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FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

P.O. Box 2604
Washington, D.C. 20013

MHQ-6043
2 April 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Panama Bureau

FROM :
Chief, Monitoring Operations Division

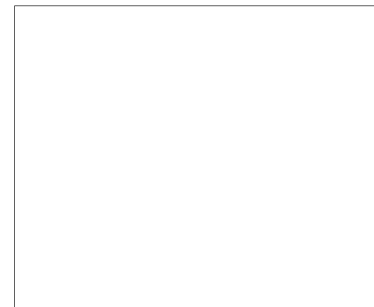
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SUBJECT : Panama Bureau Emergency Coverage Plan Update

REFERENCES : A. MHQ-5023 -- Request for Emergency Coverage Plans
B. WA231538 Jan 86 -- Service: Emergency Coverage Updates
C. PA242044 Jan 86 -- Service: Panama Emergency Coverage Plan.
D. Panama Bureau Operational Directive 85-20 -- Dedicated Circuit Usage -- 4 December 1985
E. PY061710 Feb 86 -- Service: Paraguay Emergency Plan Updates (2)

1. Attached is the updated emergency coverage plan for Panama Bureau. The update is based on Panama's 25 June 1985 Plan, and incorporates the changes suggested in Ref C. In addition, an appendix detailing the remote contractors and systems used for Panama's coverage of El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, and Honduras has been attached. It is hoped that this will facilitate emergency contacts of those contractors, should this be necessary. Bureaus' comments and corrections are solicited.

2. MOD will be adhering to the 6-month update schedule for these plans, as stated in Ref A. Accordingly, the next update of this plan will be due in October 1986. Panama Bureau may wirefile suggested updates at that time.



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Attachment:
PA Emergency Coverage Plan

Distribution:
Ch/PA (Original)
Ch/PY (1)
Ch/FL (1)
Ch/WSS (1)
MOD Files (PLAN 10-2)(2)
Registry (1)



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PANAMA BUREAU EMERGENCY COVERAGE PLAN

In the event of interruption of Panama Bureau operations, and subject to changes depending on the situation at the time:

1. KEY WEST Bureau would take (Class A coverage underlined):

A. Havana PRENSA LATINA in English (radioteletype)
Havana International Service in Spanish

Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish
Managua International Service in Spanish/English
Managua Domestic Service in Spanish

(Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador
(Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador

San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish
San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish

(All listed transmitters are audible at Key West Bureau)

Commercial telephone feeds of voice/newspaper material from Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras. (See Appendix A)

B. Additional personnel required: 3 editors, 10 monitors, 3 teletypists.

C. Additional equipment required: 5 complete monitoring set-ups (several multicouplers will be required) and 2 complete teletype setups.

2. PARAGUAY Bureau would take (Class A coverage underlined):

A. Paris AFP in Spanish (landline) (It is quite possible that the AFP Spanish beam at Paraguay Bureau will differ from the AFP beam monitored at Panama.)

Madrid EFE in Spanish (landline)

Bogota Radio Santa Fe in Spanish (PY's reception is seasonal)
Bogota Radio Sutatenza in Spanish (PY reception seasonal)

Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish

San Cristobal Ecos del Torbes in Spanish (member of the Radio Rumbos Network -- PY reception seasonal)

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(All listed shortwave transmitters are audible at Paraguay Bureau, but some reception deteriorates seasonally)

B. Additional personnel required: Two monitors.

C. Additional equipment required: None.

3. LOSSES would include (Class A coverage underlined):

A. Coverage of Buenos Aires REUTER and Hamburg DPA Spanish-language casts (landline subscriptions; no alternate arrangements possible).

B. All satellite coverage -- television and press agency transmissions. All satellites involved in Panama's ROSET coverage are also observable via London Bureau's ROSET. The London ROSET is already heavily committed to Class A coverage and would probably be unable to pick up any of Panama's satellite coverage.

C. Mexican coverage: Mexican television monitored from Panama's ROSET would be lost, as would field coverage of the Mexican press. Key West's coverage of Mexico City NOTIMEX and ELAAD's coverage of Mexican newspapers would not be affected.

D. Panamanian coverage: Depending on the local situation, arrangements could possibly be made to feed Panama City voice and newspaper material to Key West via commercial telephone lines. Panama City ACAN items are carried under an EFE sourceline on Paraguay Bureau's landline subscription.

E. AFP English coverage: No backstop arrangement is included for Panama's coverage of AFP English (Africabeams) Class A worldwide alert function, which is provided for separately under agreement with all participating AFP bureaus.

4. ALTERNATIVES AND UNCERTAINTIES:

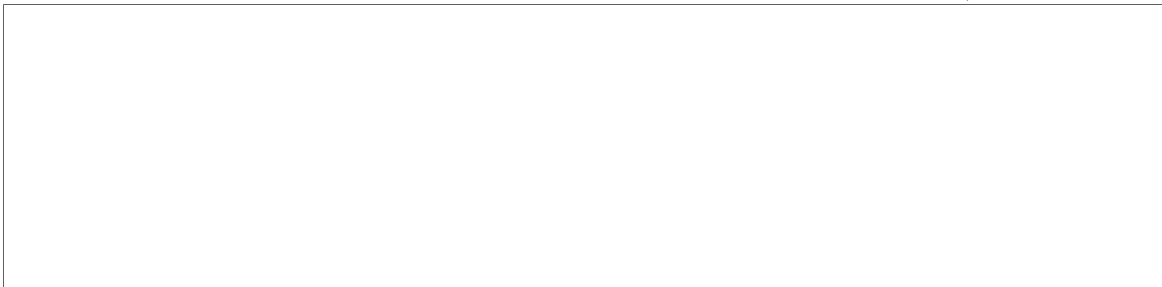
A. Panama Bureau's Class A Coverage -- by definition -- is limited to Havana International Service's major daily newscast at 0000-0050 GMT, and to coverage of Paris AFP, Madrid EFE/Panama City ACAN, and Buenos Aires REUTER during the bureau's regularly scheduled hours of operation. An anomaly in this regard that must be considered in any backstop arrangement involves Panama's coverage of vitally important Central American media. Because of highly variable reception, frequent power outages and communications problems at our Central America remote sites, and our inability to cover the major newscasts live with a regular and reasonable degree of certainty, Panama's coverage of Nicaragua, El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala has had to be designated as Class B in accordance with MOD guidelines. Obviously, the importance of the media in those Central American countries is such that they must be included in any backstop coverage arrangements.

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B. At the insistence of Key West and Paraguay Bureaus, all of Panama's Central American coverage is centralized at Key West Bureau in this backstop plan. If, however, the resultant load proves too much for Key West's resources -- and in particular for its communications facilities -- some of the Central American coverage received via commercial telephone feeds may have to be shifted to Paraguay Bureau.

5. VULNERABILITY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRIC POWER:



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