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Bolivia: National Police To Be Restructured Following Corruption Charges

by Erika Harding
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On Sept. 5, Hoy magazine published a letter submitted by junior level National Police officers announcing the creation of an "anti-corruption movement" within their ranks and accusing 35 senior level National Police officers of collaborating with drug traffickers. According to the letter, the majority of the 35 officers named had been removed from their posts but have subsequently reenlisted, while others were never removed from active service. On Sept. 10, a special commission appointed by President Jaime Paz Zamora and headed by Interior Minister Carlos Saavedra announced a restructuring plan for the National Police aimed at creating a "scientific, technical, modern, clean and reliable" institution. The measure came in response to escalating charges of corruption and drug trafficking activities within the institution. (Sources: Agence France-Presse, 09/05/92, 09/10/92)

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