ECUADOR			
Quito Radio Quito in Spanish	870		
Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish	330		
EL SALVADOR			
San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish	5650		
San Salvador Canal Seis Television in Spanish	2060		
San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish	0		
San Salvador La Voz Panamericana in Spanish	500		
San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish	1980		
San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish	3730		
San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish	2810		
San Salvador TCS Television in Spanish	0		
San Salvador DIARIO LATINO in Spanish			0

- 3 -

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish			710
San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish			790
San Salvador LA NOTICIA in Spanish			0
San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish			370
FRANCE			
Paris AFP in Spanish		16600	
GERMANY			
Hamburg DPA in Spanish		5760	
GUATEMALA			
Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish	190		
Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo Network in Spanish	330		
Guatemala City Radio Television Guatemala in Spanish	120		
Guatemala City Teleonce Television in Spanish	1280		
Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish			970
Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish			1060
HONDURAS			
Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish	1090		
Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish	3360		
Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish	2460		
Tegucigalpa Telecadena 7 y 4 in Spanish	0		
Tegucigalpa Televisora Hondurena in Spanish	0		
Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish	6010		

- 4 -

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish			0
San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish			1020
Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish			1050
Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish			0
MEXICO			
Mexico City Red Nacional 13 IMEVISION Television in Spanish	660		
Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish	2370		
Mexico City XHTV Television in Spanish	3110		
Mexico City CERIGUA in Spanish		1350	
Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish			1270
Mexico City EL NACIONAL in Spanish			830
Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish			2930
Mexico City THE NEWS in English			1360
Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish			1900
NICARAGUA			
Managua International Service in Spanish	2330		
Managua Domestic Service in Spanish	34630		
Managua Radio Catolica in Spanish	0		
Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish	2850		
Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish	820		
Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish	25390		
Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish	830		
Managua ANN Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish			0



- 5 -

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Managua ANN in Spanish		3020	
Managua NOTISAL in Spanish		0	
Managua NOTISAL-SALPRESS in Spanish		0	
Managua PRENSA LATINA in Spanish to PRENSA LATINA Havana		8560	
Managua BARRICADA in Spanish			11280
Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish			2690
Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish			1830
PANAMA			
Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish	4020		
Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish	30660		
Panama City Radio Alegre in Spanish	190		
Panama City Radio BB Network in Spanish	780		
Panama City Radio Verbo in Spanish	220		
Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish	7640		
Panama City Television Service in Spanish	1630		
Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish	13360		
Panama City ACAN in Spanish		18510	
Panama City CRITICA in Spanish			4150
Panama City DIALOGO SOCIAL in Spanish			0
Panama City EL SIGLO in Spanish			0
Panama City EXTRA in Spanish			0
Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish			18960
Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish			0
Panama City LA REPUBLICA DOMINICAL in Spanish			3040

- 6 -

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish			1980
Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish			3400
Panama City QUIUBO in Spanish			0
Panama City THE SUNDAY REPUBLIC in English			0
Panama City EL SIGLO DOMINICAL in Spanish			0
SPAIN			
Madrid EFE in Spanish		4240	
TRINIDAD-TOBAGO			
Port-of-Spain TTT Television Feed in English	140		
USSR			
Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Spanish	1230		
Moscow in Spanish to Latin America	0		
Moscow in Spanish to Cuba	2010		
VENEZUELA			
Caracas Venezolana de Television Canal 8 in Spanish	3080		
Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish			540
Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish			90

PANAMA BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR APRIL 1988 -- ANNEXTOTALS FROM ROSET SOURCES

## COLOMBIA

Bogota INRAVISION Television Cadena 1 in Spanish	6,590
Bogota INRAVISION Television Cadena 2 in Spanish	1,190

## CUBA

Havana PRENSA LATINA in Spanish	17,310
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## MEXICO

Mexico City Red Nacional 13 IMEVISION Television in Spanish	660
Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish	2,370
Mexico City XHTV Television in Spanish	3,110
Mexico City CERIGUA in Spanish	1,350

## NICARAGUA

Managua ANN in Spanish	3,020
Managua PRENSA LATINA in Spanish to PRENSA LATINA Havana	8,560

## TRINIDAD-TOBAGO

Port-of-Spain TTT Television Feed in English	140
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## VENEZUELA

Caracas Venezolana de Television Canal 8 in Spanish	3,080
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TOTAL FOR APRIL 1988	47,380
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