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Panamanian Newspaper Declares Weekend U.S. Military Maneuvers Attempt To Intimidate Government

by Deborah Tyroler

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On July 2, pro-government daily newspaper La Republica charged that weekend maneuvers by the US military in the Panama Canal town of Gamboa were an attempt to intimidate the Panamanian government. The newspaper reported that on July 1, a US infantry company supported by military helicopters, tanks, 2-1/2 ton trucks, jeeps and other vehicles entered Gamboa, near where a Panama Canal dredging division is based. Lt.Col. Aristedes Hassan, who coordinates relations between the two countries' troops, told La Republica that the maneuvers took place "without previously consulting Panamanian authorities." (Basic data from AFP, 07/02/89)

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