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## CIA SPY STATION Uncovered in Nicaragua

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Recently, Monitoring Times readers were the first ones to find out the origin of one of the so-called "spy number" stations, revealed to be transmitting from a military base outside of Washington, D.c. Earlier last year, I came across a bilingual "newsmagazine" from Managua, Nicaragua called Soberania, which seemed to be a pro-Marxist, anti-American publication.

One of the articles in that magazine (May-June 1983 issue) was titled, "Criminal CIA ring smashed in Nicaragua"; that story contained information that connects with the recent discovery of the spy numbers station revealed in Monitoring Times.

The story dealt with a woman named Marlene Moncada, a Nicaraguan who was allegedly recruited by the CIA to assassinate Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto back in 1982. Marlene, at that time employed by the Nicaraguan embassy in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, was allegedly trained by CIA

agents on how to operate a shortwave radio they have given to her for her "assignment," instructing her to tune in on the frequencies of 9074 kHz and 14421 kHz at 11 pm in order to receive secret messages from the CIA in Langley, VA.

They supposedly taught her how to use secret writing and gave her two small bottles with chemicals for developing the writing, as well as giving her a notebook whose pages, if necessary, could be chewed up and would turn into chewing gum!

Brigade Commandant Lenin Cerna, chief of the Nicaraguan State Security, presented in a news conference all the "working tools" that the CIA delivered to Marlene. On a table stood two wooden idols about 20 cm. tall, one of which could be opened to reveal a tube where the keys to decipher the radio messages she was to receive by radio were found. The spy messages would be written in four digit groups that make up the content of the radio messages.

"Soberania" magazine also showed photos of some of the radio messages (in

transcript form) that were sent to Marlene by the CIA, instructing her where to pick up a bottle of wine that was allegedly intended for Foreign Minister D'Escoto (the wine was allegedly poisoned). Code books were also shown containing four digit groups that would be used to decode radio messages intended for her.



Sony ICF-6500W receiver with special notebook and writing chemicals.

The article also had a story on the CIA's recruitment of Nicaraguan Carlos Rodolfo Icaza Espinoza, who was given the same "working tools" as Marlene Moncada, and was instructed to tune in on 14156 kHz and decipher radio messages for further instructions.

If the Nicaraguans' story about the two alleged agents is true, then this, along with the April 1984 cover story on Monitoring Times will truly symbolize the breakthrough of revealing the origin of at least one or two of the mysterious spy number stations and demonstrate how the transmissions from these stations affect political situations around the world.



Indigenous wooden idol concealing cypher keys.

### NEXT MONTH: MT Files With The STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND...

Do you know where Looking Glass (SAC airborne command post) got its name? According to an official Air Force spokesman it is because the advanced aircraft is a mirror image of the underground command post at Offut AFB in Omaha.

First launched on February 3, 1986 some seventeen Boeing 707 EC135's have assumed the lofty role of "Looking Glass." Originally flying 12 hour missions, each now remains aloft for 8-1/2 hours and may be heard checking in with worldwide ground stations on the primary SAC nets (frequencies and schedules in Grove's Shortwave Frequency Directory).

At an average speed of 506 miles per hour, Looking Glass has flown some 8600 days, equivalent to over 4000 times around the earth, to the moon and back 253 times, or past the sun!

Next month MT writer Art Kimball treats fellow listeners to an exclusive VIP tour of SAC headquarters arranged by Monitoring Times with the United States Air Force.

## Ham Monitors Guerilla Radio Traffic

An unidentified amateur radio operator from southeastern Indiana has notified MT that he intercepted tactical communications between Cuba and El Salvador.

The two-way transmissions in Spanish language were monitored on 14280 kHz in the amateur 20 meter band on Sunday, May 13, 1984. Communications were established by whistling and using tactical ID's, common for unlicensed South American operators such as drug smugglers.

Once communications were established topics discussed included ammunition needed, types and numbers of guns required and replacements for field troops.

The Cuban station asked

questions regarding progress of actions and expected future activity.

A Nicaraguan station then checked in, providing the same list of information, then requested tools to repair a machine gun. A list of casualties was passed to Cuba along with a phone patch from field personnel.

Later, a station in Miami, Florida joined the net to deliver telephone messages in coded language concerning business in the United States.

The episode, which lasted several hours, was reported to the CIA who replied politely that they were monitoring the net also!

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