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18,900 U.S. Troops Remain In Panama

by Deborah Tyroler

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On Jan. 17, President George Bush told reporters that some 8,000 troops had left Panama, following the December invasion. The president made the comment while welcoming Gen. Maxwell Thurman, chief of the Southern Command. Thurman said 18,900 troops remain in Panama as of Jan. 17. Bush stated that 4,000 or 5,000 more would be pulled out, but probably not until after the upcoming "drug summit" scheduled for mid-February. Prior to the invasion, 12,000 US troops were permanently stationed in Panama. (Basic data from AFP, 01/17/90; Xinhua, 01/18/90)

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