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## **Panamanian Government To Take Over Housing For 239 Citizens Displaced By U.S. Invasion**

*by Deborah Tyroler*

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In a July 1 communique, the US Embassy reported that the Panamanian government would take over responsibility for housing 239 citizens displaced by the 1989 US invasion. Following the invasion, the US Albrook Air Base was opened to 3,100 persons who lost their homes during the bombing of the El Chorillo neighborhood in Panama City. The US Agency for International Development (AID) has provided over \$20 million for a housing program and another \$1.6 million for food and medical services. Regional AID director Kevin Kelly said that thus far over 1,900 houses had been constructed, and over 600 apartments restored. According to the statement, 168 persons are awaiting completion of the construction of new homes in El Chorillo, and the needs of another 71 citizens will be met by the Housing Ministry. (Basic data from ACAN-EFE, 07/01/91)

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