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Defense Minister: Over 4,000 Salvadorans Dead & Wounded In Last Year Of War

by Deborah Tyroler

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In a July 23 report to the Salvadoran national congress, Defense Minister Gen. Carlos Eugenio Vides Casanova said some 4,421 Salvadoran troops and rebels were killed or wounded in the June 1, 1986-May 31, 1987 period. The army, said the minister, caused a total of 3,448 losses to the FMLN (Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front), including dead, wounded, prisoners and desertions. Government troops suffered 2,706 losses, including dead, wounded and disappeared. Vides Casanova said 150 rebels abandoned the FMLN but turning themselves over to the military. Compared to the same period in 1985-86, he said, losses by both sides declined by about 30%. (Basic data from AP, 07/24/87)

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