




**PENNSYLVANIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD
193D SPECIAL OPERATIONS SQUADRON
MIDDLETOWN, PENNSYLVANIA**

Mr. Kermit Geary
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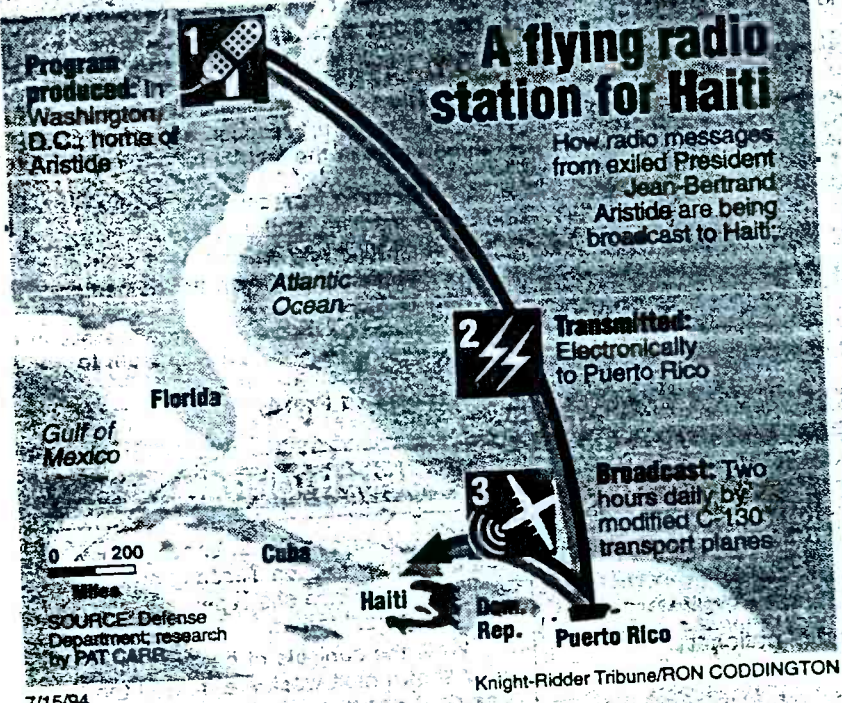
5 Oct 95

Dear Mr. Geary:

1. We received your letter of 18 Aug 95 and we wish to thank you for writing. We are enclosing an article that was published in the Patriot News regarding our unit.
2. Because of the on-going political ramifications associated with some of our missions, we do not comment on program specifics, dates or times. Thank you for your interest.


DENNIS R. GOODLING, Lt Col, PaANG
Squadron Operations Officer

*The Voice of the Quiet Professionals of AFSOC
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A flying radio station for Haiti

How radio messages from exiled President Jean-Bertrand Aristide are being broadcast to Haiti.

Local Guard unit over Haiti

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with a one-of-a-kind mission in the the Department of Defense," Schreckengaust said. "In other words, there is no one else that can do our mission."

Schreckengaust said the 193rd flew airborne radio stations during conflicts in Grenada, Panama, Operation Desert Shield prior to the Gulf War and Operation Desert Storm during the conflict.

"Our people know, with the mission they have, they could be on call at any time," he said.

Pentagon officials who asked not to be named said the 193rd began flying over Haiti in mid- to late July.

Jim Pogue, a Memphis, Tenn., defense communications writer, said the 193rd's aircraft are broadcasting to Haitian troops on 1035 kHz AM and on 91.1 MHz. They call their flying station Radio Democracy.

Pogue, a writer for Monitoring Times, a Brasstown, N.C., magazine, said the broadcasts have been heard in Florida and other southeastern states.

"The broadcasts are a combination of messages from President Aristide and information directly from the U.S. State Department," Pogue said. "If an invasion does take place, communications facilities will be the first targets. These psyops guys will be an important link in providing information to the people of Haiti during the return of the Aristide government."

J.D. Stephens of Huntsville, Ala., a radio listener, said all the broadcasts to Haiti are in Creole.

Stephens said East Coast listeners are hearing Aristide's speeches and Creole folk and instrumental music on the flying radio stations. The Guard's station on 1035 kHz is just up the AM radio dial from Boston radio station WBZ at 1030 kHz.

Stephens said Pennsylvania listeners probably can hear Radio Democracy from 8 to 9 p.m. on that frequency.

Special unit of midstaters

Guard's 'psyops' radio on air

By Tom Bowman
Lebanon Bureau

Pennsylvania Air National Guard members are circling Haiti daily inside flying radio stations that are assigned the mission of beaming messages to Haitian soldiers.

The broadcasts are designed to weaken Haitian soldiers' will to fight as U.S. troops prepare for a possible invasion of the island to overthrow the military leaders who ousted President Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

"The day of my return is not far off," Aristide says in broadcasts to Haiti's 7,000 troops. "Soldiers, you have nothing to worry about."

For midstate Air National Guard fliers, the mission and message are nothing new.

The 1,150 members of the 193rd Special Operations Group based at Harrisburg International Airport are old hands at the business of "psyops" — Defense Department psychological operations.

During the Gulf War, the state Guard members circled Iraq, broadcasting instructions to the Iraqi Army on how to surrender.

"Of the 60,000 [Iraqi] surrenders, they have credited our [aircraft] with 10,000 to 12,000 surrenders," said Lt. Col. John Schreckengaust, officer in charge of the 193rd's command post at Harrisburg International Airport. "That's 10,000 to 12,000 less troops our troops had to face."

Schreckengaust refused to comment on the 193rd's mission over Haiti or say from where the

unit is flying.

However, George Grimes of the U.S. Special Operations Command at Florida's MacDill AFB confirmed that Pennsylvania troops are circling Haiti.

"We can confirm that we have two aircraft from the 193rd supporting on-going operations in the air, in and around Haiti," Grimes said. "Above and beyond that, we do not discuss their current, on-going missions."

A Pentagon source who asked not to be named said the Haitian army poses no threat to the Pennsylvanians.

"The Haitian military is more suited to Mafia activity than military operations," the spokesperson said.

The Haitian air force has about five propeller-driven aircraft, a few transport planes and no armed helicopters, the source said. Haitian soldiers do not have surface-to-air missiles.

"The intent is to give information to a military or civilian audience that they might not have from their routine sources," said Shirley Sikes, a spokeswoman for the Air Force Special Operations Command at Florida's Hurlburt Field. Pennsylvania Air National Guard members "do this" by broadcasting either in the AM or FM mode or by TV to the intended audience and you do it from a wonderful C-130 flying overhead.

Schreckengaust said 193rd members flew three C-130s during the Gulf War.

"We're a one-of-a kind unit

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