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## **Central American Foreign Ministers Convene To Elaborate Terms Of Peace Plan Provisions**

*by Deborah Tyroler*

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In San Salvador, Central American foreign ministers met on August 19-20 in the first formal step toward carrying out a new peace plan for the region. The ministers were expected to form technical commissions that will try to carry out the proposals for negotiations, a halt to outside aid to rebels, an amnesty and cease-fires. The ministers are scheduled to meet with Contadora Group counterparts in Caracas, Venezuela, during the weekend to present their plans, and to form an international commission to monitor the same. Honduran Foreign Minister Carlos Lopez Contreras failed to arrive for the Wednesday morning session. He was quoted in the press as having said Honduras considered the regional peace plan at this stage to be a "preliminary political accord and not an international treaty." Salvadoran and Honduran officials reportedly say Nicaragua must offer political liberalization first as an incentive to the contras to seek a cease-fire and accept amnesty. The Sandinistas have indicated that the rebels must first accept an amnesty and a cutoff of US aid as a condition for internal liberalization.

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