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## **Police Break Up Fight Among U.S. Soldiers At Panama City Nightclub**

*by Deborah Tyroler*

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On Dec. 12, police spokesperson Daniel Alonso told reporters that 25 officers were dispatched to break up a fight among a group of US soldiers at "My Place," a nightclub in Panama City. Alonso indicated that two of the soldiers were arrested and subsequently turned over to US military police stationed in the Canal Zone. According to witnesses cited by the Agence France-Presse, about 20 soldiers were involved in an argument which degenerated into a fist fight between the two soldiers arrested. Local media sources reported that the soldiers harassed a private security guard at the nightclub, and broke several windows during the fighting. When Panamanian police arrived at the scene, they were victimized by the soldiers' verbal insults. The Southern Command prohibited US soldiers from patronizing My Place after a 1990 bombing there which left on US soldier dead. Despite the ban, neighbors told reporters that the bar is often visited by US soldiers and that loud brawls are common. (Basic data from ACAN-EFE, Agence France- Presse, 12/12/91)

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