Office of Cuba Broadcasting Radio Martí and TV Martí

"I am the same age and color of Barack Obama. Yet look at how far he has risen, and I am here in Cuba unable to enjoy the opportunities of a free society."

-Cuban independent journalist Jorge Olivera on Radio Martí

FAST FACTS

Headquarters: Miami, Florida

Budget: \$34.8 million (FY 2009 Estimate)

Employees: 171

Language: Spanish

Media: radio, television and the Internet

History: OCB established in 1990 to oversee Radio Martí and TV Martí

Mission: to supply the people of Cuba with objective news and information while promoting freedom and democracy

Website: www.Martínoticias.com

PROGRAMMING AND CONTENT

■ Programs provide uncensored, comprehensive and balanced perspectives on current events, and include roundtable discussions and expert news analysis.

■ OCB maintains daily contact with a large network of dissidents, independent journalists, independent librarians, and pro-democracy advocates from across Cuba who regularly appear on air, giving Cubans unique insights into what is happening within the country.

RADIO MARTÍ

■ The Radio Broadcasting to Cuba Act established Radio Martí in 1983.

■ The first broadcast was from Washington, D.C. on May 20, 1985.

■ Programs air 24 hours a day 6 days a week, and 18 hours a day one day a week on shortwave and medium wave (AM).

 Broadcasts follow an all news and news information format.
Approximately 70% of the broadcast hours are live newscasts.

■ Three daily half-hour programs are dedicated to information and reports from dissidents, independent journalists, independent librarians, and pro-democracy advocates within Cuba.

■ All programs available on demand at www.Martínoticias.com.

TELEVISION MARTÍ

■ TV Martí launched in 1990, at the same time OCB was established.

■ Programs air 24 hours a day via the direct-to-home Hispasat satellite television system, available within Cuba via small, inexpensive home receivers and through cable stations throughout Latin America.

■ Content includes news, news analysis, sports, entertainment, and features on life and current events in the United States.

■ TV Martí is broadcast via the AeroMartí airborne transmission platform four and a half hours a day, six days a week. Live newscasts are broadcast daily at 6 p.m. and 10 p.m.

■ Additional news and programming airs on DirecTV from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and 11:30 p.m. to midnight five days a week and between midnight and 2 a.m. seven days a week via airtime leased from a commercial station in Florida.

All programs available on demand at www.Martínoticias.com.

OFFICE OF CUBA BROADCASTING AND THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT

■ Office of Cuba Broadcasting (OCB) broadcasts attempt to fill the information gap caused by more than five decades of Cuban government censorship.

■ Massive jamming efforts by the Cuban government still make it difficult to receive signals in the center of the capital of Havana.

■ In 16 other Latin American countries, regional cable systems acquire TV Martí programs via satellite and rebroadcast them to local audiences.

THE BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS (BBG)

■ The BBG is an independent federal agency that oversees all non-military U.S. international broadcasting including Radio and TV Martí.

■ The bi-partisan Board is comprised of nine members, appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, including the Secretary of State.

■ Its mission is "To promote and sustain freedom and democracry by broadcasting accurate and objective news and information about the United States and the world to audiences overseas."

Office of Cuba Broadcasting BBG Office of Public Affairs

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