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Panama Suspends International Telephone Service To U.S. Southern Command

by Deborah Tyroler

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On March 10, Panama's National Telecommunications Institute (INTEL) suspended international telephone service to the US Southern Command. INTEL director Gen. Luis Blanco stated that the government has experienced great difficulty in obtaining payment for services from the Command. Unnamed Panamanian officials cited by Xinhua said the Command owes thousands of dollars in telephone bills, and are in arrears approximately \$41 million in charges for other public services. (Basic data from Xinhua, 03/10/89)

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