



Office of Inspector General
U.S. Department of State
and the
Broadcasting Board of Governors

MONTHLY REPORT OF ACTIVITIES

audits, inspections, testimony, and special activities

May 2003

This report describes testimony provided by the Inspector General or other OIG officials and lists OIG reports issued during the period indicated. This report includes unclassified summaries of classified reports; all text in this report is unclassified. Classified reports are not distributed publicly. On occasion, OIG distributes an unclassified version of a classified report; in such a case, this listing also indicates the issued date of the original report. In addition, all major reports, together with OIG investigative activities, are summarized in the Inspector General's semiannual reports to the Congress, which are publicly available every June and December.

Office of Inspections

Inspection of Embassy La Paz, Bolivia (ISP-I-03-15)

- Embassy La Paz suffers from lack of leadership and plummeting morale in the absence of an ambassador. The Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs should designate an experienced manager to oversee the embassy until the new Ambassador arrives.
- The narcotics affairs section is doing a good job of implementing U.S. counternarcotics policies and programs in Bolivia. The large, complex program is well coordinated within the embassy and at multiple locations in Bolivia. The Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) should continue regional meetings between the narcotics affairs section (NAS) and U.S. counternarcotics agencies in the region.
- U.S. policy is shifting correctly toward more support for Bolivia's fragile democracy and economic development. Populist leaders opposed to coca eradication are vying for the support of the marginalized poor indigenous majority. The embassy should develop, together with Department of State (Department) bureaus and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), a comprehensive strategy and action plan to reach out to this population.
- Consular agents in Santa Cruz and Cochabamba adequately meet needs for consular services and perform valuable and cost-effective services for American citizens. The Department of Homeland Security's Directorate of Border and Transportation Security (BTS) should assume responsibility for anti-alien smuggling and counterterrorism efforts in Santa Cruz and not leave that responsibility for the consular agent.
- Given the large size and disparate locations of the U.S. presence in Bolivia, administrative support is exceptionally good.

Office of Security and Intelligence Oversight

During this reporting period, OIG limited scope security inspection reports were published for Embassy Brasilia, Brazil, and Constituent Posts, and U.S. Office Pristina. In addition, a security compliance follow-up review was conducted at Embassy Berlin, Germany, and Constituent Posts.