11-21-1986

Nicaraguan Army Reportedly More Willing To Attack Contras In Honduran Territory

Deborah Tyroler
Nicaraguan Army Reportedly More Willing To Attack Contras In Honduran Territory

by Deborah Tyroler
Category/Department: General
Published: Friday, November 21, 1986

As reported by the NEW YORK TIMES (11/19/86:2), Western and contra sources said contra troops are being pushed back by the Sandinista army, as the latter has been showing more willingness to attack rebels in Honduran territory. The sources indicated that the Sandinistas are regularly in Las Vegas Salient, Honduras, and have established permanent observation points in Honduras to monitor contra movements. Next, four Nicaraguan battalions are now believed to be stationed along the Honduran border. Sandinista presence has apparently forced the contras to seek new infiltration routes in mountain areas to north in Olancho department. Western and Honduran officials said the Honduran army has avoided direct contact with the Sandinista army, and has evacuated more than 1,000 peasants from the border area. Meanwhile, local peasant leaders have indicated that up to 5,000 farmers and their families have fled the area to escape the fighting.

-- End --