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LATIN AMERICA REPORT

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TACC DENOUNCES 'AGGRESSION' AGAINST NICARAGUA

PA232345 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television in Spanish 0200 GMT 22 Jul 82

[Text] Guillermo Torrielo, president of the Central American and Caribbean Anti-Imperialist Tribunal [TACC] has announced the tribunal's position on the latest attacks against the Sandinist people's revolution.

[Begin recording] One of our main objectives, even using our magazine SOBERANIA, will be to denounce all these actions. With companero Freddy Balzan, executive secretary of the tribunal and a great journalist, we have notified the other 23 sectors or chapters of the TACC to make the aggression known. In this way we can jointly take pertinent measures to denounce before the world this new aggression against Nicaragua, a much more sophisticated imperialist act this time. [words indistinct] raise a great current of combative solidarity for the people and government of Nicaragua and for their historic vanguard, the FSLN.

[Question] Is the TACC (?preparing) for a consultative conference [words indistinct]?

[Answer] So far the task has been to strengthen and increase the incorporation of other countries to (?make the TACC) much stronger and powerful before world public opinion. (end recording)

CSO: 3010/2007

SETTLEMENT OF HAITIANS IN BELIZE PROTESTED

PA200459 Guatemala City TRECEVISION in Spanish 0500 GMT 16 Jul 82

[Text] Some 2,500 Haitians who entered the United States illegally will be relocated in Belize, according to an offer made by Prime Minister George Price.

The Guatemalan foreign ministry today protested against the proposal of Prime Minister Price, which it termed as hostile and a provocation against our country. Following are Foreign Minister Eduardo Castillo Arriola's statements:

[begin recording] The government of Belize is planning to give them land and working facilities in the area of Mozo River, Toledo district, next to Izabal and Peten departments. This action is definitely hostile to Guatemala and will block and delay the negotiations we are trying to resume with Great Britain. It is another deliberate attempt of the Belizean Government to prevent a solution of the territorial conflict between Great Britain and Guatemala. Besides, with this action the Belizean Government is only endangering the stability and security of the area. The plan is clearly provocative in assigning those settlements in zones close to Guatemala and where the population is of Guatemalan-Maya-Quechu origin. In the district of Toledo there are many Guatemalans closely related to Guatemala by family and commercial ties. This is the case of the Maya-Quechu and of the Meztizos and Caribes of Punta Gorda and other sectors such as Livingston and Puerto Barrios.

[end recording]

CSO: 3010/1994

BRIEFS

COLOMBIAN GUERRILLAS RELEASE VENEZUELAN--Bogota, 16 Jul (LATIN-REUTER)--A Venezuelan farmer who was kidnapped 5 months ago by Colombian guerrillas on the two countries' border has been released, according to military sources. The sources reported today that 28 million pesos, some \$450,000, was paid to one of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) groups for Nemasio Ramon Escalona's release. Escalona was kidnapped approximately 700 km northeast of Bogota at a point on the border, according to the report. [Text] [PA181349 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1748 GMT 16 Jul 82]

CUBA TO RELEASE COLOMBIAN SEAMEN--Barranquilla, Colombia, 17 Jul (AFP)--The Colombian Seamen's Association (ASOMAR) announced today that 31 Colombian seamen arrested for violating Cuban territorial waters will arrive in this Caribbean city on 20 July. ASOMAR added that 31 air tickets have been sent to Havana for the seamen to return next week. The seamen who had been arrested by the Castro regime were crewmen from the ships "Lucky Star," "Socorro" and "El Liliana. ASOMAR President Gerardo Castro also said that 11 Colombian seamen who were deported from the United States on similar charges of violating U.S. waters arrived in this northern city yesterday. [Text] [PA180407 Paris AFP in Spanish 1558 GMT 17 Jul 82]

U.S. SUGAR QUOTAS--The sugar producers of Central America are facing a serious crisis, especially in Honduras where several sugar mills are expected to close. As a result of the drop in exports, due to the U.S. decrease in import quotas as well as the decrease in the price of sugar, the producers met in San Pedro Sula, Honduras, over the weekend to exchange views on the sugar policy of each Central American country and the currently low U.S. import quotas. During a news conference today, (Daily Castillo), director of the Nicaraguan Sugar Enterprise, said that Honduras has been most affected by the low quotas assigned to the Central American countries because the quota for Honduras is only 1 percent, compared to Guatemala's 4.8 percent, El Salvador's 2.6 percent, Nicaragua's 2.11 percent, Costa Rica's 1.5 percent and Panama's 2.19 percent, totaling 14.9 percent of the sugar exports to the United States. [all figures as heard] [Tex-] [PA231720 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 22 Jul 82]

MEXICAN-CUBAN AGREEMENT--Merida, 14 Jul (NOTIMEX)--Carlos Capetillo Campos, general manager of [word indistinct], will travel to Cuba today as a result of the agricultural, livestock and industrial technical assistance agreement signed between Mexico and Cuba yesterday. The Mexican official will study the organization and production of dairy farming to help Mexican specialists improve their work systems. Later, Cuban technicians will visit Yucatan State to study the use of henequen byproducts as cattle fodder as well as programs for reproduction, nutrition and genetics. [FL141931 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1607 GMT 14 Jul 82 FL]

PRICE CRITICIZES NAM'S POSITION ON FALKLAND CRISIS

Belize City BELIZE SUNDAY TIMES in English 20 Jun 82 pp 7, 12

[Text] Hon. George Price, - after having received the communique issued by the Coordinating - Bureau of the Non-aligned Movement, - (NAM), in Havana, sent a cable to the - Chairman of the Non-aligned Movement, - President Fidel Castro, stating his government's position regarding the communique on the Falkland Islands.

Prime Minister Price said that the communique seemed to him "unbalanced, since no mention is made of Argentina's unprovoked invasion of the Falklands on April 2nd while negotiations with the United Kingdom were in progress. Neither is there mention of Argentina's refusal to abide by the United Nations Security Council's Resolution 502 to withdraw its forces". The Prime Minister told Doctor Castro in his cable that, "The Government of Belize wish to enter a strong reservation to the Bureau's statement and thus express its commitment to the principles of non-use of force in settlement of disputes and of self-determination - enshrined in the - Charter of the United Nations both of which have been violated by Argentina".

A copy of the above cable was also sent by the Prime Minister to all the Prime Ministers of CARICOM and President Forbes Burnham of Guyana, which is also a member of CARICOM.

Belize's Ambassador to the United Nations Mr. Robert Leslie, - was instructed to - present a copy of the cable to all members of the United Nations Security Council.

From the very beginning, the Government of Belize has been consistent in its condemnation of Argentina's action in the South Atlantic, and at the very beginning of the crisis had sent cables to CARICOM members setting out the position of Belize and requesting all members of CARICOM to support the United Kingdom in upholding the - principle of the solution of disputes without the use of force and the right of people to self-determine their destiny.

British High Commissioner, Mr. Francis Trew, has had warm words of praise for Belize's strong support of the United Kingdom throughout the Falkland Island's crisis.

On Monday last, the British were able to bring the Argentinian forces to their knees in a most humane manner with orders, as they advanced on Port Stanley, to shoot - only in self defense. The biggest surprise of the victorious - British troops was - that instead of the reported 9 thousand troops they captured 14 thousand Argentinians. Arrangements were made during the course of the week - through the Red Cross and in keeping with the Geneva Convention on prisoners of war to have the captured soldiers returned to Argentina.

CSO: 3020/150

FISHING COOPERATIVES REPORT RECORD SALES, PROBLEMS

Belize City BELIZE SUNDAY TIMES in English 27 Jun 82 pp 1, 13

[Text] A record \$15.5 million in sales was reported by the Department of Cooperatives for the five major fishing cooperatives in Belize in the year 1981-82.

Northern Fishermen Cooperative came on top with sales of more than \$5.3M followed by National Fishermen Coop with \$4.25M and Caribena with \$3.5M. Placencia Fishermen's sales reached \$1,210,000 while Sarteneja made just over \$1,172,000.

There is no doubt that the fishing industry is now a multi-million dollar business and it provides employment for more than 1,000 fishermen from all over Belize.

Yet with all the success evident in production and sales, some of the cooperatives are going through difficult times

Sarteneja is having financial problems. From the Department of Cooperatives we learn that the problems are due mainly to the fact that many of the Sarteneja members have been going over to bigger cooperatives like National and Northern. And to make things worse the Sarteneja manager has resigned.

As one member told us "so many problems popping up at one time have really complicated things for us."

There is some uncertainty in the future of the Sarteneja cooperative but the Department of Cooperatives is working hard to improve the situation.

Caribena Cooperative has similar problems and being a bigger society a greater effort will be necessary to solve the problems.

A Department of Cooperatives official says it appears that Caribena invested a lot of money which did not yield the benefits that were anticipated.

The National Fishermen Cooperative and Placencia Producers Cooperative have done well again this year. They too have some problems but not as big as Caribena and Sarteneja.

The Northern Fishermen Cooperative is definitely in a stronger position at this time and its tremendous success is reflected in lobster production. The cooperative which has over 200 members increased its lobster production by more than 127 percent, from 121,000 to 275,000 pounds. And its Conch production went up by 10,000 pounds from 43,000 to 53,000 lbs.

The cooperatives are now giving serious consideration to deep sea fishing and the need for this diversification is being emphasized very often these days. By the end of the week the five major fishing cooperatives will have held their annual meetings to report on the progress and problems of their operations during the past year.

A sixth fishing cooperative began operations last year, the Barranco Fishermen Cooperative. It had a fairly good start and is gearing up for another season.

COS: 3020/150

BRIEFS

AGREEMENT WITH EEC SIGNED--Signing the \$15 million dollar agreement between the Government of Belize and the European Economic in Belmopan, on May 27th are Prime Minister, George Price and Dr Eric Wirsing, Director for Coordination of Aid Policies and Programmes (EEC). Looking on are: Mr Roger Berth, the EEC Delegate to Jamaica and Belize's (on Prime Minister's right) Financial Secretary, Mr Edmund Marshalleck and Mr Gerard McGovern, Caribbean Desk (EEC) The stepped-up aid is another of the fruits of independence. The EEC funds for the most part are contributions by the United Kingdom, the Federal Republic of Germany and France. The funds are to be used for projects covering the development of Belize's human resources involving appropriate curriculum development at all levels of education and particularly at the post secondary and adult levels. [Text] [Belize City BELIZE SUNDAY TIMES in English 13 Jun 82 p 4]

CSO: 3020/150

MNRI CALLS FOR ADVANCEMENT OF ELECTIONS

PY250226 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spansih 1624 GMT 24 Jul 82

[Excerpts] La Paz, 24 Jul (LATIN-REUTER)--The National Revolutionary Movement of the Left (MNRI), believed to be Bolivia's largest party, has demanded that general elections be advanced to October or November in order to resolve the national crisis.

The proposal of the party led by former President Hernan Siles Zuazo, who as presidential candidate won the majority of votes in the 1979 and 1980 elections, is stated in a document released here today.

The MNRI proposed that elections be held within 90 or 120 days and that power be turned over immediately after the results of the elections were known. It also indicated that only a stable government representing popular sovereignty would be able to seek solutions for Bolivia's crisis.

The party led by Siles Zuazo, who has been in Lima ever since his exile in 1980, stated that "the majority of the people and the honest military men support our proposal to set up a democratic and popular system in the nation which is currently facing the urgent need to assemble a government backed up by broad popular trust."

The reinstatement of the 1980 congress and other proposals were described by the MNRI as attempts to preclude the advent to power of Comrade Hernan Siles Zuazo's, a symbol of national unity and dignity.

The MNRI said that General Vildoso's appointment as president of the nation was another variation of regression and of the efforts to hold power forever, within the bloody and antidemocratic system initiated by General Luis Garcia Meza on 17 July 1980.

The MNRI pointed out that to hope that the current government will resolve the crisis is naive because it lacks negotiating power.

The party called for the immediate termination of the economic model in effect with its two-tier currency market: official and free.

On the latter the exchange rate of the U.S. dollar has increased by 550 percent over the rate prevailing at the beginning of the year.

The MNRI called for the mobilization of revolutionary forces and of the popular movement to defend the democratic process and the general elections that must be held between October and November this year as the only way to resolve the crisis in a nationalistic and popular manner.

CSO: 3010/2004

BRIEFS

REVOLUTIONARY FRONT TO MEET--The third national meeting of the Revolutionary Front of the Left [FRI] will be held in La Paz on 28 and 29 August, according to the appeal recently made by Lidia Gueiler Tejada, Oscar Zamora, Rene Higueras del Barco and Augustina Meyer Gatica. According to the text of the appeal, the participants will be the representatives of the departmental committees of La Paz, Chuquisaca, Tarija, Cochabamba, Santa Cruz, Beni, Potosi, Oruro and Pando; the delegates of regional committees of Huanuni, Colquiri, Siglo Veinte, Viloco, Corocoro, Bermejo, Granchesco, Camargo, Padilla, Tupiza and northern Potosi; and the members of the Central Committee, elected during the second national meeting, that have not publicly strayed away from the political guidelines approved at that meeting. The agenda of the third national meeting includes: report on the nation's political situation and the stand of the FRI, report on the status of the organization of the FRI and approval of the work plan and election of executive bodies. [Text] [PY231517 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 23 Jul 82]

PEASANTS DENY ACCUSATIONS--In a communique, the executive committee of the departmental Federation of Peasant Workers of La Paz has denied the accusations made by former labor coordinators (Pedro Chiri) and (Aurora Enciso). According to the accusation, the persons who took over the federation's headquarters had presumably burned the national flag. This accusation is denied in the communique. The federation accuses (Pedro Chiri), who is an employee at the Agriculture, Livestock and Campesino Affairs Ministry, of being the departmental chief of the paramilitary groups. The communique is signed by (Esteban Silvestre) and (Celestino Iziapaza), among others. Another communique from the same peasant sector, which is signed by (Carlos Quispe), calls for an extraordinary congress on Monday, 26 July, at the departmental headquarters, located on [word indistinct] St. [Text] [PY240219 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 Jul 82]

CSO: 3010/2004

CHILE READY TO TEST FIRST JET FIGHTER-BOMBER

PY161606 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 5 Jul 82 pp C1, C2

[Excerpts] The first jet plane assembled in Chile and designed to serve as an advanced trainer for fighter pilots and to carry up to 2 tons of bombs is about to leave the hangar of the National Aeronautics Industry (INDAER) at El Bosque Air Base and make its initial flights.

The Casa 101-88, which the Chilean Air Force [FACH] has renamed the T-36 Halcon, is manufactured jointly by Spain and Chile, in keeping with an agreement currently in effect. This accord was signed by FACH and Construcciones Aeronauticas Co. of Spain.

Brig Gen Fritz Dreyer, director of engineering and maintenance for FACH and head of INDAER--which falls under the jurisdiction of the air force--told EL MERCURIO in the course of an interview, that Chile is ready to assemble four planes per year.

The second Halcon plane will be finished within the next 2 months as part of the project whose main sponsor is Gen Fernando Matthei Aubel, FACH commander in chief and member of the government junta.

The Halcon planes can be assembled in three stages starting from "phase zero" at which the plane arrives only partly assembled and must be put together in Chile.

The tail rudder of the first Casa-101 Halcon is being corrected before the plane can leave the hangar and make its official test flights.

The engines have been properly tested already and next week the plane will fly as proof of what our country can do.

The overall general performance data are: speed 380 knots at sea level; outside load capacity of more than 3,000 pounds; significant overall fixed armament; and a range of 7 hours at 20,000 feet.

General Dreyer said that the aeronautics industry is working on three specific projects: assembly of Piper Dakota and "Pillan" planes and the joint production

of the Casa-101 Halcon. The Dakota project is using only national manpower. The director of engineering and maintenance said that "It is a straightforward assembly job."

Then there is the "Pillan" project. Three of these planes are already flying. Later they will replace the obsolete T-34 mentor planes.

CSO: 3010/1991

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO NORWAY--His Majesty the King of Norway has approved the appointment of Leonidas Irrazabal as the new Chilean ambassador. Irrazabal is the current head of Chile's diplomatic mission in Quito, Ecuador. [Text] [PY140230 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Jul 82]

NEW SYRIAN, DOMINICAN AMBASSADORS--Teofilo Ramon Romero Pumarol and Hisham Hallaj, the new Dominican and Syrian ambassadors, respectively, have presented their credentials to President Pinochet. [Text] [PY221820 Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 5 Jun 82 P 5]

NEW AMBASSADOR TO HAITI--Rear Adm Lautaro Sazo Lizana (ret) last 23 June presented to Haitian President Jean Claude Duvalier his credentials as the new Chilean ambassador to Haiti. [Text] [PY211820 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 26 Jun 82 p C3]

NEW BRITISH AMBASSADOR--John K. Hickman, the new British ambassador to Chile, yesterday presented his credentials to President Pinochet. [Text] [PY211820 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 23 Jun 82 p 5]

LEFTIST LEADERS MEETING--Chilean leftwing organizations have reiterated in Paris their determination to promote the unity of all opposition parties and democratic forces to oust their country's regime. A communique released today by the Chilean Communist Party reports that the first secretary of Chile's Radical Party and coordinator of the Chilean left abroad, Anselmo Sule, has begun meeting with leaders of the communist and socialist parties and the movement of the revolutionary left, MIR. The communique adds that Sule intends to meet with other leftwing groups as well, and that the ideological positions that characterize each one shall be fully respected. The leaders agreed that it was imperative to unite all democratic and popular forces that are fighting against Pinochet. [Text] [FL232111 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2026 GMT 23 Jul 82]

CHILEAN RELATIONS PRAISED--Santiago, 15 Jul (AFP)--During an interview released today in this capital, Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde Terry stated that relations between Peru and Chile are going through an invigorating period, especially due to the objectives of their governments to solve common problems. Now we have new proof of that vigor in the contacts we are maintaining regarding copper, Belaunde stated during an interview granted to the afternoon

newspaper LA SEGUNDA. The Peruvian president stated that Peru and Chile, two of the largest producers and exporters of copper, must fight against a common enemy: speculation, which tends to maintain prices far below the real value. [passage omitted] [Excerpt] [PY161428 Paris AFP in Spanish 2059 GMT 15 Jul 82]

AID TO GREAT BRITAIN--Buenos Aires, 24 Jul (TELAM)--The Chilean embassy in Argentina today issued a statement refuting reports to the effect that Chile gave support to Great Britain during the conflict over the Malvinas. Here-with is the text of the statement: The Chilean embassy hereby refutes, once again, the reports published by certain media attempting to link Chile to alleged actions supporting British forces during the fighting in the Malvinas. At the same time it is pointed out that a weekly of this capital recently published a report by British journalist Michael Nicholson on what happened to the helicopter that was finally set on fire near Punta Arenas. This report also refutes the speculations. Intrigues circulated in this regard. [Text] [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1640 GMT 24 Jul 82]

NEW BUSINESS LEADER--Jorge Fontaine Aldunate has been elected president of the production and trade confederation replacing Domingo Arteaga. [Text] [Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA 15 Jul 82 p 22 PY]

AMBASSADORS TO TURKEY, HONDURAS--Ricardo Letelier Saavedra, the new Chilean ambassador to Turkey, presented his credentials to the Turkish head of state, Gen Kenan Evren, last 18 June. Gen Carlos Reddersen Rogge, the new Chilean ambassador to Honduras, also presented his credentials to Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova. [Text] [Buenos Aires Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0142 GMT 22 Jun 82 PY]

METALWORKERS LEADER REELECTED--Manuel Contreras Loyola has been reelected as president of the metalworkers confederation. [Text] [Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 13 Jul 82 p 6 PY]

COSTA RICAN AMBASSADOR--Santiago, 9 Jul (LATIN-REUTER)--The Chilean Government has agreed to the designation of Dr Fabio Cruz Briceno as the Costa Rican ambassador to Chile. [Text] [Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2321 GMT 9 Jul 82 PY]

AMBASSADORS PRESENT CREDENTIALS--Three Chilean ambassadors have presented their credentials to the governments to which they have been accredited. They are: Gen Rene Perez Negrete in El Salvador; Ambassador Miguel Jacob Helo, concurrent ambassador to Syria, as ambassador to Qatar; and Ambassador Jorge Barriga Blanco as ambassador to Lebanon. [Text] [Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2317 GMT 9 Jul 82 PY]

FINANCE CORPORATION TO AID CARIBBEAN-ORIENTED BANKING SERVICES

Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 24 Jun 82 p 17

[Text] Yesterday, Dr Gabriel Melo Guevara, minister of development, gave his full support to the establishment of the Finance Corporation [CF] through which Colombian banks will extend their activities into Central America and the Caribbean area in general.

In a message sent to Guillermo Nunez Vergara, president of the banking association, and Pedro Javier Soto, president of the National Association of Financial Institutions, Dr Melo Guevara stated that the CF will do the following: financially assist business people and investors of Central America and the Caribbean area in making purchases in Colombia; assist Colombian firms which offer their services to those purchasers; assist Colombian builders who plan to expand into Central America and the Caribbean area; and assist purchasers who are acquiring property. The CF will also operate in the sectors of trust, leasing and factoring to facilitate improvement in trade relations and will cooperate with various Colombian investors who have plans for expansion in the geographical area in question.

Good Reception

The establishment of the CF was proposed by presidents and managers of the country's banks in response to an invitation given by Minister Gabriel Melo Guevara whereby the Colombian banking system would participate in a plan aimed at stimulating Colombia's presence in Central America and the Caribbean area. On that occasion, the minister stressed that the Colombian banking institutions could work in those countries on an individual basis or in joint ventures with other companies.

In his message, Dr Gabriel Melo indicated that the banking system must now proceed with the steps required by our legislation so that the CF may soon become a reality.

The Decade of the Caribbean

The minister also states in his message that this is the decade of the Caribbean and that Colombia cannot afford to be absent from an area to which it belongs with its extensive seacoasts and an archipelago in the middle of its waters.

He adds that a considerable number of new independent states have emerged in this area and that all of the countries which are a part of it are making progress in their search for economic and social development.

"Nor can Colombia be indifferent to that procedure," he said. "It must cooperate with nations which are trying, simultaneously, to strengthen their political independence and material progress.

"That is why," he added, "we have made overtures toward Central America and the Caribbean area with the aim of strengthening our ties with those countries."

He then emphasized: "One of the most important aspects involved in assuring the success of our program is the establishment of an adequate infrastructure of financial services which will promote an increase in commercial exchange."

Official Support

Referring to the manner in which the national banking system responded, Minister Melo Guevara commented that this shows there is a positive spirit on the part of the private sector whose representatives understand that we cannot continue to develop without looking toward the sea.

He then said: "Moreover, the outlet abroad through joint arrangement opens broad perspectives to the Colombian financial sector. United, this sector can play an important role in the international markets which, in view of their size, would, in many instances, be almost beyond their reach, if each entity acted individually.

"The restrictions of world trade," he pointed out, "are forcing us to think about new categories of exports. Services are a line of business which merits complete support so that Colombia's skilled people may find a greater area in which to demonstrate their capabilities. For example, our engineering sector has much to offer in this new program over the immediate term.

"The work of the corporation," the minister stressed, "will be able to count on strong support by the government which is prepared to deposit funds with the CF, in accordance with pre-arranged and controlled conditions, to assure the success of the proposals which are sparking the new program. Likewise," he said, "the institutions promoting our exports and those responsible for development activities are said to have offered their cooperation."

8568

CSO: 3010/1882

BRIEFS

QUESTIONABLE WEALTH INVESTIGATION PLAN--Justice Minister Felio Andrade Manrique announced that in the next few days he will present for consideration by Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala, president of the republic, a bill whereby the state will be endowed with the necessary legal instruments to investigate and seek the reason and cause for great fortunes possessed by persons who, overnight, become millionaires for some unknown reason. The head of the Ministry of Justice said that the bill is already in its final form and will be delivered to President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala for his consideration. If this initiative is approved by the president, it will be presented for consideration by the Senate and Chamber of Representatives on 20 July. [Article by Gustavo Villamil] [Excerpts] [Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 26 Jun 82 p 8] 8568

FARC RELEASES RANCHER--Medellin--(Eriberto Arbenaez Vallejo), a rancher, was released today by his captors after payment of a large ransom, according to the office of the commander of the 4th Brigade. The well-known Urbana region rancher was kidnapped on 9 March by heavily armed men who apparently are members of the 5th Front of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, FARC. According to the military source, (Arbenaez Vallejo) was released in good condition at the Rosarito farm, (Chudorodo) Municipality. Official sources noted that the relatives of the rancher paid 7 million pesos for his release. In Antioquia Department, subversive organizations are holding five persons, including (Jairo Duque Perez), a professor. [Text] [PA031900 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 2330 GMT 2 Jul 82]

FARC ROBS SANTANDER BANK--Bogota, 6 Jul (LATIN-REUTER)--A guerrilla group today attacked a town in northeastern Colombia and fled with 6 million pesos, approximately \$130,000, the army reported today. The rebels, members of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) robbed the Principal Savings Bank of Socorro, Santander Department, 400 km northeast of Bogota. Apparently the same group also attacked the town of Sabana Grande, Santander Department, and killed the local police inspector. Military sources attributed the action to the group headed by Ricardo Franco, alias Lt Franco, one of the country's most wanted guerrillas. Meanwhile, the FARC group which last week kidnapped the farmer Julian Orozco in Caqueta Department, southwestern Colombia, has asked for a ransom of 15 million pesos (\$240,000), his relatives reported. The FARC, which has communist leanings, has continued its armed actions despite the cancellation of the state of siege by the government on 28 June 1982. [Text] [PA070221 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2117 GMT 6 Jul 82]

FORMER PRESIDENT FIGUERES DISCUSSES TRIP TO CUBA

PA181240 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 9 Jul 82 p 6-A

[Excerpts] Jose Figueres, former president of the republic and president of the National Liberation Party [PLN], said last night that he has broken the ice with Fidel Castro after a 23-year rift.

Figueres made this statement to local and foreign newsmen, whom he briefed on his trip to Cuba last week, including the reasons for it and his experiences while there. He said that he talked with the Cuban president for 7 hours in three different sessions.

Figueres and Castro had a heated confrontation in 1959; in fact, at a meeting in Havana, a microphone was grabbed away from the former Costa Rican president because he was talking about the need for the Cuban revolution to maintain a democratic course.

Figueres noted that after that it was not until 19 July 1980 that he had the opportunity to briefly greet Castro in Managua at the celebration of the first anniversary of the Sandinist victory over Somoza.

He said that for the last year Cuban authorities have repeatedly invited him to visit the island and that he agreed to do so last week.

The Trip

Figueres explained that he did not go to Cuba as the representative of the government or of the PLN, but on a private visit.

I found Fidel Castro to be a mature man of 56, he said.

"During our 7 or 8 hours of conversation he did not convince me of his ideas, nor did I convince him of mine," Figueres said, giving some of the details of the talks.

According to Figueres, he could see that there is very little chance of an understanding between the Cuban Government and the present U.S. administration led by Ronald Reagan. "However," he said, "Castro said that he is always open to talks with the U.S. rulers."

Central America

According to Figueres, Fidel Castro does not recommend that the central American nations adopt the Cuban model. Instead, he has asked that they establish systems with mixed economies and multiple parties and that they maintain relations with all of the world's nations.

He also advises that they maintain good relations with the United States, while always insuring that their sovereignty is respected.

Where El Salvador is concerned, Castro believes that the guerrillas will win the struggle. He also says that there should be a peaceful solution, but that this settlement must always keep the insurgents in mind.

The former president also passed through Nicaragua, where he had the opportunity to talk with Sergio Ramirez, a government junta member and with Interior Minister Tomas Borge. He said that he found the Nicaraguans to be angry over statements allegedly made by President Monge in the United States linking Nicaragua with destabilizing movements in the region.

Figueres said that he clarified the misunderstandings that had developed with regard to the president's statements.

CSO: 3010/1981

CONTROVERSY WITH NICARAGUA OVER SAN JUAN RIVER RIGHTS

Diplomat's Statement

PA241429 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 24 Jul 82

[Text] San Jose--(Oscar Tellez), Nicaraguan charge d'affaires and the official responsible for Nicaragua's embassy in Costa Rica, has said that Nicaragua will exercise police and customs controls on the San Juan River because it is a part of its territory. Nevertheless, the official added that such actions will not show disregard of the right to free navigation granted to Costa Rica by the border treaty of 1858.

(Tellez) expressed concern about the campaign initiated by the Costa Rican press in an attempt to make Nicaragua seem hostile, thus creating a dangerous situation.

He said that his country will exercise its right to detain any person navigating the waters of the San Juan River when there are well-founded suspicions or flagrant acts of aggression, because no one can doubt that this river is Nicaraguan territory and that it has the right to make such detentions.

The diplomat said that there might be legal controversy over this last point, adding that if Nicaragua's rights were not recognized or if it could not exercise the necessary controls, the area would then be a no man's land.

(Oscar Tellez) also denied Costa Rican newspaper reports that Nicaragua prohibited the navigation of Costa Rican boats this week.

Monge May Take Issue To OAS

PA241755 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 24 Jul 82

[Text] President Monge has said that he will not discuss Costa Rica's rights over the San Juan River. He said that action will not be taken with regard to the Sandinist government, though it will be taken to protect Costa Rica's rights to free navigation of the San Juan River. We do not feel like entering an argument over a perpetual right to free navigation, President Luis Alberto Monge said.

This right was established in the 1858 border treaty, which is certainly old enough--approximately 125 years old--and it was confirmed by the famous Cleveland decision, the president said. He noted: We understand Nicaragua's nervousness over actions that are being staged from other borders, though not from ours, and we are collecting information so as to initiate talks, but we will not discuss our right to free navigation.

The president said that Costa Rica will not remain silent in the face of Nicaraguan army incursions into Costa Rican territory. He said that efforts are being made to find a bilateral solution to this problem, while reiterating that Costa Rica refuses to engage in any discussion of its rights on the San Juan River. Therefore, if no bilateral agreement is reached, Costa Rica is prepared to take this matter to international organizations, he said.

A week ago, the state's security committee informed the president of problems that have arisen in the border area as a result of Sandinist incursions. If the problems resulting from incidents provoked in the border area by the Sandinist army are not resolved at the bilateral level--which is what we would like to see--we would take the issue to the OAS first, Monge said.

When asked if he would ask the OAS to send an inter-American force to solve the problems with Nicaragua, the president said that he has no plan to request this kind of assistance to deal with a problem like that which has arisen. He has said that this is a resource to which he would resort, should there be a military conflict in the Central American area, to guarantee our neutrality along the border with Nicaragua.

The president said that communist news agencies have characterized the national security council as a repressive body. Asked whether he would give protection to the residents of the border region, the president said that he has not discussed this with the security and foreign ministers, but noted that whatever is most suitable will be done.

When the president was told that the Nicaraguans have stopped and will continue to stop Costa Rican vessels on the San Juan River, he said that if this continues, direct negotiations will have failed and we would have no choice but to resort to international organizations.

CSO: 3010/2007

BRIEFS

OAS POSITION REAFFIRMED--San Jose, 17 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--Costa Rican Foreign Minister Fernando Volio Jimenez has reaffirmed his country's official position in favor of the OAS, while denying that the present administration is participating in talks on removing OAS headquarters from Washington. The Foreign Ministry statement comes in reply to a report out of Lima stating that Costa Rica had begun formal talks to determine whether it would be appropriate to find a new site for the OAS. Volio Jimenez told ACAN-EFE that "the Costa Rican Foreign Ministry has never expressed such an opinion, not even unofficially. "On the contrary," he said. On 1 July of this year, the Costa Rican Foreign Ministry opposed a plan to establish a new system composed only of the Latin American and Caribbean countries and expressed opposition to initiatives that would emphasize the problems that encumber the OAS. The Foreign Ministry has agreed, according to Volio, "to try to find the necessary means of improving and strengthening the present inter-American system, but without resorting to emotional and circumstantial reactions." [Text] [PA181726 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1359 GMT 17 Jul 82]

ITALIAN AID MISSION--An Italian mission, made up of representatives of various sectors, arrived in the country this afternoon to begin contacts to extend aid in the economic and social spheres. It is made up of representatives of private enterprise and government organizations. Initially, the mission has offered a contribution of \$40 million for productive programs, especially programs carried out by private enterprise. The Italian mission will meet this weekend with government officials and businessmen to coordinate joint activities involving various companies with joint capital. [Text] [PA162021 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 16 Jul 82]

CSO: 3010/1981

HAVANA SCORES U.S. FOR TAKING ARMS RACE INTO OUTER SPACE

Havana TRABAJADORES in Spanish 7 Jul 82 p 6

[Commentary by Hedelberto Lopez Blanch]

[Text] The United States has just launched another challenge full of danger to the international community: the use of space for broad military means by way of the space Shuttle transport system.

This past Sunday at Edwards Air Force Base in California the ship Columbia landed, which on its fourth and final flight into space only carried out military missions planned by the Pentagon.

President Ronald Reagan, who received astronauts Thomas Mattingly and Henry Hart Field at Edwards Base stated that the United States "should establish a more permanent presence in space," in frank approval of the increase in international tension in taking the arms race and the cold war into space.

In the middle of last month the Pentagon announced the creation of a command for military actions in space which will begin operating on September 1. It will be placed under the Anti-Air Defense Command in Colorado Springs.

It was also announced that a military space technology center would be set up and installed at the beginning of 1983 at Kirtland Base in New Mexico. The site will control three laboratories specializing in new weapons studies basically anti-satellite missiles.

The Yankee media, directed by the Pentagon, have unleashed a hysteria campaign in the United States and in other Western countries to make believe that the command responds to a need to confront the worn-out, stale and nonexistent "Soviet threat."

According to Gen Lew Allen, Air Force Chief of Staff, this group "will give the United States the means to defend itself against a nuclear attack from space." And we ask, from whom, from where?

In general this is nothing more than a theater show played out by the top level North American military officials because Washington and some of its allies have refused to sign a resolution from the First Committee of the UN General Assembly prohibiting any type of weapon in space.

It is no coincidence that this resolution, approved by an overwhelming majority, was proposed by the delegation from the Soviet Union.

The Yankee veto was nothing more than the beginning of an unrestrained North American race in search of a so-called military supremacy in outer space which could be used as another means of force and coercion in its aggressive policy against the countries of the world.

Of the 70 planned Shuttle system flights for 1987, 25 will be exclusively used by the Pentagon.

The Columbia astronauts were prohibited from transmitting television images of the compartment holding the military equipment. According to specialized magazines, a super-powerful infra-red telescope, capable of detecting missiles launchings and airplanes flying close to the ground, was tested along with a laser-ray weapon.

That is, while in all international fora the USSR insists on the need to arrive at a real agreement on the peaceful use of space for the benefit of mankind, and offers opportunities to participate in these investigations to a large number of countries, The United States, on the contrary, devotes itself to creating devastating weapons which place world peace in danger.

CSO: 3010/1988

RADIO HAVANA RIDICULES CARIBBEAN BASIN PLAN

PA251845 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Jul 82

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan continues to promote the so-called Caribbean Basin initiative, which has yet to be approved by congress. Reagan apparently believes that the \$350 million that he generously offers to discredited and fascist governments in Central America and the Caribbean will serve as a screen to improve the declining U.S. image, seen as particularly necessary in the aftermath of the Malvinas conflict.

This plan to develop the Caribbean that the White House is sponsoring represents aid amounting to only \$.90 for each of the inhabitants of the 20 countries with Caribbean coasts. Yet despite the miserliness of the offer, there are still not enough votes in the U.S. Congress to approve the plan.

Meanwhile, the U.S. President continues his clamor, saying such surprising things as: this is the time to act, for later might be too late; and our neighbors deserve our cooperation, for we share a commitment to freedom and independence. As always, references to Cuba, the Soviet Union and communism abound, when Reagan loudly states that if his plan is not approved all of Central America will fall into the hands of a totalitarian system. However, Reagan can no longer deceive anyone. Everyone already knows that the U.S. backyard, as the imperialists call the Latin American countries, is merely a cheap source of raw materials and multimillion-dollar deals for the transnational companies.

In the political context, the Malvinas conflict showed that when the United States chooses its strategic allies, it does not select the governments of this region. Therefore, what commitment can Washington really feel toward the Caribbean countries, to help them or to preserve their independence and freedom? We could go even further and ask ourselves: who will receive this sparse aid? The answer is very simple. About \$100 million will end up in the hands of the fascist military officers who rule El Salvador and who, naturally, will use the money not to implement socioeconomic plans of benefit to the people, but to further arm the troops who are working unsuccessfully to eliminate the guerrilla. Another \$35 million will be given to the puppet Honduran Government, controlled by extreme rightwing officers, which has become the U.S. gendarme

in the region, both for support of the antiguerrilla actions in El Salvador and for the Somozist groups' counterrevolutionary activities in Nicaragua.

Some \$10 million have been allocated to finance Jean-Claude Duvalier's terrorist tyranny in Haiti; \$11 million are to be given to the Guatemalan torturers and executioners and \$50 million are for the pro-Yankee government of Jamaica led by Prime Minister Edward Seaga, which is currently experiencing a very serious economic and social crisis that has destroyed its lucious facade of a Caribbean miracle.

As can be seen, the so-called Caribbean Basin initiative contains an identifiable mixture of the basic U.S. Government concepts governing aid: anti-communism, bilateralism, private investment, free market, repression and counterrevolution. It is for this reason that the plan stipulates that in order to benefit from it, each country must sign an agreement with the United States in which the so-called self-help measures are established. This condition, which permits the exclusion of Cuba, Nicaragua and Grenada, is intended to obtain guarantees for private investment and to impose antipopular economic measures that will bring financial benefits to the transnational companies that will be much higher than the \$350 million in aid promised by Reagan. This is the grotesque spectacle that Ronal Reagan is staging in yet another attempt to deceive the peoples of our America.

CSO: 3010/1999

BRIEFS

SOVIET COOPERATION HAILED--Soviet cooperation can be found in all spheres of the national economy, Wilfredo Torres, member of Cuba's Community Party Central Committee and president of Cuba's Academy of Sciences, has stated in his closing remarks at a ceremony marking the 20th anniversary of the start of cooperation between the two countries. Torres recalled that in those 20 decades the Soviet Union has aided Cuba in its scientific-technical development, aid which includes the improvement of the country's material base to cosmic research work. After noting the results of this cooperation and future development, the leader greeted, on behalf of the Cuban Government and people, all Soviet technicians who had to remain away from their homes for years to help in Cuba's scientific progress. [Text] [FL161146 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 16 Jul 82]

DELEGATIONS TRAVEL TO NICARAGUA--Roberto Veiga, alternate politburo member and secretary general of the CTC [Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions] has traveled Nicaragua leading a delegation representing the Community Party of Cuba at the celebration of the Sandinist revolution's third anniversary. The Cuban trade union representation, which also traveled to the fraternal Central American country on the occasion of the anniversary, is presided over by Luis Martel, Central Committee member and secretary general of the National Sugar Industry Workers Union. The delegation headed by Veiga is made up by Pedro Fernandez, Central Committee member and secretary general of the National Construction Workers Union; Jesus Escandel, executive secretary of the CTC National Committee; and Ricardo Alarcon, vice minister of foreign relations. [Text] [FL191340 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 19 Jul 82]

FRENCH MINISTER ARRIVES--France's Culture Minister Jack Lang has arrived accompanied by a delegation in response to an invitation of the Cuban Government. Armando Hart, member of Cuba's Communist Party Politburo and minister of culture, welcomed the visitors at the air terminal. Others present at the airport were Vice Minister of Culture Alfredo Guevara and Lupe Veliz, director of the ministry's international relations department. French Ambassador to Cuba Pierre Decamps, (Joel Rattou), the embassy cultural adviser, and (Bernard Baleruck), second secretary in charge of press affairs, were also at the airport to meet the visiting delegation. The members of the French delegation are (Andre Larkie), (Andre Jean Ligorel) and (Jean Terre Golan), all three advisers, and (Veronique Saint), the minister's press officer, and (Jean

Gateño), director of France's culture ministry book department. [Text]
[FL221529 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1400 GMT 22 Jul 82]

COOPERATION PROTOCOL SIGNED--The protocol of the fourth joint Cuban-Ethiopian session for economic and scientific-technical cooperation has been signed in this capital. The document was signed by Hector Rodriguez Rodriguez Llompart, member of the party's Central Committee and minister-president of the state committee for economic cooperation, and by Tekola Dejene, minister of government and vice president of Ethiopia's Supreme Council. The completion of over 100 km of road in jungle area to make the coffee plantations more accessible and Cuba's cooperation in constructing the (Nuger) Cement Factory, which will have an annual capacity of 300,000 tons were stressed during the talks. Cooperation between our two countries also extends to the areas of health, education, agriculture, fishing, planning, labor and wages. [Text] [FL221614 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1404 GMT 22 Jul 82]

CUBA-VIETNAM COOPERATION--Hanoi--Cuba has turned over a modern data processing center to the Jose Marti University of Agriculture in Vietnam, as part of the assistance and cooperation between the two countries. The center, located just outside of Hanoi, has been equipped with the modern (DIP) 300 data processing system, manufactured in Cuba. The equipment will be used for training, scientific studies, economic planning and other work. At the opening of the center, Duong Hong Dat, Vietnamese vice minister of agriculture, said the grant of the Cuban equipment represented another demonstration of assistance and cooperation in the friendly relations uniting Cuba and Vietnam. The Vietnamese leader awarded the Vietnamese council of ministers' friendship medal to the seven Cuban specialists and technicians who worked on the project. [Text] [FL211530 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1400 GMT 21 Jul 82]

GROUPS RECEIVE GREETINGS--Three Nicaraguan solidarity organizations have congratulated the Cuban people, government and communist party on the occasion of the 29th anniversary of the attack on the Moncada Barracks, one of the most important actions of the final period of the Cuban people's struggle for true independence. The organizations are the Nicaraguan Committee for Solidarity With Peoples, the Nicaraguan Peace Committee and the Association for Friendship With Socialist Countries. [Text] [PA251656 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Jul 82]

NEW PORT WORK PLAN--The workers of the port-transportation-domestic economy network will be engaged in a special work plan from 24 to 27 July, the basic objective of which is to make up for delays in unloading, transporting and receiving merchandise. Sunday, Monday and Tuesday will be normal working days. All personnel involved in the network in Havana made their pledges to this effect this afternoon at the provincial party headquarters. It was reported at the meeting that more than 93,000 tons were piled up on the wharf and warehouses of the Port of Havana and that demurrage for July would exceed total earnings in foreign currency for the first 6 months of the year obtained from prompt handling. In view of the difficult situation experienced by the Havana network a state of emergency was declared a few days ago. This means working from Monday to Sunday, night and day. Now, with the same dedication as usual, workers are also ready to work on holidays. [Text]
[FL240002 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 23 Jul 82]

JORGE BLANCO DENIES PLANS TO DEVALUE CURRENCY

FL231300 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0537 GMT 23 Jul 82

[Excerpts] Santo Domingo, 22 Jul (NOTIMEX)--According to Dominican authorities, the sixth plenary meeting of the Dominican-Mexican Business Committee, which is slated for this capital, will be attended by a Mexican trade mission. [passage omitted]

The Mexican mission's spokesmen have explained that they are studying the possibility of buying more from the Dominican Republic to compensate for bilateral trade imbalances. At present the trade balance favors Mexico, a situation that has become more marked since 1981, when this island began buying oil from Mexico.

Meanwhile, the French news agency AFP has reported a confrontation between President-Elect Salvador Jorge Blanco and Dominican business leaders.

According to AFP, the confrontation occurred when an internal document was released by businessmen charging that the next administration will devalue Dominican currency.

Jorge Blanco, who will take office on 16 August, protested and described the document as "fallacious" and "destabilizing." He also sent a message to the National Businessmen's Council urging them "to pay homage to truth" and explaining that he is not planning to devalue the currency "because of the disastrous consequences that such a measure might have on the country."

CSO: 3010/1997

'RADIO VENCEREMOS' DISCUSSES CERTIFICATION FOR U.S. AID

PA261650 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT
26 Jul 82

[Station commentary: "The Certification of an Infamy"]

[Text] Last week the official sent by President Reagan visited the national guard and treasury police headquarters to check on the progress made in respect for human rights in El Salvador. This is another effort by the U.S. administration to prove that the Salvadoran Government is not that bad so that President Reagan can certify on 28 July that the ultrarightest government has made significant progress in respect for human rights and the implementation of economic and social reforms.

The certification that President Reagan has to submit to congress to justify U.S. economic and military aid to the Salvadoran Government must meet four conditions: the international recognition of human rights in El Salvador, the government's control over its own security forces, the implementation of socioeconomic reforms and the holding of free elections.

U.S. economic and military aid is vital for the Salvadoran Government because it no longer has its own means to solve the profound structural crisis stemming from the regime's ineptitude and corruption, and basically because of almost 2 years of war, during which the dictatorship has not achieved any significant military victory over our forces.

U.S. aid is also the only possibility that the regime has to continue with its war of extermination in the country. But how can Reagan be so cynical when bodies continue to appear in the country's roads and paths? How can he be so cynical when workers, peasants, students and even U.S. citizens continue to be killed in this country where the state's terrorism is an everyday thing? How can he say that the government has made significant progress in respect for human rights when Major d'Aubuisson, Monsignor Romero's killer and chief of the death squads, is the president of the constituent assembly? How can he say that there is international recognition for the Salvadoran human rights policy when several organizations, including U.S. media, have presented convincing proof that the assassinations, kidnappings, massacres and tortures

continue? How can he say this when even the International Red Cross has threatened to leave the country because of the constant violations of these rights? How can he talk about the implementation of economic reforms? Is he somehow talking about the constituent assembly's decrees that suspend implementation of the part of the agrarian reform that provides for the distribution of parcels of land to peasants who were renting the land? Is he referring to the removal of cooperative members from lands already granted by the reforms? Is he referring to the extension of Decree No 544 for 9 more months, thus freezing the workers' salaries during that time? How can anybody believe that the 28 March elections were free, when the Salvadoran people had to put up with hundreds of pressures that everybody knows about?

We must not forget that the first certification Reagan made was in January 1982, only a few weeks after the so-called elite troops, the Atlacatl battalion, massacred 1,000 peasants in Morazan Department by using the scorched-earth method. On that occasion, Reagan's certification prompted many protests because the massacre in question was duly documented and reported in all countries of the world, including by (Raymond Bonner), a NEW YORK TIMES journalist, who came to Morazan and gathered evidence and testimonies on the massacre. He published the results of his investigations in that prestigious paper. This was a report that shocked the U.S. public and cast doubts on the president's certification.

Mr Reagan would be naive if he thought that he could deceive congress and the U.S. people with this new certification of infamy. How will he provide evidence for his lie? He should know that no false document will weigh more than the Salvadorans' daily lives and the hundreds of photos and charges. No document will weigh more than the pain of the mothers whose sons were assassinated. None will weigh more than the children killed at the Sampul River, the tortures suffered by more than 500 political prisoners and the hundreds of missing persons. No document can weigh more than the testimony of the peasant woman who had to flee to other countries with her children after her house and fields were burned, after cantons were burned and villages like Mozote were erased from the map by the fury of the forces of death.

Reagan will deceive nobody with his certification. It is a certification that will be given within the framework of the Honduran army's intervention in our country.

Reagan talks about human rights but orders an intervention, a serious threat for the stability of the region and world peace. However, Reagan must not forget that neither his certification of an infamy nor his economic and military aid will stop the advance of the Central American peoples and the advance of the Salvadoran people, who are resolutely struggling for their liberation.

VENCEREMOS REPORTS FMLN ACTIONS IN CHALATENANGO

PA232019 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT
22 Jul 82

[Text] Some 2 months ago, General Garcia announced with a fanfare that he had wiped out the revolutionary forces in Chalatenango department. Today, the defeated strategist is again being ridiculed by our armed people.

In Chalatenango, his elite troops have again been defeated by our people. Reports from Chalatenango say that our revolutionary army inflicts constant blows on the enemy's elite troops, stages maneuvers in the area, strikes at the enemy's flanks and causes heavy losses to the special troops trained in the United States.

Here is another report from the Anastasio Aquino Paracentral Front, in San Vicente department:

Our companeros said that, in retaliation for the enemy's operations against our positions in Chalatenango, our forces in San Vicente attacked the ultrarightist regime's troops killing 16 men and wounding many others. During one of these attacks, our forces ambushed an enemy patrol near the (Los Cocos) junction, Amatepeque municipality and killed 10 men.

Here is more information from San Vicente department:

During another attack in support of our forces in Chalatenango, which are defeating the ultra rightist regime's elite troops, FMLN forces attacked an army patrol that was guarding the (El Atasano) estate, killing 6 men.

During the Chalatenango heroic and 4 July heroes operations, FMLN forces completely destroyed (Las Marias) farm, owned by the Salvadoran Institute for Agrarian Transformation. There were no casualties among our ranks in the paracentral front during all of these attacks.

In upcoming broadcasts, Radio Venceremos will report on various actions that have taken place throughout the country, where our people are using their legitimate weapons against oppression and death.

CSO: 3010/1995

REBELS ATTACK FARM, DESTROY CROP, PLANES

PA240032 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1930 GMT 23 Jul 82

[Report by (Raul Beltran)]

[Text] The Salvadoran army is getting ready to carry out a counterinsurgency operation and restore order near (Chaguantique) farm, Jiquilisco municipality in Usulután department where a group of guerrillas destroyed three light planes, the house of that farm and a vehicle that was there. The rebels also caused serious damage to approximately 200 manzanas of cotton.

According to preliminary reports, the losses at this farm in Jiquilisco, approximately 90 km southeast of the capital, are very large, almost 1 million colones were lost. Three light planes that were parked at an air-strip there were burned. The guerrillas also burned the house, known as El Casco, and a vehicle parked near the farm.

According to military reports, the guerrillas then proceeded to destroy the cotton fields, approximately 200 manzanas.

In view of the neighbors' complaints and the lack of tranquillity in the area, the army will clean up the sector to get rid of the guerrillas.

In addition, it was reported that the traffic on the northern highway has been restored after armed rebels interrupted the traffic early today, at kilometer 30, near Aguilares, where they dug ditches and built barricades. The guerrillas carried out the same action at kilometer 16. They also interrupted the traffic on the road near Tonatatepeque near the detour of San Jose las Flores. Meanwhile, the army is involved in actions to restore order which was disrupted by the guerrillas early today.

CSO: 3010/1995

BRIEFS

JULY ACTIONS--We have obtained the following results for the military campaign that the FMLN carried out in July: in 207 actions carried out to destabilize the regime economically, we inflicted 1,105 casualties on the enemy, including chiefs, officers and soldiers. These actions included takeovers of towns, incursions in the capital, obstruction of roads and other victorious activities such as clashes with the dictatorship's forces. We recovered 226 weapons, including rifles, machineguns, 60-mm and 81-mm mortars and 90-mm cannons. We captured 48 prisoners, including Col Francisco Adolfo Castillo, under-secretary of defense and member of the High Military Command. Salvadorn youth: When you join the revolutionary army or militias we get closer to the people's victory! [Text] [PA261524 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 26 Jul 82]

TROOP TRAIN DESTROYED--San Salvador--Yesterday morning an FMLN guerrilla group completely destroyed a railroad train that was transporting troops from San Vicente to Zacatecoluca in La Paz department, according to Farabundo Marti Radio. The station said that two antitank mines were used to blow up the train bringing military reinforcements. A large number of casualties were inflicted on the Salvadoran troops in that action, which was directed by Commander (Rebecca), a member of the guerrilla general staff of the FMLN's paracentral front. [Text] [PA231844 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 22 Jul 82]

RECEIPT OF NAPALM CLAIMED--The FMLN of El Salvador reported last night that a large number of napalm bombs have been unloaded at the Ilopango Military Airport in San Salvador. These hideous napalm bombs arrived in U.S. planes, according to FMLN intelligence sources. This fact represents a definite change in the counterinsurgency war and demonstrates the Reagan administration's warmongering attitude and its decision to turn the Central American region into another Vietnam, just as the leaders of the Salvadoran Revolutionary Forces have been warning. [Text] [PA241509 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 Jul 82]

RESPONSE TO APPEAL--San Jose, 21 July (AFP)--The Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR) of El Salvador has reiterated its willingness to participate in a dialogue and to initiate negotiations "for a real, peaceful, democratic and lasting solution to the democratic political and social crisis" existing in the country. This was the FDR's response to a recent appeal by the Episcopal Conference of El Salvador, which again called for a dialogue between the parties involved in the conflict that has been tearing that Central American nation apart for the past 2 and 1/2 years. In a communique signed by Guillermo Ungo, its top leader, and other members of its executive committee, the FDR emphasized that it has often expressed its willingness to participate in a dialogue without prior conditions, but "regrettably," initiatives in this regard have been rejected by the government forces, "which are determined to continue and expand the war to levels that imply a regionalization of the hostilities with the involvement of neighboring armies." The opposition coalition also declared that it is pleased with the salvadoran bishops' appeal, which reflects "a just concern over our people's pain and anguish, as well as a firm conviction of the need for a rational and peaceful solution to the crisis."

[Text] [PA212146 Paris AFP in Spanish 2122 GMT 21 Jul 82]

CSO: 3010/1995

FOREIGN MINISTER HAILS REAGAN PLAN AID

PA260026 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 16 Jul 82 p. 2

[Text] The house foreign affairs committee yesterday unanimously approved Guatemalan's inclusion in the Reagan plan for this year and the allocation of \$11 million in economic aid, Guatemalan Foreign Minister Eduardo Castillo Arriola confirmed yesterday.

The official explained that our country had been left out of the economic support plan for Central American and the Caribbean Basin due to charges of human rights violations and other situations which occurred during the former administration.

He stressed, however, that Guatemala's image has changed and that, while explaining their support for our country, committee members had pointed out that "President Rios Montt has made a firm promise to head an administration which intends to establish the bases for reorganizing institutions and which also contemplates respecting for human rights."

The house committee unanimously approved the bill and Guatemala has been included in the "Reagan plan" with 11 million quetzals in aid.

This approval will be submitted to the full house and later to the U.S. Senate. Nevertheless, chances are that the economic aid to our country will be forthcoming, in which case it may be handled by the Agency for International Development (AID).

Minister Castillo Arriola reiterated his desire to travel to Washington on 20 July to attend the so-called "Caribbean Night" program. During this event, President Reagan will meet with government representatives from the Central American and Caribbean countries.

The meeting is aimed at illustrating to officials, congressmen and private businessmen the duty of industrialized nations to lend their support and help solve the area's problems.

INTERIOR MINISTER APPEALS FOR SON'S RELEASE

PA200447 Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 0415 GMT 16 Jul 82

[Address by Interior Minister Col Ricardo Mendez Ruiz to the Guatemalan people on 15 July in Guatemala City--recorded]

[Excerpts] People of Guatemala, ever since I became an adult I have been in the army, like any other soldier with no special privileges. Most of you do not know me. Allow me to present myself. I am Col Ricardo Mendez Ruiz. I am an engineer. I was appointed to the interior ministry only 36 days ago. I was the air force security corps tactical group commander, and more recently commander of the military zone with headquarters in Coban, Alta Verapaz department.

My eldest son, Ricardo Mendez Ruiz Valdes, was kidnapped 2 weeks after I became interior minister. My son Ricardo is 23 years old. He is a student at the San Carlos University School of Veterinary Medicine. He has never participated in politics in or outside the university. He has dedicated his time exclusively to his studies and to sports. There was no reason to give him any protection. He was kidnapped despite the fact he has never participated in political activities and has no responsibility in any of his father's acts. In other words, he is absolutely innocent of whatever he is accused. [passage omitted]

Ricardo's kidnapping was a big blow to me. You can imagine my wife's, Ricardo's mother's, suffering. A woman exclusively devoted to her home, and to her church.

My son was kidnapped on 23 June from the university. Days later we received a note from the Guatemalan Communist Party, PGT, announcing that it had kidnapped my son. The PGT placed two conditions on the release of my son. One of those demands they knew very well could not be met. We agreed to publish in newspapers and to broadcast by radio and television two PGT documents. The other demand, as I said before, I could not satisfy, neither as a private citizen nor as the interior minister. The PGT was asking for the release of some eight persons who had disappeared several months, several years ago. How can I account for the life of newswoman (Irma Plaquet), who disappeared 2 years ago?

I repeat, I have only been in the interior ministry 36 days. I am in no position to answer for the acts of my predecessors. We all know that the present government is not a continuation of the one ousted on 23 March.

A few days ago we received another note from the PGT, which was delivered surreptitiously, making more demands. This time they suggested that their demands be met without any propaganda. Against my friends' advice, grieved at the possibility of my son's futile sacrifice and my wife's and son's anguish and grief, I have decided to reject the Communist Party's cowardly blackmail. I hope my son will understand. He is just a boy, but he clearly understands the meaning of dignity and civic values.

People of Guatemala, men and women, the Communist Party has made other demands we cannot meet. Besides, we are certain that even if we could meet them, the communists who are holding my son would continue making more demands. In other words, they would continue blackmailing us and mercilessly playing with the life of a human being. [passage omitted]

Fellow citizens, Guatemalan friends, I am not a wealthy man. I do not have a business or any money. As I said before, all my life I have been in the service of my country. My family has lived on my salary.

The first publications demanded by the PGT caused me to go into debt. Where can I get approximately 85,000 quetzales and the dollars to publish what the Communist Party is asking to be published here and abroad? But that is beside the point. Probably I could find a way to pay for those publications. But this is not the reason I refuse to comply with the Communist kidnappers' demands. I have said it before and I will repeat it again, as interior minister I will not endanger the state security. As a militaryman, I will not be blackmailed and as a father I will not accept my son's life being used as a bargaining instrument. [passage omitted]

I have not concealed anything from the people. I have spoken to you with the truth of a father who loves his kidnapped son. The situation is just as I have presented it here.

If my son is not released, if he is physically hurt, the people will know who is to blame. If my son Ricardo, who is innocent, is the victim of man's cruelty, if he is the victim of an absurd and criminal action, the people of Guatemala will know who the assassins are, and I am sure that God will give us, my wife and my other sons, the strength and peace we need. But God's accusing finger will point at the guilty ones and so will the people of Guatemala, who crave peace, justice and tranquillity.

I will never take revenge. There is no room in my heart for hatred and resentment. My heart is full of love for my son Ricardo, for my wife and my other sons. I am asking the Guatemalan people to cooperate. I want their impartial verdict.

To conclude, I wish to tell you that despite our anguish, my wife, my sons and I still hope to find another formula of understanding that will open the doors

that will release Ricardo, to whom I am sending, wherever he is, the love of those who grieve for him and the faith and power of God our lord.

Thank you, Guatemalan people.

CSO: 3010/1993

PANAMANIAN PAPER INTERVIEWS RIOS MONTT

PA260447 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 17 Jul 82 pp 1, 8-A

[Interview with Guatemalan President Gen Efraim Rios Montt by Griselda Lopez; date and place not given]

[Text] With brown eyes which gleamed as though they had been recently washed, Gen Efraim Rios Montt, president of Guatemala, greeted a small group of journalists. He answered all questions in a measured voice raising its volume when the question was too strong or when asked whether it was true that he has rifles for the people, he cried: "I also have corn and rice."

"More than 50,000 have been killed in Guatemala over the past 10 years," he stated. "And no one has been tried. Now we are going to create special courts that will function in the areas of operation."

[Question] But, General, didn't you execute people before?

[Answer] Well, now we want to legitimize the actions we will carry out to defend the institutions and our nationality. We have stretched our hands out to the subversion and they do not want to accept them. We will have to carry out a special trial and we will have to have some executions. But executing people implies fulfilling a legal process, passing a sentence and making it known. We are not going to act in the darkness but in the light of the law. The execution will be carried out in the public light. We aren't thinking of making a show. We are thinking of serving justice.

[Question] General, has there been some dialogue between the government and the guerrillas?

[Answer] Government actions to talk with the guerrillas have been very broad thus far. We spent a month trying to contact them in Washington, but they did not want to talk with us. The answer to the dialogue was subversion. When did that contact take place? More or less on 10 June of this year.

[Question] But tell us, you declared an amnesty. Why didn't it work?

[Answer] It did work. Almost 2,000 peasants, students and professionals gave themselves up. But since the subversion is a war they are waging to destabilize us, starting on 1 July we decreed a state of siege. The amnesty period is over.

[Question] What is the situation of political parties?

[Answer] During a state of siege political parties are completely suspended. Guatemalan political parties are detrimental, poor, sick, weak and miserable. They are upset with me.

[Question] Where are the roots of subversion?

[Answer] The roots of subversion are in those bellies full of parasites, which are apparently ignorant. That is where the roots of subversion are. If we don't tell the people we respect them, if we don't give them trust and security, then they will become our enemies. We want them to be our friends.

Listen, as a general and as a Christian, I do not tell lies, I do not steal and I do not trick people. That is the witness and the guarantee the Guatemalan people have as proof that we are not going to lie to them, that I am not going to steal from them, that I am not going to trick them. The government has lied a lot; it has lied to the whole world. If we say there will be elections, we are lying and if we say that there will be something else, it is also a lie. We have spent 10 years and there have been many dead....

[Question] What are you trying to do for Guatemala?

[Answer] I am a general who came to change everything. Many left. Wherever they are, when there is evidence they will all be tried. That is important. But the problem here is that many want us to do what many others were doing. For example, the president of the Supreme Court is being tried now. But we are going to offer him humane living conditions. We are going to work in the fields; we are going to give housing and health care...to the people.

General Rios Montt points out and emphasizes that "the United States, Cuba, the Soviet Union, private enterprises, the church and the communists ruined Nicaragua."

[Question] And what about Guatemala?

[Answer] "Well, I repeat: The United States, Cuba, the Soviet Union, private enterprises, the church and the communists ruined Nicaragua and they will do the same to Guatemala."

"We are a small group of Guatemalans who live within this consumer society and we are living with our backs to the majority of the Guatemalan people. Businessmen, politicians, education and forces. But this is going to change."

[Question] What can you tell us about Belize?

[Answer] In October, Guatemala will hold a round of talks with Great Britain about Belize.

[Question] Will Belize participate?

[Answer] We have not acknowledged their independence. That is our problem.

And he adds with some resentment: "When Guatemala had the problem of Belize to solve, everybody turned their backs on us."

CSO: 3010/2008

ARMY REPORTS RECENT SKIRMISHES WITH GUERRILLAS

PA241918 Guatemala City CADENA DE EMISORAS UNIDAS in Spanish 1230 GMT 24 Jul 82

[Excerpts] As a result of its search and neutralization operations against subversive groups, in an effort to bring peace to the northwestern part of the country, the Guatemalan army has had various confrontations with subversives. At 0840 [no date given], a military patrol was ambushed on the inter-American highway leading to (Camocayito), in Huehuetenango. The patrol replied to the attack and put the rebels to flight. Regrettably, a sergeant was slightly wounded in the confrontation. At the site of the incident, weapons, claymore mines, ammunition and knapsacks that the guerrillas had abandoned in their retreat were recovered by army personnel.

In the village of Toj Pac in San Marcos, an armed confrontation took place at approximately 1145. Regrettably, one soldier was killed and four were injured in the skirmish. It was not possible to determine whether the subversives sustained any losses.

At 1200 today, at the (Malayan) cooperative, in the (Reina de Ixtan Grande) area, a military patrol clashed with a group of subversives. Twelve of the rebels were killed, while the army recovered weapons, knapsacks, documents and miscellaneous equipment. [passage omitted]

A military patrol dismantled a subversive camp near (Santa Rita), (Teja), in the area of Chajul, Quiche department, northwestern Guatemala, after a shootout with the occupants of the camp, in which an officer and an enlisted man sustained minor injuries, according to a report issued by the army public relations office.

The military communique adds that the incident took place on Wednesday and that the rebels fled in a disorganized manner. A large amount of medicine, food and clothing was confiscated.

The army also reported that a group of guerrillas tried to occupy the village of Chontala, near Chichicastenango, Quiche department, yesterday, but were repulsed by members of the civilian self-defense patrol. The incident left a toll of one dead guerrilla, who could not be identified because he was carrying no documents.

NEW GUERRILLA GROUP REJECTS RECENT KIDNAPPING

PA191548 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1959 GMT 18 Jul 82

[Text] Guatemala City, 19 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--A guerrilla group calling itself "Patzun-7" has repudiated the kidnapping of government minister Col Ricardo Mendez Ruiz' son by the Guatemalan Workers Party [PGT] (communist) and has given it 48 hours to release him. Otherwise, the new group said, it will take special measures. The announcement was made in a communique published today.

"Patzun-7" sent a copy of a letter written to Minister Mendez Ruiz to the various media, thereby making its first appearance, since its existence was not previously known.

The letter to Mendez Ruiz said: "We wish to advise you that for humanitarian reasons, political contexts completely aside, I must, in the name of the group of which I am commander, express our absolute rejection of the attitude taken by the PGT's leadership."

According to the letter, "Patzun-7" comprises former members of the poor peoples' guerrilla army (EGP).

The letter added that although it is well known that Colonel Mendez Ruiz has been part of the government's repressive machinery, which distresses and intimidates the defenseless Guatemalan people, the group deplores the fact that young Mendez Ruiz Valdes was kidnapped for publicity purposes.

The letter said that the PGT must release the minister's son within 48 hours or "Patzun-7" will take the following measures:

"We will publish the plan called "Corn on the Cob" [Mazorca de Maiz] with dates, names and details, and we will renounce future participation in any other operation of that kind."

"We will carry out our revolutionary 'purge' with the object of ridding Guatemala of false revolutionaries, whose efforts are ostentatious pretense."

"We will use our own means, and even our weapons if necessary, to bring dignity to the revolutionary struggle."

Finally, the rebel group explained to Colonel Mendez Ruiz that its members are not acting as "henchmen" with this attitude or as his unconditional supporters; rather, "we want to be true revolutionaries."

A few days ago Colonel Mendez Ruiz rejected the new demands from the Communist Party, since he was being asked to do something that he could not do, as he told the communications media.

The PGT's initial demands were fulfilled in part when the Mendez Ruiz family published two antigovernment manifestos in the newspapers and newscasts, but the demand for information on the whereabouts of eight people, including journalist Irma Flaker, who was kidnapped 2 years ago, has not been met.

Mendez Ruiz said that this demand was impossible to meet. "How could I account for the life of journalist Irma Flaker if her disappearance occurred 2 years ago? I have been in office at the government ministry for only 36 days and am therefore not in a position to answer for actions of which my predecessors are accused."

The communists made two other demands: first, that another manifesto be published, this time in Central America, Panama, the United States and Europe, as well as in Guatemala; and second, that all persons who have disappeared in the last 4 years be accounted for.

The government minister said that "Although I am not a wealthy person I could publish the manifesto, which would cost \$85,000, but I would have to be a magician or a liar to say that I could in any way explain these facts and make the reports that are being demanded, for I never participated in those actions and there are no clues that could lead to their solution."

Finally, Mendez Ruiz said that he was leaving the door open for reasonable negotiations for the release of his 23-year-old son.

The Red Cross and the catholic church have offered to serve as mediators in the case.

CSO: 3010/1193

BRIEFS

HELP FOR PRODUCTION SECTORS--New Agriculture Minister Leopoldo Sandoval, who took office yesterday, said he would not be at the service of any political ideology, party interest and much less at the service of private interest. He added that his only commitment is to his country, his only concern is for the development of his people and his only loyalty is to the president of the republic who demonstrated his trust in him by naming him to this office. Minister Sandoval added that the private sector, the backbone of the country's productive system, can count on his support to continue fulfilling its mission of increasing production and productivity as well as its mission on behalf of achieving social justice. In that sense, the cooperatives as well as other similar production and service associations will have my special attention. The new minister added that with interest and dedication he will attend to the problems of the farmers, cattlemen, fishermen, and especially to those of the small and medium producers and the downtrodden. [Text]
[PY221306 Guatemala City CADENA DE EMISORAS UNIDAS in Spanish 0050 GMT 21 Jul 82]

PATROLS CLASH WITH REBELS--Three dead and four injured is the toll of two confrontations between members of the civilian self-defense patrols and rebels, according to a statement issued today by the army public relations office. The army communique states that on Tuesday a group of subversive criminals attempted to attack the town of Potrerillos in Huehuetenango department in the northwestern part of the country. They were repelled by members of the civilian self-defense patrol of the village. One of the rebels was killed. He was identified as (Juan Vargas Ramirez). The communique adds that yesterday another group of subversive criminals attempted to occupy the village of (Tupoj), municipality of San Juan Cotzal, Quiche department, which is also in the northwestern sector of the country. However, the subversives were repelled by the members of the civilian self-defense patrol. Two of the patrolmen were killed and four wounded, two of them critically. The seriously injured were taken to a hospital. The army communique adds that the number of casualties among the rebels is unknown, because as usual they took away their dead to keep them from being identified. [Text]
[PA231225 Guatemala City CADENA DE EMISORAS UNIDAS in Spanish 0050 GMT 23 Jul 82]

REBELS ATTACK TOWN--Guatemala City, 19 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--A spokesman for the Guatemalan armed forces reported today that 42 men, women and children were "massacred" on Sunday in a guerrilla attack on the town of Pájumay,

Chimaltenango Province, west of Guatemala City. According to the official report, the rebels staged a surprise attack on the town's inhabitants. "Despite the large number of peasants killed, however, the members of the so-called civilian self-defense went into action immediately. They engaged the attackers in a fight in which, though 10 civilian patrolmen were wounded, the leftists were forced to flee," the source added. Meanwhile, a Guatemalan army communique reported that another guerrilla action took place on Sunday; a military patrol in Suchitepequez department, southern Guatemala, was attacked and four soldiers were wounded. "Subsequently, the guerrillas were engaged in combat in which one army officer was killed in the ensuing combat. It is also assumed that the criminals sustained casualties, for they abandoned arms, supplies and medicine when they fled," the military communique added. [passage omitted] [Excerpt] [PA211233 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1604 GMT 19 Jul 82]

PUBLIC DEBT--Guatemala City, 13 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--Finance Minister Leonardo Figueroa Villate today said that Guatemala's public debt, both foreign and domestic, stands at \$2,134,500,000. He said that the foreign debt amounted to \$672,400,000 and the domestic debt amounted to \$1,462,100,000 at the end of last month. [Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2103 GMT 13 Jul 82 PA]

NEW AMBASSADOR TO MEXICO--Mexico City, 23 Jul (EFE)--Julio Cesar Mendez Montenegro, the new Guatemalan ambassador to Mexico, has presented his credentials to Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo. [PA261159 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0015 GMT 24 Jul 82 PA]

CSO: 3010/2008

FOREIGN SECRETARIAT ACCUSATIONS AGAINST NICARAGUA

Fishing Boat Seized

PA231743 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1700 GMT 23 Jul 82

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 23 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--The country's foreign secretariat today charged that Nicaraguan coast guard boats seized a Honduran fishing boat in Honduran waters on Sunday.

Rodolfo Rosales Abella, the Honduran acting foreign secretary, said that negotiations are underway to get the fishing boat "Bonne Soire," its 25 crewmembers and their fishing gear back from the Nicaraguan Government.

According to the Honduran charge, the Nicaraguan coast guard boat entered waters that were not under its jurisdiction, up to an area close to the Media Luna Keys in the Atlantic Ocean, where it seized the boat.

In addition, the Honduran foreign secretariat is investigating charges made by peasants in the Patuca area in Olancho Department. These peasants said that armed men who came from Nicaragua asked them questions about the military installations of the region.

According to them, the armed men from Nicaragua were dressed in olive drab and spoke with an accent that was not Honduran or Nicaraguan; it was more of a Caribbean accent.

Response to Nicaraguan Charges

PA231921 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 23 Jul 82

[Excerpts] Nicaragua is trying to hide its acts of aggression with the publicity campaign against our country. The Nicaraguan foreign minister criticized the Honduran peace proposal, while Nicaraguan coast guard vessels captured a fishing boat with 25 crewmen, who are prisoners in Nicaragua.

We have here Honduran Deputy Foreign Secretary Rodolfo Rosales Abella who denounces the situation of the Honduran sailors who are being held in Nicaragua. He added that the Sandinist army actions against Honduras do not support Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto's statements.

[Begin relay] Yesterday, Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto leveled a serious charge against the Honduran Government and people. The accusation is contained in an ACAN-EFE dispatch.

Here is the reaction of the Honduran Government in the voice of Deputy Foreign Secretary Rodolfo Rosales Abella:

[Begin recording] [Rosales] Regarding Foreign Minister d'Escoto's charges, the Honduran foreign secretariat reaffirms the proposal to internationalize peace and continues to wait for Nicaragua to accept the six points of the proposal in good faith. Otherwise, we continue to protest the Sandinist army's violations against Honduras and we hope that the dialogue proposed in the peace proposal will be effective in helping us establish truly good relations between the two countries.

We have repeatedly stated that Honduras will not permit the presence of persons who disturb our domestic order or that of our neighbors, specifically Nicaragua. We are now waiting for the official word from our ambassador in Nicaragua in order to make a broader statement on the matter.

[Question] Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto insists that Honduras is taking steps to regionalize the war. What is your opinion?

[Answer] Honduras has no warlike attitude regarding any of its neighboring friendly countries. Therefore, we vigorously reject this statement. Under no circumstances are we going to propose anything contradictory to the internationalization of peace. It is true that we are maintaining our point and position of neutrality toward the problems of our neighboring countries. We reaffirm the principle of nonintervention and sincerely desire the internationalization of peace. Therefore, we invite Nicaragua to accept the measures proposed by Honduras for the surveillance and supervision of the strategic points and international surveillance for arms control in Central America to prevent an arms race.

[Question] In one of the points to internationalize peace Honduras has proposed that the border areas be watched in order to prevent incidents. Nicaragua has refused to accept this point. Does this demonstrate that Nicaragua has emphatically rejected the peace proposal?

[Answer] We are waiting for a positive response from Nicaragua in accepting the internationalization of peace. As soon as Nicaragua proposes a means in good faith to talk about this, the Honduran foreign secretariat is prepared

to participate in the talks. Friday before last the last meeting between the naval chiefs was held. Very positive decisions to improve the relations between our countries were made. Unfortunately, 2 days later a Nicaraguan coast guard vessel entered Honduran waters and apprehended the ship "Bonne Soire," owned by (Echeverria-Hylock-Arrechavala) near the Media Luna reef. The Nicaraguans arrested the crew and took them to Nicaragua. We are now negotiating for the release of the vessel, fishing equipment and crew. [Words indistinct] does not support the Nicaraguan foreign minister's statements.

[Question] Is Nicaragua using this publicity campaign to hide its acts of aggression against our country?

[Answer] I believe that the events eloquently testify to the fact that the Nicaraguan Government has been trying to disguise its provocations, both in the pursuit and apprehension of the ship as well as in the aggressions in La Guarruma and Guasaule and in the speeches of its principal spokesmen, in which Honduras has been violently attacked. However, Honduras does not wish to respond to these unfriendly gestures from Nicaragua. [end recording]

CSO: 3010/2005

COMMUNIST PARTY MEMBER ON PRESIDENT'S U.S. TRIP

PA171430 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 16 Jul 82

[Interview with Carolina (Mejia), representative of the Communist Party of Honduras in Cuba; date and place not given--recorded]

[Text] [Question] What significance do you give to President Roberto Suazo Cordova's visit to the United States? What does this visit represent for the future of your country?

[Answer] We feel that this visit is just the fulfillment of the policy that imperialism has outlined for central America. Naturally, this trip was planned even before the elections. The imperialists have an entire plan in which they outline the political, economic and military policy that they will carry out in our country. Therefore, Suazo Cordova only went to comply with what was established by the master in the north.

[Question] Carolina, great prominence has been given to a statement by U.S. President Ronald Reagan. He said that Honduras can count on us. What do you think is the meaning of this kind of U.S. commitment to the Honduran Government? What kind of aid can the United States give your country?

[Answer] The help that U.S. imperialism is implying with this phrase is, of course, military aid. However, President Suazo Cordova went to the United States to seek economic aid in order to solve the real crisis existing in the country and not to receive the kind of weapons or aid that Reagan has established for our country. In fact, the military aid given to the Honduran army has been increased from 3 million to 48 million [currency unspecified]. This is an aid we don't need. Our country's economic crisis means malnutrition, hunger and illiteracy, and we need help to solve these problems. We don't need any weapons.

[Question] A leader of the Nicaraguan Government, Daniel Ortega, said in Madrid today that the U.S. war against Nicaragua has already begun. He said that proof of this is Honduras' participation in the central American situation, against Nicaragua, as well as its direct participation with troops in the Salvadoran conflict. What do you think of this?

[Answer] This liberal government has turned our country into a safe haven for all counterrevolutionary Somozist bands, and for this reason Mr Reagan has said that Honduras can count on the United States. He said this because Honduras has become a gendarme or a guard to make sure that the revolutionary movements won't make progress in central America. It will be a gendarme to make sure that the Salvadoran revolutionary process and the Nicaraguan revolution are eliminated, as well as to strike against the Guatemalan people who are also struggling to liberate their fatherland.

[Question] Carolina, during the Honduran electoral campaign Suazo Cordova was described as a liberal, and it was believed that Honduras would maintain the position it had maintained, a relative equilibrium and a certain neutrality in the central American conflict. Do you believe that the latest incidents and the increased repression inside Honduras still make Suazo Cordova's Government a liberal government?

[Answer] No, this is no longer true. This image wore out rapidly. We felt that this government was going to deteriorate within a year. However, this deterioration has happened very fast, to the extent that after 6 months of the Suazo Cordova administration there is such social deterioration in the country that incidents have occurred underscoring this. These incidents lead us to call for unity in order to give a firm and forceful response to the attack by the country's repressive forces.

[Question] Do you then believe that an increase in repression and the submissiveness of the Suazo Cordova administration will strengthen the unity of the left and will increase the people's struggle?

[Answer] Yes. It is very painful, because many will die in the struggle, but this strengthens the revolutionary movement. The liberals, especially Suazo Cordova, have eliminated the scheme that progressive liberals had thought up for this government. This is true to such an extent that they have alienated from the liberal government people like Carlos Roberto Reina and Jorge Arturo Reina, who have made statements to try and rescue this liberal government whose possibilities are exhausted and which has completely subjected itself to U.S. imperialism.

[Question] Is there any other power behind Suazo Cordova?

[Answer] Power is truly in the hands of military officers headed by Gustavo Alvarez Martinez. He is the man really governing. Suazo Cordova cast his luck with Alvarez Martinez. Imperialism dealt its masterful blow when it placed Alvarez Martinez in power. This man is an anticommunist, an anti-Honduran fascist who doesn't care that our land is being used to invade Nicaraguan territory or that the army is being used to liquidate the Salvadoran revolutionary forces.

[Question] Do you think all military officers are following this policy in Honduras?

[Answer] We think that there are democratic military men in our army. These men don't agree with this situation, and at a given time they will reply by rejecting Alvarez Martinez' fascist policy.

CP MEMBER ON 'REPRESSION' IN UNIVERSITY

PA260358 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Interview with (Ana Maria Rodriguez), member of the Honduran Communist Party; no date or place given--live or recorded]

[Excerpt] [Question] (Ana Maria), we know you were a student leader in your country. We have news about serious events concerning the National Autonomous University of Honduras. Could you give us a brief report on that situation?

[Answer] We have observed an arrogant and repressive attitude on the part of the military organizations and the Honduran Government against that university. For instance, early in June, Rector Juan Almendares was reelected by the democratic sector of the university, which is a majority. However, on (?orders) from fascist Alvarez Martinez, the congress approved the imposition of a rector who responds to such interests. His name is Osvaldo Ramos Soto and he represents the most recalcitrant ultrarightist and reactionary sector, which marked fascist tendencies, within the university.

[Question] Then do you believe that the university's autonomy has been violated?

[Answer] It certainly has, as the National Autonomous University of Honduras, together with the people, had won such a right. The rector was elected according to the law, but that victory, which our people had already won, was shamelessly violated.

[Question] We have also learned of the arrest of several university professors, including former director of the School of Journalism, Oscar Reyes Vaca, in addition to over 30 other professors. Is such repression against the educators and the university an isolated case, or is it an established policy of the current regime of Roberto Suazo Cordova?

[Answer] All those arrests actually respond to a repressive policy which the government of Roberto Suazo Cordova has been implementing since he took office. Naturally, it also responds to a policy designed by the chief of the armed forces, Alvarez Martinez, who has always been known to repress our working class, the students and the peasants. Therefore, it is not surprising that the repression should reach our university, a center that has produced democratic and progressive professionals, whose interests are identified with those of the people.

ARMED FORCES REINFORCE ALL BORDER OUTPOSTS

PA232202 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1925 GMT 23 Jul 82

[Report by Armando Cerrato]

[Excerpts] Tegucigalpa, 23 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--To keep armed elements, either regular or guerrillas, from infiltrating national territory, the Honduran Army has reinforced its forces near the borders with Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua with artillery battalions, infantry units and armored vehicles.

The mobilization was announced by the chief of the armed forces, Gen Gustavo Alvarez Martinez, who explained that the action was taken in view of armed clashes near the Honduran border, and due to Honduras' need to defend its integrity.

The military leader specifically referred to the conflict in El Salvador and said the fighting there could cause armed elements to enter Honduras, which would be harmful to the civilian population in the area.

Shortly before the mobilization of the Honduran forces, the FMLN of El Salvador reported that some 1,500 Honduran soldiers were fighting them in El Salvador.

The FMLN said this was an armed attack against the Salvadoran people; therefore, the FMLN reserved the right to fight the Honduran soldiers, even inside their territory and to annihilate and inflict casualties on their forces.

The government has said there is a smear campaign being orchestrated by Nicaragua and the Salvadoran guerrillas perhaps to justify an armed action against Honduras.

In view of the above and to prevent a large-scale armed confrontation with Nicaragua, and in view of recent flights by Sandinist helicopters over Honduran townships, Honduran troops have been deployed along the Honduran-Nicaraguan border.

In this area, however, the reinforcements have been stationed at some distance from the border and have been deployed only as a precaution against a strong Sandinist attack that might need to be repulsed immediately.

In the case of El Salvador, the reinforcements are very near and patrol the border because there is a virtual state of war there with guerrillas crossing into Honduran territory to rest.

On the Guatemalan border the situation at the guard posts is normal, but reinforcements are ready to repel any action in the areas where guerrillas may try to enter Honduran territory.

CSO: 3010/2001

ACTIVITIES OF SUSPECTED TERRORISTS REPORTED

PA232149 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 22 Jul 82

[Text] Puerto Cortez--Suspicious groups made up of 8 to 10 persons have been seen camping in the Merendon Mountains and in the mountainous region between Omoa and Cuyamel. It is believed that they may be guerrilla cells.

Meanwhile, a very reliable source who asked not to be identified has said that these groups are heavily armed. In addition, the source reported that suspicious vessels have slipped into coves, that is, at points where the sea is not too rough, at night. We were told that a launch arrived in Omoa Bay and that a station wagon was waiting for it. It is believed that packages taken from the boat may contain either contraband items or weapons for the subversive groups. We have informed the top authorities of this port so security measures can be taken, since it is possible that this area, which is near the border, could be the site of a guerrilla camp.

Meanwhile, guards have been posted at the entrance to Puerto Cortes. Military officials, particularly traffic officials, are on the alert. Every vehicle is checked at the entrance to Puerto Cortes.

In an operation in San Pedro Sula on Tuesday night, national army soldiers, accompanied by agents of the department of national investigation, DIN, captured two alleged subversives near (Samelicon). The subversives were driving a vehicle loaded with weapons.

The two subversives were arrested shortly after a house in Villanueva municipality was searched. The house was reportedly used by a terrorist cell.

The two alleged terrorists apparently had managed to evade the cordon established by the authorities in Villanueva, but at approximately 2200 they were captured on reaching the bridge of the (Samelicon) River.

Immediately after being arrested, the presumed terrorists were taken to Tegucigalpa by a public security patrol. The police in San Pedro Sula have declined to comment on the report, although unofficial reports indicate that the individuals were traveling in a stolen automobile.

Meanwhile, soldiers from the 3d and 9th infantry battalions yesterday continued a security operation in which they searched all vehicles and persons entering or leaving the city.

BRIEFS

GUERRILLA ACTIONS--Alejandro Gomez Vides, undersecretary of foreign relations, admitted yesterday that the confrontations between Salvadoran soldiers and the FMLN combatants in areas close to Honduras are delaying the border demarcation. Gomez Vides was participating in the negotiations that the joint border commission of the two countries concluded yesterday in accordance with articles 16, 26 and 24 of the general peace treaty signed in November 1981. He explained that in view of this situation, the commission has resorted to aerial photographs to speed up the demarcation work. He said that the guerrilla actions have decreased slightly in this country but conceded that "this doesn't mean that the subversion has been eliminated." Meanwhile, Rodolfo Rosales Abella, head of the Honduran commission, said that he trusted that an agreement will be reached regarding the conflictive region in La Paz department. He said that he was pleased to see that El Salvador is complying with the general peace treaty stipulation that the commission must meet at least once a month. Rosales Abella added that the technical commissions are also working together on the demarcation, always in line with this treaty signed by the two countries. Furthermore, he said that to advance the negotiations they are also working on surveying, aerial photography and plans in order to finally draw up the maps. [Text] [PA231953 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 22 Jul 92 p 4]

AREA INAUGURATIONS--Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica will lead the special delegations that will go to Colombia and to the Dominican Republic to attend the inauguration of their new presidents, Belisario Betancur and Salvador Jorge Blanco, to be held on 7 August and 16 August respectively. The government has also appointed Jose Azcona Hoyo as extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador on special mission to attend the Colombian transfer of power. In addition, the following people were appointed members of this delegation: Roberto Perdomo Paredes as acting ambassador; Felipe Segundo Paredes, the Honduran charge d'affaires in Bogota; Napoleon Alvarez, director of protocol; and Juan Bosco Campo; the last two will also be ambassadors on special mission. In addition to the foreign secretary, the delegation that will go to Santo Domingo will include Rodrigo Castillo, manager of the Honduran Corporation of Forest Development; Napoleon Alvarez, director of protocol; Nelma Sabillon, our charge d'affaires in that country; and Julio Mejia, acting ambassador. [Text] [PA241818 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 24 Jul 82]

NEW HONDUTEL MANAGER--Colonel Diego Arturo Landa Celano, the Honduran ambassador to the OAS, has been appointed general manager of the Honduran Telecommunications Enterprise (HONDUTEL), replacing Col Julio Perez Matamoros. This appointment is effective 1 August. The Honduran foreign secretary has not yet announced Landa Celano's successor at the OAS. [PA241532 San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 23 Jul 82 p 48 PA]

ORTEGA CHARGES--"In Honduras, we are not protecting or hatching counterrevolutions. This is a country that respects the decisions of other countries, but that also demands respect for its sovereignty. For this reason, it has maintained a strict neutrality," Efraim Bu Giron, president of the National Congress, has said. The liberal parliamentarian reiterated that "it is one thing to safeguard our borders and another thing to intervene in the internal affairs of other countries. Therefore, it is the duty of Hondurans to support the government which is acting to defend the integrity of Honduran soil, sovereignty, and the enjoyment of peace and freedom in the country." Analyzing the statements made by Commander Daniel Ortega of Nicaragua, Bu Giron said: "They are ill-advised and unbecoming to a government leader, because the fact is that any differences that might exist between the two countries can be solved by the civilized paths recommended by international law." "War," Bu Giron said, "benefits no one, and Honduras is a fervent supporter of peace and justice in the world." The president of the National Congress feels that it is not advisable to speculate about the Nicaraguan refusal to permit supervision of the borders. "We wish to respect and maintain strict neutrality toward the affairs of and the decisions made by other governments of the area, but we demand and will defend respect for our sovereignty and the reign of democracy, justice and freedom in our country." [Text] [PA231853 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 21 Jul 82 p 2]

ARMY PATROL INCIDENT--Tegucigalpa--Nine Honduran army soldiers and a civilian guide were killed yesterday in the Salvadoran border area when their patrol exchanged fire with other Honduran forces. The Honduran armed forces' public relations office announced today that the incident occurred at 0400, 1000 GMT, near the town of Junicuara in the central department of La Paz. The armed forces' official communique states that because of unforeseen circumstances, a lack of coordination and adverse weather conditions, a patrol entered the sector assigned to another and an exchange of fire occurred, with the noted results. Some weeks ago, the Honduran army reinforced the border with El Salvador in response to the antiguerrilla offensive launched by the Salvadoran armed forces. [Text] [PA170113 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 16 Jul 82]

CSO: 3010/1982

BRIEFS

NEW AMBASSADORS' CREDENTIALS--Mexico City, 21 Jul (NOTIMEX)--The secretariat of foreign relations today received the letters of credentials for Guatemalan Ambassador Julio Cesar Mendez Montenegro, Costan Rican Ambassador Marcelo Prieto Jimenez and New Zealand Ambassador Lancelot Raymond Adamas-Shneider. The diplomats will present their credentials to President Jose Lopez Portillo tomorrow at the Los Pinos official residence. [Text] [FL221100 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0418 GMT 22 Jul 82 FL]

LOAN FROM JAPAN--The Japanese Government has granted Mexico a loan of 3.35 billion pesos payable over 25 years at 4 1/2 percent interest per year, according to a communique issued by the Mexican foreign affairs secretariat today. The communique adds that the loan will be used to purchase equipment required to complete the second phase of a project to expand two steel plants. [PA142118 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 14 Jul 82 PA]

CSO: 3020/2011

UPCOMING U.S.-HONDURAN JOINT MANEUVERS CRITICIZED

Foreign Ministry Communique

PA241350 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 Jul 82

[Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry communique: date not given--recorded]

[Text] The Nicaraguan Government has been told that as of 26 July joint military maneuvers and combined deployment operations will be staged by U.S. Air Force detachments and air force and army troops from the Honduran Armed Forces. These maneuvers will take place in neighboring Honduras. According to the participants, the purpose is to conduct exercises on mobilization, control and communications procedures involved in deployment operations.

The Nicaraguan Government is hereby declaring its concern over this joint military operation by the U.S. and Honduran governments. The operation is to include the use of U.S. C-130 planes. The base for these planes will be Tegucigalpa, from which they will conduct daily flights to Puerto Lempira, the very center of the rearguard for the counterrevolutionary military units, composed of former Somozist guards, that have staged more than 15 attacks along the border and in northern Zelaya department. More than 50 persons have died and 18 have been wounded in these attacks.

The Nicaraguan Government believes that military maneuvers of this kind serve only to increase tension in the area and are in no way compatible with the recent call for the Honduran Government for the pacification of the region, nor with U.S. Government claims that it is seeking a dialogue to find a peaceful solution to the crisis.

The Nicaraguan Government rejects this kind of maneuver and once again calls for peaceful and negotiated solutions to safeguard peace in the Central American region.

[dated] Managua, 23 July 1982. The year of unity in the face of aggression.

Tinoco: Maneuvers 'Provocative'

PA251739 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1637 GMT 25 Jul 82

[Excerpts] Managua, 25 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--Nicaraguan Deputy Foreign Minister Victor Tinoco told ACAN-EFE today that "Honduras is internationalizing the war in Central America."

He added: "There is war already in El Salvador and in Guatemala, but Honduras is now making it a regional war by entering another country."

Tinoco said that instead of internationalizing peace, Honduras is sending its troops to El Salvador and is permitting anti-Sandinists to stage military actions against Nicaragua.

He stressed that the Central American situation is growing worse not only because of national crises or "wars of liberation," but because of "foreign forces that have an impact on that crisis. These forces are trying to stop the peoples' advance."

"Imperialism," Tinoco added, "is involved in various military maneuvers that make the situation one of greater conflict. Air maneuvers are underway today and there could be ground maneuvers tomorrow, all of which does nothing to promote peace."

Referring to the Honduran-American military maneuvers that will begin tomorrow, he said that Nicaragua is concerned because they will be taking place when the Nicaraguan revolution is suffering "a silent invasion" by former Somozist guardsmen, who are supported by the United States and who operate from Honduran soil.

These maneuvers, Tinoco explained, will be staged in an area that is the geographical rearguard for the former Somozist guardsmen's military units, because Puerto Lempira is one of the primary centers of the "counterrevolution" operating in Honduras.

He added that the daily flights of helicopters and planes from Tegucigalpa to Puerto Lempira that will be included in the Honduran-American training "can be described as provocative, if not dangerous."

Tinoco said that "there are sectors in Honduras that are responding affirmatively to orders issued by the CIA and by the most reactionary sectors of the Reagan administration by attacking the Nicaraguan revolution."

Honduran Envoy: Maneuvers No Threat

PA242257 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 24 Jul 82

[Text] In an interview granted to a Radio Sandino reporter, Honduran ambassador to Nicaragua Roberto Martinez Ordonez spoke of the maneuvers that the U.S. army will start on Monday at the border zones with Nicaragua. The Honduran diplomat said that these joint maneuvers of the Honduran and U.S. armies are small-scale maneuvers and should not be a matter of concern to the Nicaraguan Government.

Regarding the charge made by commander of the revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, in Masaya on 19 July when he said that Honduran Army helicopters support Somozist guards at the border, the ambassador said that he has no proof of this statement being true.

The following are statements made by Honduran ambassador to Nicaragua Roberto Martinez Ordonez:

[Begin recording] [Martinez Ordonez] In fact, as of 26 July, there will be a small-scale joint maneuver called combined deployment [desplazamiento combinado] during which--and within Honduran territory--the Honduran Armed Forces will carry out a troop deployment operation with the cooperation of the United States. This kind of exercise has been carried out on many occasions all over the Western Hemisphere, with different armies participating in combined operations for training and practice.

I understand that 2 C-130 airplanes with their crews will be used in this exercise, but at no one time will more than 30 people be involved in the exercise. The exercise involves the deployment of troops from a Tegucigalpa airport to the Puerto Lempira airport in the gracias a dios department. The gracias a dios department is near Nicaragua, but as a matter of fact, so is all of the Honduran national territory. This maneuver is not being carried out as a threat to Nicaragua and much less to hinder our relations, as you put it. The way we see it, Honduras is carrying out a training exercise--it is not even a large-scale training exercise--within its own territory. This is the same type of training exercise that the Sandinist army carries out when training its soldiers.

[Question] Mr Ambassador, don't you think that this worsens the environment of tension between our two countries, especially since on several occasions our Foreign Ministry has denounced attacks by counterrevolutionary groups operating in the border areas between Honduras and Nicaragua?

[Answer] I will tell you. Situations become worse, remain the same, or do not get worse, depending on the interpretation given to the facts. In fact, more depends on the Nicaraguan government's reaction to this exercise--which is something that Honduras believes to be a free right of a sovereign nation within its territory--than on anything else. Obviously, I don't own a crystal ball to tell you that this or that will be their reaction. What I can tell you is that, as far as I know, this is simply a training exercise carried out by our army in Honduras with no aggressive intentions of any kind against the people and government of Nicaragua. [end recording]

CSO: 3010/2006

RAMIREZ ANSWERS QUESTIONS ON 'DIRECT LINE' PROGRAM

PA161616 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0228 GMT 16 Jul 82

["Direct Line" phone-in program with junta member Sergio Ramirez Mercado as featured speaker--live]

[Excerpts] [Question] Good evening, companero Sergio Ramirez. A fraternal Sandinist greeting. I am calling from km 14 on the Masaya Highway. My question is as follows: What would be the position of our revolutionary government regarding the Central American Democratic Community [CDC] if it were invited to join? Thank you very much.

[Answer] Well, in order to enter that club, we would have to see who the other members are. If we are invited to join in a Central American Democratic Community, we would first have to find out if the members of that community are truly democratic, as our country and our government are. We really have a real democracy here.

We have not been invited, and I do not think we will be invited to join that so-called community, because it is a body that was created under the guidance and pressure of the Reagan administration, of the U.S. Government, and it is an organization that serves to exclude and isolate Nicaragua. They want to achieve central American integration without Nicaragua, which is impossible. We are located geographically, historically and socially in the heart of central America. We are a part of central America and at this point our country has the greatest international prestige of the central American countries. Therefore, it is impossible to think of central America without Nicaragua.

However, those are the mistakes, the gross errors committed by imperialists. This means of isolating us will boomerang on them and it is certain that they will end up with their feet in their mouths.

However, it must be said that in the case of any plan for central American integration, for trade, for economic exchange, for the central American countries to help each other emerge from the deep crisis in which they are all submerged as a result of the imperialist economic policy toward central America, we would be happy to join, because we are part of central America and we are determined to continue to be part of central America.

[Question] Good evening, Sergio Ramirez Mercado. Receive my revolutionary greetings. My name is Jacobo Ruiz and I am calling from Diriamba. My question is: You know that Robelo [former junta member Alfonso Robelo] went to Costa Rica. As president of the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement [MDN], he has allied himself with the counterrevolution. We know, since he has said it publicly, that he is allied with the counterrevolutionaries and is planning to attack our country. My question is: What measures are to be taken against those people who are in the country and who belong to the MDN and who have relations with Robelo, who is outside the country. That is all, companero, thank you very much.

[Answer] As you noted, Robelo decided to leave Nicaragua to ally himself with the counterrevolutionary movement and is now a part of it. He is one of the counterrevolutionary leaders abroad. However, a certain principle is followed here that must be made clear. It is a legal principle which states that a person who violates the law is solely responsible for his actions. The fact that a person has been or is a member of the MDN does not mean that he will be held responsible for Robelo's criminal acts. We have to respect a person for what he does or does not do. It is not a crime to belong to that party. If a person who belongs or has belonged to the MDN conducts himself in a positive manner and is not involved in actions against the revolution, we have to respect that person.

[Question] Companero Sergio Ramirez, this is (Alfredo Zelaya) from Proconicsa [presumably productos de concreto Nicaragua, S.A.]. My question is: Since we are continuously being attacked by the imperialists, by the counterrevolutionary bands who kill our border guards, the members of our Sandinist People's Army [EPS]; since we are being economically, politically and militarily attacked by the imperialists, do you think that if Nicaragua were to declare itself to be socialist, those attacks would increase? What I mean is, would the cost that we are paying now--when we have a mixed economy and the great margin of freedom that is given by every true revolution--be increased if Nicaragua were to declare itself to be socialist? That is my question, companero.

[Answer] Well, companero (Alfredo), I think this matter must be viewed from a clear angle. It is not a case of declaring the country socialist or not declaring it because socialism cannot be declared by a decree of the government junta. If the government junta suddenly published a decree in the official GAZETTE saying that Nicaragua is a socialist country no problem would be solved. This is a real, true revolution which has made deep changes in the country's domestic economy, in its production and distribution of wealth. It is a revolution which continues on the path of making increasingly deeper changes to benefit the country's masses, the ones who have been the poorest and most neglected. That is the main motive, the main objective of this revolution.

During the past 3 years, besides making those deep changes in agrarian reform, urban reform, in nationalization of the property that belonged to the Somozists and other measures which have been transforming this country, we believe that the revolution has also established a foreign policy that is truly independent from the United States and the imperialist interests in central America and the Caribbean. This is one of the reasons why we have earned that fierce antagonism of this U.S. administration. They cannot accept that this is a poor, non-

orable and honest country which is truly independent and which does not submit to anyone's dictates. This confrontation, this problem will continue as long as they cannot accept that we have the right to be truly independent. Therefore, a declaration would not make this problem worse. What is aggravating this problem is that this is a real revolution independent of U.S. imperialism; it rejects any foreign interference in Nicaragua and has chosen a path of real freedom, of national independence and of deep changes in the country such as the ones that the revolution has been carrying out throughout these 3 years. If suddenly one of these gentlemen who oppose the revolution were to make a favorable statement, saying that this revolution is going very well and expressing his friendship, then I think there would be reason for concern because it would mean that the revolution is abandoning its course. A revolution always begets a counterrevolution. There is no revolution without a counterrevolution.

[Question] My name is Adolfo. I am calling from Managua and am a Nicaraguan Sandinist who loves our revolution. Under the present situation which our revolution is living, with imperialist aggression increasing every day, I want to know when our revolutionary government will decree military service for every Nicaraguan citizen. The Sandinists are anxiously awaiting for this decree from our revolution.

[Answer] Companero Adolfo, the original program of the government junta takes compulsory military services into consideration. Our revolution is heading toward that goal, naturally. It is an obligation of every citizen. The defense of the fatherland must be organized and the people trained to defend the country from foreign attacks. This is the purpose of compulsory military service. However, for the time being, the revolution has made this service voluntary because this is a political matter.

Thousands of Nicaraguans are voluntarily registering in the Sandinist peoples militias. They participate in the reserve infantry battalions. This demonstrates the enormous political capacity of our revolution to mobilize the people in defense of the fatherland. A large share of the military operations taking place in northern Zelaya department and other border areas with Honduras recently has fallen on the shoulders of the reserve battalions that have been formed in different cities of the country.

They have demonstrated great courage and great aptitude in combat. During this stage of the revolution the defense will be principally in the hands of the Sandinist peoples army, the fighters of the Interior Ministry, the reserve battalions and the Sandinist peoples militias. In a future stage we will take up the matter of compulsory military service.

[Question] I am Mario, from eastern Altamira. I know about the Texaco Company's aggression against the workers. What is the government's attitude and is it planning to nationalize this company?

[Answer] Companero Mario, I have to say that we have no nationalization plan or project in sight. Texaco is a U.S. corporation. Since the revolutionary victory we have had a clear policy on foreign investments in the country.

Our government is planning to issue a new foreign investments law, because this is a serious and responsible government which has established relations in the world and we are respected for it. Therefore, as long as a domestic or foreign company does not violate the laws or oppose the revolution, it may continue to operate peacefully here.

If someone openly opposes the revolutionary process and wants to destabilize the process, neutralize it or overthrow it, that is another matter. In this case the revolution must use its defense mechanisms, not against a company or businessman, but against individuals who perpetrate these destabilizing actions against the revolutionary process.

[Question] My name is (Rosibel Mendoza) and I live in the Monsignor Lescano neighborhood. Please comment on remarks made by Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the government junta, on his visit to France and Spain and the political benefits for our revolutionary process which might result from it at a time when our country is seriously threatened by the counterrevolution.

[Answer] One of the major goals of Mr Reagan's administration since it took office has been the isolation of the Nicaraguan revolution. Just after Reagan took office he sent a mission to visit several European countries. It was headed by one Mr Eagleburger and he took along a number of documents to prove, according to the United States, that we are or were responsible for the arms traffic to El Salvador and that we are responsible for the existence of the FMLN in El Salvador. That was unsuccessful. It backfired because the majority of the governments which they visited rejected the documents. I was told this personally by Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky who has demonstrated great solidarity with our country. He told me about 6 weeks ago that he had been shown these papers and that he had demonstrated little interest in them.

This happened in most of the countries. The United States believes that if it can isolate us and that if the support which we receive from those European governments and from many political forces there and in many parts of the world is taken from us, it will be much easier to give us the final blow. That is logical, if Nicaragua were an isolated country, if we did not have the support of France, Spain, West Germany, Austria, Holland, Mexico, Venezuela and many others and if we did not have the support of socialist countries like Bulgaria and the Soviet Union, if we did not have the support of Arab countries like Libya and Algeria, they could have given us the final blow a long time ago.

However, instead of being isolated, our revolution has great weight, enormous prestige and many friends. We have many friends who respect us and try to cooperate with us in every way possible to advance this revolution.

You saw that at the beginning of this past month of May and at the end of April, when Commander Daniel Ortega was visiting the Soviet Union and I was in West Europe visiting other countries. This is the pluralist policy of our revolution, the policy of nonalignment. Now Commander Daniel has visited French President Mitterrand and was received with full honors. He also met with the Spanish king and prime minister.

This reinforces our revolution. It is positive for our revolution because politically this is a blow against the United States, which has surely exerted

great pressure to prevent Daniel's reception in France. However the French Government does not yield to pressures of any kind and you had, therefore, the enormous reception he was accorded. On television you see the military parade where Daniel is beside President Mitterrand as a guest of honor. These are gestures and symbols which result in political support for our revolution and which reinforce, as I said, our position in the world.

We are going to continue this throughout this year. Other visits are planned to other countries of Europe and Latin America and to other socialist countries. The socialist as well as the West European countries and other Latin American countries are giving us political, diplomatic and economic support, which is very important.

[Question] I am Carlos Lopez from the 10 June sector. Dr Ramirez, central American broadcasting stations and the VOA have reported that the Honduran Government today protested to Nicaragua about an attack on two Honduran towns by supposed Sandinist soldiers. The VOA also reported that the Honduran President, who is visiting Washington, apparently, in my opinion, to deliver himself to imperialism, had confirmed this. I would like to know whether the Nicaraguan Government knows about this or whether it is just another imperialist maneuver in unison with the reactionary countries of the area which have lately undertaken open aggression against Nicaragua, just as the so-called central American democratic community is doing?

[Answer] Companero Carlos, BARRICADA published important remarks made by Commander Luis Carrion, in which he said, and we all share his opinion, that the aggression has already begun, that we should not be expecting a regular invasion force to be coming down the Panamerican Highway to invade us. Rather they are invading us through this little system they have picked of sending in men armed to the teeth, even with bazookas and shiny new rifles. We know where they get them because the rifles, bazookas and grenades are not being sold in supermarkets in the United States now. We are being attacked, the invasion against Nicaragua has begun and must use all our national forces to reject this invasion.

Today Commander Humberto Ortega also explained that those battles in the north have caused dozens of deaths because the fighting has been fierce. Our forces have defended the national territory with full interest and complete patriotism and have managed to rout those hundreds of counterrevolutionaries.

At the same time that these attacks have been taking place deep inside northern Zelaya department, there have been attacks from Honduran territory against different border posts, against border guard posts. This means that there is coordination that is being directed by a counterrevolutionary general staff, that while some attack the border posts, others penetrate deeper into the country.

This is being done, and we have often resented this, with the complicity of, and to the satisfaction of, important sectors in the Honduran Army and some sectors in the Honduran Government. We are not saying that Honduran President Suazo is involved in this; not at all. However, everyone knows that the

counterrevolutionaries walk around freely in Puerto Lempira and that armed Somozist guards walk the streets of Choluteca. Any visitor can see this.

There is a genuine conspiracy against Nicaragua that is directed from Honduras, as well as from the United States. We must be absolutely clear about this, so that we can understand the true scope of the problem.

Thus, were it not for the tragedy of what is happening, it would be merely laughable that the Honduran Government protests because we attack Honduran territory from Nicaragua. The deaths take place in Nicaragua. It is our borderguards who are killed. It is our fighters who are killed and wounded. The arms that we seize from the counterrevolutionaries are picked up by them in Honduran territory, yet suddenly we are labeled the aggressors against Honduras. This is nothing but a political game and we know its purpose.

We must are ourselves, particularly with patience. This is to be a long struggle and not only in the military sense, but politically as well. Nicaragua is not an island. Nicaragua has long borders and is part of a region that is afire, a region in conflict, with liberation wars in progress in Guatemala and El Salvador, huge domestic problems in Honduras and very serious economic problems in Costa Rica.

Consequently, we can't decide to isolate ourselves from the world. Perhaps we could solve our problems that way, but that is not the way things are. We are part of central America and we will continue to undergo this complex situation for a long time.

As for the presence of the Honduran president in the United States, this is a part of Mr Reagan's government policy, which has been to invite the central American presidents one at a time. Naturally, we are not being invited. This is also a part of that U.S. policy. Still, we go to the Soviet Union, France, West Germany, Holland, Belgium, Mexico, Venezuela and to many other countries, for this is the very premise of our nonaligned policy.

[Question] I am (Adolfo Giraldo), from Managua. I had the opportunity to serve in a reserve battalion on the Honduran border. All of our people know that certain Honduran sectors support the counterrevolution and that our borderguards are sometimes attacked from Honduras, while the counterrevolutionaries do not actually cross into our territory. What are the chances of moving our border posts further inside our border? This would permit us, without neglecting our border, to prevent the counterrevolutionaries from attacking without actually crossing into our territory. As things now stand, we cannot respond to their attacks because they are on the other side.

Another question deals with the government announcement that a deal was made with France for one Coast Guard vessel and for arms, about which the gringos got very upset. Have these arms, which are so necessary to the protection of our border, arrived yet?

[Answer] Unfortunately, companero, I cannot answer either of your questions. These are military matters and cannot be discussed publicly. What I can say is

that the borderguards are there to protect our nation's territory. The attacks come from the other side for a very simple reason. The counterrevolutionaries, and certain Honduran sectors that support them, want us to cross into Honduras in pursuit and to attack their camps, the locations of which we know exactly, in order to neutralize those gangs in Honduran territory.

However, we are not going to give them that pleasure, because our country has developed a firm revolutionary conscience; we are serious and we will not fall into that trap. Patience is our best weapon, because this is both a political and a military matter--I must repeat, of the central American countries, Nicaragua has the greatest prestige; it is far ahead of the other central American countries. Why? Because we have a revolution here, which is respected by all people throughout the world.

As for your second question, yes, we have received French military support. We are going to receive French arms and we will continue to receive arms from any country that will supply them--any country, for we must not fall into the trap laid by those who say that we don't need to defend ourselves, that it is bad to be armed or, as some say, that we are militarizing and training even though we no longer live (?in spartan times), that we are dividing the family and that we live only to train and plan for war. That part about the (?spartans) is a myth disseminated to weaken the revolution. We could suffer the same fate as that city in France [as heard], which is where that Byzantine term, which has become so common, originated. While the leaders of that city were discussing the sex of the angels, the enemies stormed the city's walls and killed them all. This is not going to happen to us. No one is going to catch us here discussing the sex of the angels. On the contrary, we will be prepared to reject anyone who enters our national territory.

[Question] Good evening, Dr Ramirez. My name is (Francisco Gonzalez) and I live in Villa Revolution. Commander of the revolution Tomas Borge said in a speech today that there are sects here that are behaving illegally. My question is: What action will the revolutionary government take against these false preachers of the Word of God?

[Answer] As you know, Don Francisco, the revolution has made vast efforts to ensure that respect for freedom of worship is practiced here daily, rather than remaining mere words in the constitution. I was surprised when I saw, or rather, heard--better said, read--that in the first statement made by the new Bishop of Matagalpa--the former parish priest of Ciudad Dario--he said that those who claimed that there is no freedom of worship here are lying. That is the truth. There is complete respect here for everyone's right to practice his religion, and not only the Catholic religion--which is the faith professed by the great majority of Nicaraguans--but other religions as well.

However, freedom of worship--which is fully guaranteed; everyone is free to believe in whatever he wants; one can be religious, nonreligious or an atheist if he wishes, since we have no restrictions of this kind here--is one thing, while the use of freedom of worship as a shield, as a political shield behind which to attack the revolution, to try to weaken the revolution, is another. At that point, it is no longer a matter of religion, but becomes an issue of

national security; a matter of the security of the Nicaraguan nation. This is what prompted us to go to a state of alert.

[Ramirez continues] In the last few months there has been a vast proliferation of religious sects here. They have some of the strangest, weirdest names you've ever heard. One of them is called the angels of midnight, or something like that. Another sect, the children of God, has been expelled from many other countries. Then there is another, the Mormons, I believe, who allow polygamy; their laws allow them to have several wives. This, however is forbidden by Nicaraguan law. These sects receive millions of dollars, primarily from the United States.

Why have these sects proliferated? There were never so many before. Simply because they are being used as an instrument against the revolution. More than 60 new sects have been registered in the past 6 months. Can you imagine what this means? There are humble, simpleminded people here, persons who have not yet had the opportunity to develop their education and knowledge, who believe in those who come and knock on their doors and promise them heavenly, rather than earthly, things. They teach them resignation, and tell them not to worry about earthly matters; they tell them that things are the way they are because the Lord made them that way and that no one can change them. They instill certain ways of thinking that tend to neutralize Nicaraguans, to make them forget daily problems, and they brainwash them, so that they will blame the revolution for anything that goes wrong.

For example, they went around saying that the storms that fell on Nicaragua and that caused so much damage were the Lord's punishment of the Sandinists. And this is the kind of message that they are spreading everywhere. This is something that all responsible Nicaraguans, and not just the revolutionary government's authorities, must oppose and refute. The mass organizations must respond to these sects; they must neutralize them and take action against them.

We cannot allow any enemy of the revolution to gain ground, no matter what clothing he wears.

[Question] While we are on the topic of religion, Dr Ramirez Mercado, it has been announced, with great joy, that his holiness the Pope will visit Nicaragua next year. Has the national reconstruction government already received official information on this visit?

[Answer] No, none at all. I find this report a bit strange, because, as we all know, the Pope is a head of state, a head of government, and if he is to come to Nicaragua, arrangements must be made with the Nicaraguan Government, with the national reconstruction government junta, which is on the same level as the Pope, insofar as government hierarchy is concerned.

Therefore, if the Pope were to come to Nicaragua--and he would be quite welcome, of course, since it would give the revolutionary government great pleasure to receive his holiness here--he would have to be met at the airport by the government junta and would have to be accorded all of the honors given a head of state. In other words, he would have to review the honor guard with us and we

would have to play the Nicaraguan national anthem and the Vatican's anthem. In addition, his agenda in Nicaragua would have to [be] prepared by the Nicaraguan Government, and the government junta would have to accompany the Pope to all of the places that he is scheduled to visit. In other words, this would be a visit of state. The Pope cannot pay private visits to any country; he cannot, for example, say that he wants to go to a certain country to visit the bishops. He can't do this. This would have to be a visit of state, and the hosts of the Pope in Nicaragua would have to be the national reconstruction government junta.

[Question] Hello, Mr Ramirez. My question is: What is going to happen to the \$5 million that the United States is going to send, which, as all Nicaraguans know, is intended for the counterrevolution? If it is accepted, how is it going to be handled? If it is not accepted, what arguments will be used to justify its refusal?

[Answer] Companero, the government is currently debating whether or not to accept this donation. We have already received a query from the U.S. Embassy on how to handle this money, because the first thing we said was that these funds could not enter Nicaragua through the kitchen or by the backdoor. It has to be channelled through the international reconstruction fund, FIR, which is the ministry that handles international loans and donations.

We are therefore analyzing the agreements signed between the U.S. Government and various organizations here. We already have copies of all of the agreements signed with many organizations and private enterprises. We are looking into the uses to which the money will be put, the objectives that will be attained.

In any event, we have to know what these institutions--including the church, which also has a little slice--and the private businesses that belong to the higher council of private enterprise, COSEP, are going to do with this money, what they are going to use it for--after all, that's what the Nicaraguan Government is here for.

I only want to say that if we decide to accept the money, it will be sent here in dollars and will be turned over to the beneficiaries in cordobas at the official Nicaraguan exchange rate of 10 cordobas per \$1. If we were to accept this money--and as I said, we have still not made a decision--it would help to finance the imports that the government must make. Since we are short of foreign exchange, due to the crisis of which we are all aware, \$5 million to help us import medicines, spare parts for tractors and factories and raw materials would be a boon for the country.

[Question] Good evening; I am (Miguel Guiterrez) from Managua. Dr Ramirez, for some time there has been talk at local government levels about restructuring the currently ineffective CACM. No solution has been found to date to the problem of restoring trade in central America. At a time when imperialism is doing everything it can to keep the area's peoples divided and to isolate Nicaragua, a key country in the area, do you feel that this miracle can in fact occur? Is there sufficient political desire to promote the restructuring of the market while our economy is being damaged by a lack of unity?

[Answer] That is a good question, companero. If we were to look at the CACM as it was planned in 1961, when it was a treaty of integration, we would have to say that there are no prospects, initially because the Nicaraguan revolution did not then exist and, secondly, because there has been a significant change in the central American economic, political and social outlook. Why? Because the revolution has brought the Nicaraguan people a different way of looking at things.

The CACM was established to benefit U.S. capital. U.S. factories in central America brought nearly finished products to the area and gave them their finishing touches here, thus avoiding taxes, and they were able to move the merchandise through central America without difficulty. That was its purpose--to benefit U.S. companies and some central American sectors that had become their allies.

Those things that were produced in Nicaragua were produced with raw materials brought from abroad. Because the raw materials came from abroad, and must still be purchased abroad today, we are stuck with several factories requiring the expenditure of thousands of dollars for the necessary raw materials.

They brought companies that were already unpopular in the United States and opened their factories here as if they were new. This was, therefore, a common market that benefited neither Nicaragua nor the central American peoples.

For this market to become operational it would have to be rebuilt from the ground up, a completely new market. Since there are so many different political interests in central America--some countries abide by what the United States says, others are afraid of the United States and then there are countries like ours, that neither abide by nor are afraid of them--it is politically difficult to agree on a revival of the CACM. If certain of these countries were sensible they would already have accepted that which we have been suggesting for some time. We suggested that instead of thinking in terms of a common market, subject to U.S. loans--loans that will never [be] granted and funds that, despite what some of these countries believe, will never arrive--we should sit down and decide what we can sell them and what they can sell us. This could include an exchange of products, which would permit us to avoid taking dollars out of the poorer economies. We could think of it in terms of what we can give them and what they can give us. I am sure that we could save hundreds of thousands of dollars with a system as simple as this. But, as I said, this is not an economic issue, it is a political matter. As long as the political panorama does not clear up, it will be very difficult to revive the common market.

[Question] We always save a couple of questions for the end of the program. I know that you have had an exhaustive question-and-answer period but we, the radio Sandino reporters, would be pleased if you would answer the following questions. One has to do with statements made by our leaders and articles published in our newspapers and commented on by the radio. It is said that the economic situation is truly critical, which discourages the people. Would you please comment on our current economic status and on the prospects of emerging from this situation?

[Answer] I believe that one of the mistakes that is often made--and I mean recently--is to compare this situation to that before the triumph of the revolution. I have, at times, heard the economic cabinet [as heard], members of the government and other experts say that the country had an economic growth rate of 8 percent in 1977, a 4.5 growth rate in 1980 and that there will be no growth rate this year. I believe that such a comparison is incorrect.

The Somozist Nicaragua was one thing and the Sandinist Nicaragua is something else entirely. In the first place, we have a revolution here and this is something we shouldn't forget. Our revolution is radically transforming the country.

After the disaster caused by the rains, which washed away hundreds of manzanas, destroyed arable land and filled the riverbeds in areas where the land should have been ready for sowing, especially in Leon and Chinandega, silent work is today being done. Thousands of men and machines are working night and day to prepare the land, to remove the silt, rocks and branches that were washed up on hundreds of manzanas. The riverbeds are being restored and there are now 133,000 manzanas ready for sowing cotton. This is the same amount of land that we had last year. This is a genuine triumph by the revolution. After the floods, we flew over the areas that had been affected and we could see then that it would be very difficult to prepare even 100,000 manzanas for sowing, yet we now have 133,000. We expect a good coffee crop, we have a modest rate of meat export and, despite the earthquake, the war and now the rains, the country's rate of production is normal. Thus, we should not look at this with despair. It is not merely an economic problem; it is basically political. It is impossible to believe that Nicaragua could have enormous economic prosperity when it is constantly faced with threats from imperialism and the U.S. Government. Such prosperity simply cannot happen. It would be impossible for us to have full employment, excellent salaries for everyone and general economic prosperity when we are practically in the midst of war and daily confrontation, facing the yankee government's hostility. We have to look at all of this from a political viewpoint. We cannot forget that we are experiencing a revolution, and though it has its difficulties, what matters is that it advances.

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EDEN PASTORA DISCUSSES FAILURE OF REVOLUTION

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 26 Jun 82 pp 1-A, 20-A

[Report on Interview with Eden Pastora Gomez, "Commander Zero" of the Nicaraguan revolution, by Fernando Meraz, special correspondent of EXCELSIOR: "Pastora: Nicaragua Is Headed for the Abyss"]

[Text] Madrid, 25 Jun--In a world full of anxiety the Reconstruction Government of Nicaragua is guilty of converting Central America into a desolate arena for the North-South confrontation. They bear the moral responsibility for the future of the revolution in the region, and over them hangs the judgment of history for having furnished the United States with a perfect pretext for another invasion by destroying the balance of power in the Caribbean with their thirst for arms, which they are satisfying in the extreme with the most potent Soviet weapons and the most powerful army of all their neighbors, except Cuba.

A confirmed revolutionary but a total enemy of Sandinist dogma to the point of frenzy and a fierce enemy of every form of imperialism, whether it be Soviet or American, Eden Pastora Gomez, "Commander Zero" of the Nicaraguan revolution, charges heatedly: "Every nation must carry out its own revolution, in accordance with its own history and its own idiosyncracies and in complete freedom. That is what Mexico did first and Cuba did later, and it is why they triumphed and were able to consolidate that triumph. That is what Nicaragua started to do, and it is why victory was achieved. Later, it departed from its policy of nonalignment, turned around in mid-course, and surrendered itself to the Soviet bloc. Thus, it is now in danger of losing its own revolution, and--as happened with Venezuela, Uruguay, Argentina, Peru, and even Chile--it is headed for failure.

"I think the present Government of Nicaragua is facing the judgment of history desolate. A government that emerges from revolution and immediately upon taking its first steps, shows it does not know how to act, gets involved in the labyrinth of North-South confrontation, which brings with it all the responsibility of world power politics, which brings violence to the region--and thus walks on the razor's edge--toward the abyss."

The solid frame of this man predestined to be a legend, a lone warrior by vocation, is much more moving than reprehensible. He speaks deliberately

but can quickly become emotional, even stormy; then suddenly serene; and he never tires. "I am going to call my people to arms again."

Today, with an interview in the company of the leader of the Spanish Socialist Workers Party Felipe Gonzalez, Eden Pastora concluded a tour of Europe during which he met principally with leaders of international Socialism, such as Willy Brandt, in Germany, Bruno Kreisky, in Austria, and Craxi, in Italy, to point out the deviations and the errors of the Government of Nicaragua and request cessation of aid to a government that has suppressed freedom of the press, has canceled guarantees, and has turned to repression and torture in order to maintain itself in power. Only the interview with Mitterrand was postponed because of the latter's commitments.

In the first of two conversations with this correspondent, his first interview after 11 months of silence, Pastora said:

"I do not know which is the most serious responsibility the present Government of Nicaragua must bear. Of course I do think it is a grave matter to betray the revolution of Sandino and abandon its path in order to throw oneself into the arms of the communist bloc. Perhaps this is the greatest error...."

"We will see later. They are giving the United States a perfect pretext to invade Nicaragua with their absurd and mad arms buildup, which has brought violence to the entire region. Imagine this, my friend, all the countries of Central America together do not have 20 of the old, small Sherman or Scorpion tanks; they do not have a dozen military helicopters. And here comes Nicaragua with its triumphant revolution, it throws itself at the Soviets, and they give them no less than an armored division with 80 T55B tanks, of the most advanced and potent type; they give them guided missiles; they send them aircraft and helicopters, and all the weapons you can imagine. Of course this has to upset the status of the region.

"Then what happens? Well, the United States gets mad and tries to balance its forces with those of the Cubans and the Soviets. And then what? Nothing, really, but poor Central America, those poor and destitute countries, becomes just one more arena in the fight between North and the South to divide the world into areas of power and influence, and the whole region is upset."

Pastora meets the question head on. "Look, if there were another invasion of my country by the United States, I would be the first to take up a rifle and fight. I am a wholehearted Sandinist, but not under political banners, which mean nothing to me. Sandinism is precisely the Nicaraguan response to the U.S. invasion of 1925. For this reason, I would never enter into an agreement with the United States. It would be a negation of my Sandinist and revolutionary integrity.

"But unfortunately, I think that American intentions are more than just a possibility. They have already invaded us three times, and they will do it again if Nicaragua continues to accumulate arms. Besides the Soviet tanks,

the missiles, and the air force with its MIG-25's, we have there an army of over 100,000 men: 25,000 in the regular army, 5,000 men in the National Police, 4,000 with the State Security, and 80,000 in the militia reserves. This has upset the region tremendously.

"They have another responsibility hanging over them that is just as overwhelming: the future of the revolution in Central America and the Caribbean."

Pastora, whose fame was won honestly by any analysis of the revolution by any revolutionary standard, when one Tuesday in August of 1978 he attacked the National Palace in Managua at the head of 28 Sandinist commandos and held the entire Somoza Congress hostage until 70 political prisoners, headed by Tomas Borge, were freed; later he became the symbol of the Sandinist revolution as the commander of the southern front and hero of the battles for Rivas. He has indignantly rejected the accusations made against him by the Government of Nicaragua which charges him with being a CIA agent, an accomplice of Reagan, and a traitor to the Nicaraguan revolution. "That is ridiculous, my friend, nobody in Nicaragua believes it, not even they."

Last year Pastora, "tired of the injustice, the forgetfulness, and the faults of the Nicaraguan Government," which almost ruined it, "exasperated by the deviations of the revolution and Sandinism," decided to leave Nicaragua and his post as minister of defense "in order to return to the revolutionary struggle elsewhere." For one year he remained hidden away in obscurity and silence, but in contact with prominent figures like Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi, the revolutionaries of Africa and Central America; then he appeared in Panama. Today he broke his silence and provided EXCELSIOR with the details of his secret struggle and his relations with international socialism. He announced that this Sunday he would enter Nicaragua clandestinely "to begin the struggle again."

"And here is where we should examine the authenticity of revolutions. When Fidel Castro triumphed in Cuba in the 1960's, revolutions became very popular throughout the Americas. The revolutionary fever spread, and all of us revolutionaries of the hemisphere took notice of this model and we decided to adopt it as our own; we wanted to carry out a revolution in the Cuban style.

"Thus, Venezuela became inflamed in 1967; so did Guatemala; this is why the struggle spread in Nicaragua; this is why the liberation struggle spread with the Tupamaros in Uruguay, the Montoneros in Argentina, the same with the revolution of Velasco Alvarado in Peru, the Tlatelolco incident, and the guerrilla struggle of Lucio Cabanas in Mexico. Cuba inspired the struggle of Allende in Chile.

"And what happened then? In 10 years everything died out. The Peruvian revolution fell with a crash; Allende died and his revolution was drowned in blood; in Nicaragua and Guatemala the revolution retreated once again to obscure clandestinity; in Mexico the cries of Tlatelolco were silenced, and its leaders were imprisoned, died, or sold themselves to the government....

"What about all this? Stated simply, the revolution we wanted to carry out was inspired by a model that was in the end alien to our peoples. Despite all the intellectual delusions and the coffeehouse dreaming, despite the passionate commitment of leaders and the sacrifices of revolutionaries, we had not succeeded in obtaining the most important ingredient of a revolution: the support of the masses."

"Therefore, when Cuba saw this, the Cubans themselves made an analysis of the status of the hemisphere and concluded that there would not be another revolution in Latin America in the immediate future. Their experts felt it would be best to abandon the idea of exporting revolution to the hemisphere and decided to start a diplomatic offensive in order to consolidate and to search for new fields in other regions to foster revolutions. So they gave us Latin America revolutionaries a kick in the pants and threw us out of Cuba. And they took their revolution to Africa, to Ethiopia and to Angola.

"We in Nicaragua saw this and we began to think. And we found that the path that Sandino had pointed out to our people 50 years ago was the best for us. We began to fight as Sandino wrote that we should and as he himself had done. We of course sought the support of other revolutionary peoples. But we realized many things. First, contrary to what the Cubans said, politics always prevails over arms.

"We began with political organizing, and we succeeded in winning the support of all Nicaraguans, peasants, workers, and the middle class. Then what happened? In only 9 months we were able to achieve, using our own model, what we had not been able to do in 50 years of struggle by following the path of other revolutionaries....

"Right now, the real danger for the Nicaraguan revolution is its influence in the region. Because what is happening now in my country is resounding throughout the region. What is happening in El Salvador? The middle classes, the lower middle classes, have seen the oppression of a revolutionary government, its denial of freedom, its suppression of the press, freedom of religion, free expression; they prefer to sit out that football game that is the guerrilla war against the armed forces. And the same thing is happening in Honduras, where each day they are more and more convinced that revolutionary dictatorship is not the answer; the same thing is happening in Guatemala and in the entire Caribbean. You cannot export revolutions.

"I think the greatest error is that absurd idea of carrying out proletarian revolutions. That was all right for other times and other places. We are not proletarian countries in the Americas now; we are countries made up of peasants and the lower middle classes, and whether they like it or not, the middle class is the deciding factor in revolutions. Whether they like it or not, all liberation movements are condemned to failure if they do not have the support of the middle classes.

"It is very easy for them right now. For these nine revolutionary commanders who are ruling Nicaragua now. None of them was ever in battle. Only with

irony would you ask Tomas Borge or Jaime Wheelock or Bayardo Arce how many battles, how many guerrilla actions were you in? Now it is very easy to be revolutionaries, to put on uniforms copied from the Cubans, and wave the flag--those who never exposed themselves; and if you are not with me, you are against me, you are against me, you are against me; and remember to cover yourself with dogmas. All this is a mistake.

"Revolutions are made by themselves and are strengthened by themselves. If the people support them, why do they need Soviet arms? Why suppress freedoms if the people defend them? Why does the Nicaraguan Government need to impose such severe censorship of the press? Finally, if the revolution is democratic and popular, the people themselves will take responsibility for exposing and crushing its detractors."

9015

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COMMANDER ZERO VOWS TO REENTER COUNTRY CLANDESTINELY

Madrid SABADO GRAFICO in Spanish 23 Jun 82 pp 18-19

[Report on interview with Eden Pastora, Nicaragua's "Commander Zero," by Julia Navarro; date and place not given]

[Text] [Question] How many times have you cried?

[Answer] When I left Nicaragua.... You cannot imagine what leaving my fatherland meant to me. And on another occasion, when I felt I had been betrayed by a woman.

This is Eden Pastora, "Commander Zero," the symbol of the Nicaraguan revolution. He is the man who, when he stormed the Congress in Nicaragua, executed a take-over almost as spectacular as Tejero's. His photograph was to circulate around the globe and we would all learn about this revolutionary-guerrilla named "Commander Zero" who had just dealt a mortal blow to a dictator, to Somoza.

At that time he was a national hero; now he has been sentenced to death by the nine commanders who make up the Military Junta, whom he accuses of derailing the revolution and aligning his country with the communist bloc, thereby betraying the true principles of Sandinism, under whose banner the Nicaraguan people defeated Tacho Somoza

Eden Pastora is a man of firm principles. He looks "tough" and is incurably romantic and tender at heart.

He leads the spartan life of a soldier and a revolutionary. I notice, however, that he is wearing a gold Rolex watch on his wrist and a gold ring with diamond chips. He smiles and says to me:

"All journalists react the same way. Look: the watch was a gift to me from the Front, from my comrades. It was Jose Somoza's watch. And since it is a gift, I will always wear it. And the ring was given to me by Omar Torrijos. I was not in the habit of wearing it. During a meeting we had several days before he died Torrijos asked me about the ring. Later, when he died, I put the ring on my finger and I will always wear it because it is a keepsake from a friend."

One almost feels guilty for having harbored even the shadow of a doubt and for having forced this man with one look--this man who seems honest and upright--to provide an explanation.

The Nine Commanders; Pastora in the Middle

It is easy to talk to him; he has a certain flowing spontaneity. When he speaks, he gestures trying to explain his reasons.

"The leadership of the nine commanders has betrayed Sandinism and the principles of the revolution. In Nicaragua there is unrest, there is a popular outcry for change, and that is why I am going back. I have been condemned to death but I am going to get in clandestinely through the mountains. I have no choice but to go back clandestinely. I will be there before August. I am going to fight for a rechanneling of the process and for a return to the principles of freedom, democracy and nonalignment."

[Question] Don't you fear death? Don't you know they will try to kill you?

[Answer] I don't fear anyone or anything. I don't want to die; I want to live in my country; I want to be with my children; I want peace. But a man cannot sit back when his people are being betrayed. I fought 23 years for Sandinism, for the liberation of my people. My conscience is at peace and I am not afraid.

[Question] What will you do when you get to Nicaragua?

[Answer] I am going to give the government of the nine commanders time to rechannel the process and to return to the original principles of the revolution. I know some people will be on my side. Others will try to negotiate. And some will want to kill me, and if worst comes to worst, they will kill me.

"They Say I Am Pro-Yankee"

[Question] They accuse you of being a counterrevolutionary....

Eden Pastora grimaces. A harsh grin appears at the corners of his mouth, his eyes shine and he answers:

"Yes, they accuse me of being an instrument of Yankee imperialism. And when they say these things about me, I couldn't care less. It's the same as when the Somozists accused me of being a KGB agent. Sometimes the extreme right and the extreme left use the same methods. In this case, the nine commanders are acting politically in exactly the same way Somoza acted. But do you think they are deceiving the people? In Nicaragua people are well aware of who I am and what I want; they know about my 23 years of struggle for freedom and against tyranny. They are not deceiving anyone. Sandino wrote that in Nicaragua there would be no imperialist tendencies of any kind. I am a Sandinist and that is my ideology.

[Question] You were a member of the government and yet you resigned. Why didn't you stay to fight from within, to try to prevent the deviations?

[Answer] When I left, I hoped that my withdrawal from the government would sound the first note of warning. I left believing that the leadership would put national interests before ideological ones; I wanted to serve as a warning and to make people sit up and take notice. I waged the revolution and I could not be part of a government which was betraying it.

[Question] Are you bitter?

[Answer] No. Do I seem bitter to you? I am pained by the treason. But who is not pained by treason? I have spent many years fighting for a democratic government for Nicaragua, I have the name "Sandinist" to the National Liberation Front and I am the only one who has survived. All the comrades who were with me at the beginning are dead. I am going to give the commanders time and to send them my demands: get foreigners in uniform out; let there be no foreigners involved in the defense of security of the state; let Nicaragua be a nonaligned nation; let there be freedom of the press and free elections with a system of party pluralism; put an end to the torture and expropriations affecting those who oppose the incompetent revolutionary leadership; put an end to the killing of Indians; recognize the right to strike...; let Nicaragua be a democratic, revolutionary and free country.

Felipe's Support

[Question] What is the purpose of your trip through Europe?

[Answer] To explain to political leaders who the real counterrevolutionaries are. That is why I have met with Felipe Gonzalez. I am counting on him to help me in the Socialist International and to lend me moral, political and financial support. Felipe knows Latin America well and he knows the problems we have.

[Question] You are trying to wage a revolution again in Nicaragua. What resources do you have at your disposal?

[Answer] First of all, I will have material help from the Nicaraguan people, and second of all, I expect help from all the democratic forces which supported us in our struggle against Somoza. We will win. The people will win. I am sure of it. Peoples, like God, cannot be deceived. They are infallible judges who in the end always side with those who are in the right.

[Question] Do you believe in God?

[Answer] Yes, I believe in God. I am not a practicing Catholic, but I am a believer. I am deeply religious in my own way. I always call on God's help.

Human, Very Human

He then goes on to say that he is 45 years old, but that he has experienced as much as someone who is 90. He eats very little; he does not drink or smoke. But he has a reputation for being a ladies' man. I mention this to him and, for the first time, he smiles and there is a hint of mischief in his look.

"Yes, I know I have that reputation. I have been married to Yolanda for 16 years and I have four children with her. The fact is that I have had four or five important love stories in my life. I have loved, I have been in love with four women and I have not denied it. And I have not denied the children I have had with them. I see nothing ugly in love. I do not see why one should hide the fact that one is in love. I don't like to have "affairs," as you Spaniards also call them. I have loved the four women I have lived with. I don't like to go from one woman to another. What has happened is that people have given me this image as a ladies' man. Of course I like women and believe in love.

[Question] What is love, "Commander Zero"?

[Answer] Fully identifying with the other person, mutual respect, understanding. It is pampering, smiles, tender look, caresses. Love is making love, but as a rite. It is communion, solidarity and also tears.

[Question] How many children have you had?

[Answer] Well...do I have to tell you?

[Question] Not if you don't want to....

[Answer] I have had four children with Yolanda and another four. Why do you ask?

[Question] What do you think of abortion?

[Answer] I do not approve of it. It seems unnatural to me; too costly for the woman as well as for the man if he loves the woman. I do not like violence. I think there are contraceptive methods which should be used, but not abortion. I would not be capable of asking a woman to have an abortion. I love my children, I like having children. The only thing I regret is not having been able to enjoy them more; having devoted my life to the revolution.

[Question] And to love.

[Answer] But first to the revolution. When I was 22 years old I was very much in love. A time came when she asked me to choose between her and the revolution. And I lost her. You cannot imagine how much I loved her and how much I suffered by separating myself from her.

[Question] Are you satisfied with your life?

[Answer] Yes, because I have lived in accordance with my principles; because I have never betrayed my ideals.

[Question] And the women?

[Answer] Not the women either, I assure you. The women I have loved are by best friends. They love me and I love them. I hate treason, including treason in love.

FDN BROADCASTS STATEMENT CRITICIZING GOVERNMENT

PA180309 (Clandestine) Radio 15 September in Spanish to Nicaragua 0230 GMT 17 Jul 82

[Statement issued by the Political Board of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force; place, date not given--read by announcer]

[Text] To the people of Nicaragua, the peoples and governments of America and the democratic peoples of the world:

The Nicaraguan democratic force, FDN, is a political-military movement made up of political, trade, professional, labor and community groups whose common denominator is their unyielding determination to liberate Nicaragua, our fatherland, from the communist regime which has increased our people's suffering, because we cannot permit the destruction of the institution of the family, the teaching of hatred, the degradation of moral values, the besmirching of divine concepts and Christian beliefs and the institutionalized robbery of private enterprise.

The FDN feels that it is the unavoidable duty of all Nicaraguans to struggle with all their means to rescue the fatherland, because it is not possible to talk or arrive at solid, lasting agreements with those who hold power by force of arms, since they respect nothing. It is even less possible to talk with those who, while claiming to represent the interests of the working class, deceive the workers shamelessly, denying them all the rights that they have won through centuries of struggle.

The FDN responds with decorum to the need to fight in the political and military fields to establish in our fatherland a democratic, pluralistic regime which in no way represents a return to the sad past, but that does not represent this horrible present either: a regime that fully guarantees freedom, peace, justice, restitution of the rights of workers and of all Nicaraguans, effective respect for human rights and a socioeconomic system that produces tangible and immediate benefits for the great masses of our people.

The Nicaraguan people's general insurrection and their armed struggle to liberate themselves were usurped and betrayed by international communism by means of the criminal maneuvers of the misnamed Sandinist national liberation front, which was primarily obeying Russian imperialist orders.

The government which took power after the fall of Somoza included in its program of action guarantees of full observance of the human rights listed in the universal declaration of the United Nations and the American declaration of the rights and duties of man issued by the OAS. The program also indicated that there would be special guarantees of freedom of expression, of information and the dissemination of ideas, freedom of worship, and of labor and vocational organization.

However, in reality, abuses of these guarantees committed by the present communist government in Nicaragua far surpass those of any previous governments. Assassinations and disappearances of individuals for political or personal reasons, torture, unjustified imprisonment, violations and attacks on the main guarantees and rights of Nicaraguans number in the thousands. The freedom to organize and the right to strike are not recognized and as for the freedom of expression, information and the dissemination of ideas, decrees and laws have been issued that are flagrant violations of the statute of rights and guarantees of Nicaraguans issued by the present government.

There has been ferocious repression of the indian communities on the Atlantic coast, directed primarily against the Miskitos, who have been uprooted from their communities and have been subjected to constant persecution that amounts to genocide. Thousands of Nicaraguans are being kept in prison in subhuman conditions and are subjected to torture for political reasons or for the simple fact that they do not support the totalitarian system practiced by the present government.

As part of the general process of movement toward communism, disrespect and even physical aggression has been applied to some religious ministers, because the Catholic religion and its ministers have been found to be an unsurpassable obstacle to the Marxist-Leninist plan. These acts of sacrilege deserve our most emphatic repudiation and condemnation.

One of the first deceptions of the communists was the national literacy campaign, whose sole purpose was to collectively indoctrinate our people with the Marxist-Leninist ideas, since it could produce no other practical results.

The Sandinist defense committees, CDS, are a true copy of the Cuban committees for the defense of the revolution, as the literacy campaign was. Thus there are infinite examples of almost exact copies of the communist measures adopted from the Cuban model.

Meanwhile, in violation of point 1-12 of the program of government, in chapter six, articles 23 to 27 of the basic statute, the national army and the national police were converted into the Sandinist people's army. The Sandinist police, Sandinist air force and the Sandinist people's militias were created. The chief of this last group, Humberto Ortega, has declared that Marxism-Leninism is the doctrine that guides this revolution.

Freedom to work and freedom of enterprise, as well as the right to private property have been continuously attacked by the communist regime, which is confiscating, attaching and taking over all properties, and destroying produc-

tive and business activities, all of which, combined with the general lack of safety and the acute lack of security that has been created by the actions of the regime and the disastrous administration of public affairs, have produced a state of general economic bankruptcy, so much so that essential consumer products have to be purchased at exorbitant prices or are unavailable.

In less than 3 years, the communist government has contracted a foreign debt that is greater than that which had been accumulated by all the Nicaraguan Governments in 158 years of patriotic history. In exchange, it has provided an illusory degree of progress, without taking into account the many millions of dollars in foreign aid that the present government received as donations in its first year of activity.

One of the causes of the economic failure of the communist government is the creation of military forces that are unprecedented in the nation's history. It has more than four times the number of men in arms than in any other era under any other Nicaraguan Government. This army is trained for the sole purpose of repressing our people's hopes of freedom.

The armed forces in Nicaragua clearly exceed the country's legitimate defense needs. The army is counseled by thousands of experts: Cuban communists and terrorists from Argentina, Chile, Uruguay, Colombia, the GDR and the USSR, who contribute to the preparation and training of armed forces whose sole objective is to consolidate the communist system. This produces a marked imbalance in the central American military situation and also represents a clear threat to the countries of the area, particularly because of the massive aid that the communist regime has been giving so far to the communist guerrillas in El Salvador and Guatemala in the form of weapons, military equipment, ammunition and men.

In the international sphere, ever since its inception the communist government has maintained close ties to the countries of the Soviet orbit, so much so that Nicaraguan territory serves as a springboard for the development of important terrorist activities on the American continent, particularly actions directed against democratic governments.

In the diplomatic sphere, the alignment of the present Nicaraguan Government was revealed when, during the UN debate on the resolution to condemn the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, only Nicaragua and Cuba failed to approve the resolution.

By having clearly embraced the Marxist-Leninist principles, the Nicaraguan Government is abusing hemispheric solidarity and endangering continental security. International observers are well aware that there will not be true peace in central America as long as the present communist government in Nicaragua continues to exist.

[Words indistinct] thousands of victims of the armed struggle, the OAS, probably moved by humanitarian concern and hemispheric solidarity, discussed the Nicaragua issue during its 17th meeting of consultation, which approved the resolution of 23 (?July) 1979, which was based on the following principles:

1. The immediate and definitive replacement of the Somozist regime.
2. Installation in Nicaraguan territory of a democratic government made up of the main groups representative of the opponents of the Somoza regime, a government that reflects the free will of the Nicaraguan people.
3. Guaranteed respect for the human rights of all Nicaraguans without exception.
4. Convocation of free elections as soon as possible to lead to the establishment of a truly democratic government that guarantees peace, freedom and justice.

Of the four principles noted, only one (?has been achieved) while the other three legitimate aspirations of the Nicaraguan people have been distorted in a shameful and violent manner by the communist clique that is holding power in Nicaragua. It should not be forgotten that the governments represented in the OAS have an unavoidable duty to our country. Just as they did everything they considered advisable to eliminate the previous regime, they must now do everything necessary to achieve full compliance with all the principles and points of the resolution.

The democratic countries of America cannot view with indifference the tragedy of the Nicaraguan people. Their rulers have pledged to hang from the trees all those who struggle to establish in that country a legal regime in which democracy will be a reality and under which Nicaragua will belong to all Nicaraguans.

To achieve the democratization of Nicaragua, the FDN is on a war footing and it swears before God and the altar of the fatherland that it will go to the ultimate consequences to bring about the liberation of Nicaragua, freeing it from the communist tyranny, and to establish in our fatherland a government of true freedom, democracy, justice and fraternity among all Nicaraguans, one that also maintains a harmonious, friendly, respective and constructive relationship of continental solidarity with all the democratic countries and governments of our America.

CSO: 3010/1980

COMMUNIST PARTY STATEMENT URGES UNITY

PA260142 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 15 Jul 82 p 5

[Paid advertisement by the Communist Party of Nicaragua on the third anniversary of the Sandinist Revolution--passages within slantlines published in upper case]

[Text] /In the face of the counterrevolution:/

/Firm unity among the revolutionary parties./

/Labor movement class unity./

/Fighting unity of our entire people./

/Solid and broad democratic anti-imperialist alliance./

We arrive at the third anniversary of the Sandinist Revolution amidst very difficult conditions. The problems facing the country seem increasingly serious.

Taking advantage of these difficulties, the oligarchic sectors and the bourgeoisie as a whole, working closely with the U.S. Government and international capital, are busily engaged in grouping their forces, exerting every possible pressure to bring about the end of the revolution, and at the same time preparing their counterrevolutionary attack to take power.

In Central America and throughout the capitalist sector, maneuvers against the Nicaraguan revolution are underway. Despite the continued declarations of friendship and support by their respective governments, Costa Rica and Honduras have offered their territory for the organization and staging of military aggression against Nicaragua. Meanwhile, the so-called "commander Cero" is the figure at the center of the conspiracy. The fact, however, is that these old and new reactionaries are joining forces and accelerating their conspiracy, thereby obeying imperialism's designs.

The initial phase of the counterrevolutionary harassment actions has been aimed at worsening the economic, social and political difficulties in the country, for the purpose of pressing the U.S. Government in a state of weakness to benefit imperialism and the international reaction. [sentence as published]

It is obvious that once the arrangements sought by the reactionaries are completed, the counterrevolution, already closely united and well supplied with materiel, will go on to the second phase in which they will logically try to overthrow the revolution and bring to power the parties and groups of the liberal-conservative oligarchy and the national bourgeoisie. In line with this objective, they will move on to military actions and seriously prepare for a long, bloody crusade. That is why they try to take advantage of the difficult problems of the revolution, the discontent among the people as well as the contradictions and difficulties of the revolutionary forces.

The latest developments demonstrate the increased activity of the counterrevolution in Nicaragua. The reactionaries are determined to increase and further exacerbate the problems of the national reconstruction government. The country and the revolutionary process are going through a difficult experience. These circumstances require the unity and firm determination of all revolutionary and truly democratic forces.

The revolution demands the solid unity of the revolutionary parties, the class unity of the labor movements, the fighting unity of the people as well as the democratic and anti-imperialistic unity of the revolutionary parties with all other progressive parties of Nicaragua.

We celebrate the third anniversary of our people's victory over the Somozist regime comes at a time when the counterrevolutionaries are already preparing and staging their armed actions within the national territory.[as printed]

It is urgently necessary to create the proper conditions for the tasks of revolutionary unity and the development of a broad democratic and anti-imperialistic alliance.

The time has come to strengthen our ranks and increase the struggle in defense of our sovereignty, our besieged fatherland and our revolution. To do this, and despite the political and ideological differences existing among the popular organizations, it is imperative to proceed without delay to a frank and profound effort to precipitate the unity of the revolutionary parties and to forge a great democratic and anti-imperialistic front grouping all patriotic and progressive forces to smash the counterrevolution and the imperialist maneuvers.

In the face of the serious economic, social and political problems facing the revolution, the Communist Party of Nicaragua again stresses the need, within a profound and complete revolutionary stand, to establish a period of ample democracy which may help the National Reconstruction Government find a successful solution to the growing difficulties, and which may permit all revolutionary forces to engage in the tasks of developing the political awareness of the proletariat and other labor sectors, of promoting the labor movement's class unity and of achieving the creation of the required subjective conditions to guarantee the victorious defense of the revolution and its peaceful advance on the path toward socialism.

In sworn defense of the revolution and inspired by the urgency to advance toward the social transformations which the Nicaraguan people and our country in crisis require, may this third anniversary serve as the starting point for a policy of unity and for a truly democratic and anti-imperialistic alliance.

The Communist Party of Nicaragua calls on the people of Masaya and on all workers and progressive sectors of the municipalities and regions near Masaya, to attend en masse the main event celebrating the third anniversary of the people's victory over the Somozist regime. The party calls on the people to clearly demonstrate our might and determination to defend our sovereignty, revolutionary conquests and revolution.

Our party also calls on the workers and people in general in all departments of the country, to attend with revolutionary enthusiasm the /popular assemblies/ organized in various points of the country to commemorate the third anniversary of the Sandinist Revolution.

/Long live the third anniversary of the Nicaraguan people's victory over the Somozist regime!/
/Long live the unity of the revolutionary parties!/
/Long live the Sandinist People's Revolution!/
/Long live our struggle for the socialist revolution!/
Workers of the world, unite.
[Issued] Managua, 13 July 1982
[signed] /Central Committee, Communist Party of Nicaragua (PC DE N)/

CSO: 3010/2002

TRANSFER OF PRO-SANDINIST PRIEST PROTESTED

PA242319 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT
23 Jul 82

[Excerpt] Today, the tension created by the Catholic Church hierarchy at the Santa Rosa parish continued.

The parishioners have maintained a permanent vigil and are demanding a dialogue with Monsignor Obando.

When the FSLN started the war to the death against the Somoquist military dictatorship in 1971, there was only one priest who had faith in the revolutionary movement. This was Monsignor Jose Arias Caldera, the parish priest at the Santa Rosa church, who is being removed without any justification by the Catholic Church hierarchy.

During the difficult years for the Sandinist Front, Father Caldera officiated mass at the Santa Faz church, at the (Salvadorita) Colony, and he offered militant solidarity to Carlos Fonseca Amador, the founder of the FSLN. The immortal (Silvio Mallorga) was also there as an elementary school teacher. Commanders Daniel Ortega Saavedra, Tomas Borge Martinez and Jose Benito Escobar, great defender of the working class, also visited this church.

Monsignor Caldera remembers that the exemplary campaign of (Santa San) was planned at the Santa Faz church. During this campaign, political military men such as (Silvio Mallorga), (Coco Casco), (Oscar Dario Rosales) and others lost their lives.

Today, due to a decision of the archbishopric, Monsignor Arias Caldera is being removed from the Santa Rosa church, despite the outcry by Christians who remember the fraternity shown by their priest, who tries to obtain better living conditions for the poor.

CSO: 3010/2003

FDN KILLS 16 MILITIAMEN IN SAN FRANCISCO

PA250246 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0123 GMT 25 Jul 82

[Text] San Francisco Del Norte, Nicaragua, 24 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--A total of 14 militiamen died, 4 were wounded and 8 were kidnapped by a Nicaraguan Democratic Front (FDN) detachment, one of the anti-Sandinist groups.

Commander Javier Pichardo, military chief of Nicaragua's northern area, and the inhabitants of this town 260 km from Managua and 7 km from the Honduran border told ACAN-EFE that the attackers wore blue uniforms, yellow shoes and the majority wore berets.

According to the witnesses the antigovernment group, composed of some 100 men, attacked the militia post at 0600 (1200 GMT) after shouting vivas to the former national guard.

The attackers also shouted "With God and patriotism" or "God or death" while they attacked the militia posts from different hills which surround the town. The attackers used rifles, mortars and other heavy weapons, according to the witnesses.

Ten of the 14 militiamen died during the 2 1/2 hours of fighting. The other four had their throats cut by those who invaded the town, which they occupied for almost 3 hours.

Commander Pichardo affirmed that not one soldier was present at the time of the attack, only militiamen.

The Sandinist peoples army troops arrived 1 hour after all the action had ceased and the attackers had fled to Honduras.

Commander Pichardo said that the invaders came from a camp located in Honduras that the Nicaraguan Government had reported on several occasions.

Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto visited the town today accompanied by the ambassadors of Honduras, Venezuela, France and Mexico as well as journalists on an observation mission.

Roberto Martinez Ordonez, the Honduran ambassador in Nicaragua, questioned Commander Pichardo and several local residents in order to draft a report for his government.

Rafael Zapata Luigi, the Venezuelan ambassador, also made inquiries, while Mexican Ambassador Augusto Gomez Villanueva and French Ambassador Rene Ala just walked around and listened to the witnesses.

The ambassadors visited the local church, where four bodies were being mourned and several houses where mourning was in progress.

The Honduran ambassador condemned the attack and said that violence is justified only when it is used to repel aggression or prevent a crime.

Martinez Ordonez said that he would report this to the Honduran Government, and that the Nicaraguan foreign minister could "take his word for this."

"This is condemnable, and you can rest assured that I will make the utmost effort to have the facts investigated and the guilty sentenced," said the ambassador.

The Honduran ambassador asked for a list of the kidnapped in order to try to determine their whereabouts. One of those kidnapped was Ismael Mejia Castellon, responsible for the Sandinist youth of the town.

The witnesses said that Felix Pedro Sanchez Guido, one of the militiamen who fell wounded, was attacked inside the trench, where the attackers broke his legs before killing him because he gave the alarm of the arrival of the invaders.

Vitorino Guevara Centeno, chief of the local militiamen, was taken prisoner and paraded through the town and told to shout vivas to the former national guard. Instead he shouted "free fatherland or death" and had his throat cut.

The attackers painted the walls of several houses with slogans such as "FDN" and "God or death" and sacked several small businesses in the town.

CSO: 3010/2003

BRIEFS

U.S. OFFICIAL IN 'DESTABILIZATION'--Roger Gamble, U.S. charge d'affaires at the Managua embassy, admitted before a group of U.S. citizens that the United States is staging undercover operations to destabilize the Nicaraguan revolutionary process. This statement was made to the local press by U.S. citizen Ana Cecilia Centella, who, along with 25 other U.S. citizens, went to the office of their diplomatic representatives to personally deliver a letter of reproof of the aggressive U.S. policy against Nicaragua. The group of North Americans consisted of religious people, union members, lawyers, students, peasants, actors and health workers, who decided to send Ambassador Anthony Quainton a letter to inform him of the group's impressions after a 2-week stay in Nicaragua and to protest what they called a policy of aggression and destabilization aimed at Nicaragua. According to Mrs Centella's statements, Roger Gamble admitted during the meeting that the United States is carrying out destabilizing actions against Nicaragua. She added that this statement surprised everyone. On a different subject, Gamble said that it is U.S. media like THE WASHINGTON POST, and not the Reagan government, that are to blame for the fact that Nicaragua is portrayed in the United States as a dictatorship. He added that Nicaragua will not receive economic aid unless it brings its payments up to date and that the United States does not answer questions about its undercover activities, as all governments conduct that kind of operation. [Text] [PA251821 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 24 Jul 82]

AGRARIAN REFORM INEFFECTIVE--The agrarian reform of the nine has been delayed. One of the nine admitted yesterday in Esteli that there has been no true agrarian reform in Nicaragua. He said that so far only pieces of paper called ownership titles have been delivered. The so-called coordinator of the political commission said that the agrarian reform process has been delayed. According to the remarks of the Ninth [El Noveno] only 100,000 manzanas have been delivered, out of the 1 million manzanas which are available. He added that they will not be able to provide either technical aid or training to make the land produce until a true agrarian reform process is established, which he described as delayed. The Ninth, who is coordinator of the political commission, vigorously attacked the small and medium farmers for not understanding the goals of the National Reconstruction Government. Finally, he threatened to confiscate more land. La Voz De Sandino, which is part of the information system of the

LOAN FROM FINLAND--It was reported today that the Finnish Government has granted a loan to Nicaragua for 15 million Finnish marcs (\$3 million). Carg Soberlun, Finnish charge d'affaires in Nicaragua with offices in Caracas, and Finance Minister Joaquin Cuadra Chamorro signed the agreement in Managua this morning. The loan was granted with a grace period of 8 years, a payment period of 15 years and an annual interest rate of 2 percent. [PA231606 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 22 Jul 82 PA]

Sandinist revolutionary forces, has been informing and denouncing irregular actions in the campaign started by the regime of the Nine to change their so-called agrarian reform. From all that the Nine have said and done on agrarian reform, we can see that the Nine have confused the act of confiscation with the implementation of a true agrarian reform. In summary, what they are doing is setting up the peasants as administrators of land which remains in the ownership of the totalitarian state of Nine. [Text] [PA240255 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 21 Jul 82]

NOTISAL ANNIVERSARY GREETING--The various greetings sent to Nicaragua on the third anniversary of its revolution included a message sent to BARRICADA by companero Armando Herrera, director of the Agencia de Informacion y Analisis de Noticias de El Salvador (NOTISAL), expressing the Salvadoran people's feelings in support of Nicaragua. The NOTISAL greeting was also addressed to the FSLN National Directorate, noting that with this new anniversary "a new era has begun, because of the increase in popular struggles against the cruel dictatorships that oppress our countries and against U.S. imperialism, a common enemy of our peoples." The document also said that the Reagan administration's interventionist machinations will crash against the indestructible wall of the Sandinist revolution, because "the current time is one of struggle and Central America's future is ours." [Text] [PA251848 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 20 Jul 82 p 2]

GUATEMALAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE OFFICE--The Guatemalan Human Rights Committee, which for obvious reasons had been functioning only in Mexico City, has just opened an office in Managua for the Central American region. This office will play an important role by denouncing violations and working in favor of respect for elemental human rights in suffering Guatemala. Lately, Guatemala has been known for a tremendous and terrible increase in violations of the right to live and receive respect for one's physical integrity. The absence of constitutional order; the negation of the right to a trial, to move freely and to decide where to live; violations of the freedom of expression, the trampling of the freedom of religion and the canceling of political rights are some of the human rights violations committed against Guatemalans. [Text] [PA242238 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 18 Jul 82 p 11]

RAW MATERIALS FROM USSR--A spokesman for the Industry Ministry has reported that Nicaragua imported a total of 4,235 metric tons of materials and supplies for the chemical industry from the Soviet Union, purchased with \$30 million donated by that country last year. Recently an Industry Ministry delegation went to the Soviet Union to sign the contracts for the raw materials Nicaragua will acquire from that country for the different branches of Nicaraguan industry. For the metalwork industry a contract was signed to import 30,000 metric tons of iron. A similar contract was signed for 60,000 tons of urea and 10,000 tons of ammonia for the agricultural sector. [Text] [PA231904 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 22 Jul 82]

PASTORA ON TELEVISION--A communique read this morning over television in Nicaragua by Commander Eden Pastora was received with great joy. This was a demonstration of solidarity and support for the struggle of Commander Pastora and the brothers of the Sandinist Revolutionary Force [FRS] in an open demonstration of courage and rejection of the [FSLN] National Directorate [DN] Nine. The likeness of Commander Pastora was seen in several sectors of Managua and the rest of the country for several minutes while brothers of the FRS performed a feat which required technical knowhow and courage. Last night there was machinegun fire in Leon and Managua which said: we are present in the struggle for liberation from the DN. [Text] [PA240246 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 21 Jul 82]

ROYO DENIES PAREDES IS OFFICIAL CANDIDATE

PA150236 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 14 Jul 82

[Interview with President Aristides Royo by Jorge Concepcion; date not given--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Royo] Well, I believe that the [teachers] march was first of all a peaceful one. I am happy about that, and I congratulate the participants. Second, I believe that it was essentially a political march, because of the speakers involved and the terms they used, the slogans that were chanted, and the aims of the march.

In our opinion, the march had much less support than that of 1979, because it was obviously an essentially political march, and I believe many parents and many members of the community in Panama City realized that they could not lend their support to a political game.

We again call on all parents, on Panamanian society. When we say that it is up to that society, to those parents, to resolve the situation, we mean that they must urge the teachers to return to the classrooms.

When our government, which is a government that is true to its word, told the teachers that we could only give them raises of \$50 and \$40, that is the only amount that we are capable of giving.

[Question] Mr President, you said a few moments ago that the march was political. Last week you met with the president of the Christian Democratic Party. During that meeting, you reportedly said that General Paredes would be the official candidate. What truth is there to that?

[Answer] That was completely false. I said that so far, within the political perspectives of our process, the person who seemed to have the most political prospects was General Paredes; but of course it would be up to the Democratic Revolutionary Party [PRD] to select democratically at a convention the candidate to be the party representative in the 1984 elections.

In my talks with Arias Calderon, we talked about giving full and absolute guarantees that there will be a clean, honest process, in which ideas, parties and votes will be respected.

It has been said that I did not speak as representative of the PRD. Obviously, I spoke as president of the republic. I believe that a president, especially in this country, has not only the right but also the duty to talk with all Panamanians.

[Question] What, then, is the significance of the PRD censure?

[Answer] I think that the word censure was supplied by the newspaper. I believe that what the PRD said was that I had not spoken as a party member; that is, that I had not represented the party, which is quite true. I was speaking as a citizen and as president.

CSO: 3010/2012

MINISTER DISCUSSES POSTPONEMENT OF CANAL TOLL INCREASE

PA170235 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 15 Jul 82

[Text] At a meeting today, the Panama Canal Commission Board of Directors decided to postpone, for the time being, all action on a proposed 9.8 percent hike in tolls charged to canal users. The board members present at the meeting, which was chaired by (William Gianelli), said that the decision reflected an interest in keeping costs to canal users at the lowest possible level.

At the end of the meeting, Ricardo Alonso Rodriguez, presidency minister and Panamanian member on the Panama Canal Commission board, made the following statement on this station:

[Begin recording] [Rodriguez] The North American majority on the board has postponed a decision in this connection until at least January. According to them, this was done to await the U.S. congress' final decision on the Panama Canal Commission's budget and to permit a prior determination of the impact of the oil pipeline operation and of the world merchant marine reaction to the pipeline.

[Question] Mr Minister, you referred in your speech to a number of problems that are piling up and that may lead to a crisis. What has been the reaction-- if you have talked with Mr Gianelli?

[Answer] [word indistinct] they are worried about the things that we have pointed out. I know that they are genuinely worried and that, to the extent of their abilities, Mr Gianelli and the others are trying to find solutions. However, a number of things must be kept in mind in solving these problems.

First of all, there is the group of North Americans called Zonians, who are still mobilizing within the commission to impede the solution of problems and even to cause problems or to prevent problems from being solved. In addition, there are sectors in the U.S. Congress who do not like us, either because they do not understand us or because they do not understand the canal's problems; and there are other extremely conservative sectors who object to Panama's demands and who are doing everything possible to prevent a just implementation of the Torrijos-Carter treaties.

[Question] Bearing in mind that the Panamanian Government has raised these points and the fact that there is a North American majority on the board, could it be said that they will continue these violations?

[Answer] Not necessarily. Experience has shown that we can push the ship when we are right. In other words, we have made extraordinary progress in terms of the large number of problems that we found at the outset, which ranged from the appointment of directors and the installation of the board itself to the establishment of operational rules and functions. So, we still have problems but they are not as bad as they were when we started dealing with them at the outset. [end recording]

CSO: 3010/2012

CANAL COMMISSION MEMBERS' ACTIONS PROTESTED

PA242223 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 23 Jul 82 p 4A

["Moyolandia" column: "Unlimited Overbearance"]

[Text] Mr Denis McAuliffe, present administrator, Panama Canal Commission,

Dear Mr McAuliffe: I wish to advise you of our deep concern over actions by Panama Canal Commission officials. In this case it concerns Fred Cotton and Mike Gordon, who on 9 June met with authorities of our police in order to make direct arrangements with our government regarding the liaison office, a matter which is the exclusive jurisdiction of the coordinating commission, a binational body created by the 1977 Panama Canal Treaty.

The attitude of the officials mentioned leaves much to be desired, since the coordinating commission has always provided the necessary agreements on jurisdictional aspects in order to properly comply with the spirit and letter of the treaty.

It is our desire to clearly establish that activities such as those carried out by Cotton and Gordon openly violate the treaty and its related agreements, specifically paragraph 11 of Article XIX (on criminal jurisdiction) of the agreement for the execution of Article III, which states that the "coordinating commission will provide the channels for communication and information between the parties in relation to matters concerning execution of the treaty." (the underscoring is ours) [nothing underscored].

Based on the foregoing we ask you to give the necessary instructions so that this type of situation will not be repeated, and in the future the officials of the commission will use the official channels established by mutual agreement between the parties.

Our government considers the actions of these officials unfortunate because this further obstructs the good relations which should exist between our two governments in order to comply with the 1977 Panama Canal Treaty and its related agreements.

Sincerely, Tomas Paredes [executive director, Panama Treaty Affairs Directorate]

Moyo's Note: Ever since the treaty became effective, I have reported the arbitrary actions, abuses, violations of clauses and the abrogation [as published] of powers and functions by these two human scourges. Finally someone has decided to protest the audacity and outrageous disrespect of both men. Fortunately, their days here are limited.

'DIRTY TRICKS' BY CANAL COMMISSION CITED

PA242014 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 19 Jul 82 pp 4-A, 8-A

["Moyolandia" column: "Monday's Notes"--slantlines denote uppercase as published]

[Excerpt] By means of a law, dirty trick, the Canal commission has increased the salary of the economist position that was announced as a vacancy and for which several highly qualified Panamanians applied. This was done with the deliberate objective of giving the post to a Swiss woman who, although highly qualified, does not have the 11 points that the treaty gives to Panamanians; therefore, the post should be given to a Panamanian. The zonian /Lavery/ is sticking to his guns.

I have also learned that deep differences have emerged in the application of the military portion of the treaties and that, unless a solution is found, there may be a rift between the southern command and the national guard. Fortunately, General /Nutting/ is a very skillful officer and I do not believe he will allow this to happen.

Our colleague /Luis Restrepo/ has warned of the trick that is being planned to prevent /Manfredo/ from exercising the same functions and authority that McAuliffe has now when it is /Manfredo's/ time to be administrator, after 10 years, in keeping with the treaties. They want to invent a higher post so that /Manfredo/ will not have decisionmaking power. It is incredible to watch the gringos complicate their lives all by themselves.

CSQ: 3010/2012

BRIEFS

WILDLIFE TREATY VIOLATION--The Joint Wildlife Commission contemplated in Article 6 of the Panama Canal Treaty is not functioning because the U.S. Government has appointed the counterpart provided for under the Torrijos-Carter treaties, Dr Abdiel Adames, Panamanian chairman of the commission, told this newspaper. These charges were made yesterday afternoon at the time of the presentation of those who will form the subcommittee that will lend support to the joint commission for the preservation of the Panama Canal Basin. Dr Adames indicated that the joint commission is charged with preserving the wildlife of the Republic of Panama during the life of the treaty and that it must be composed of three Panamanians and three U.S. citizens. "This commission was set up with three members in May 1980. However, it worked for only one year, since the chairman of the other commission resigned and no person has been appointed to replace him. This greatly affects us," he said. In this regard he pointed out that, since it is a joint commission, agreements must be bilateral and agreements cannot be reached if the other commission is not functioning. "An example of this is the problem of the preservation of the basin, which we cannot discuss until we have a counterpart." One of the measures adopted in order to get the U.S. Government to appoint the counterpart is to keep the presidency ministry from attending the commission's meetings until the person who will assume the post is appointed. They have not yet appointed anybody and this jeopardizes the effective function of this joint commission and of the Panama Canal itself, Dr Adames emphasized. [Damarys Munoz] [Text] [PA260245 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 22 Jul 82 pp 24, 10]

STUDENT FEDERATION BACKS NICARAGUA--In a communique released yesterday, the Federation of Panamanian Students (FEP), reiterated its solidaristic support for the Nicaraguan people and joined them in celebrating the third anniversary of the triumph of the Sandinist revolution, which was commemorated yesterday. In the communique, the FEP also condemned the so-called Central American Democratic Community, since this is an organization created by U.S. imperialism to strengthen its hegemony in the area. In addition, the FEP condemned the Honduran Government for permitting the use of its territory as the central point for large-scale military intervention against Nicaragua and the liberation process in El Salvador and Guatemala. The Panamanian students stated that they support Sandino's fatherland because since its revolutionary victory it has been subject to numerous intervention by the U.S. Government and its international allies--action ranging from the suspension of credits to financing counterrevolutionary bands made up of former Somozist guards. They add that these actions are aimed at destabilizing the process of national reconstruction and are a violation of the Nicaraguan people's right to self-determination and their right to build their own future. [Text] [PA262015 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 20 Jul 82 p 3]