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## **Panama Canal Commission Approves Toll Hike**

*by Deborah Tyroler*

*Category/Department: General*

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On July 27 in Washington, the Panama Canal Commission's Board of Directors approved a proposal for a 9.8% increase in canal tolls, marking the first hike since 1983. If President Bush approves the proposal, the rate increase is to take effect on Oct. 1, or in FY 1990. Chief administrator D.P. McAuliffe said Canal toll revenues in June were the lowest of the last three years. The toll increase, he said, was necessary to maintain Canal operations on a break-even basis. (Basic data from Reuters, 07/27/89; Xinhua, 07/28/89)

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