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Nicaragua: F.s.l.n. Formalizes Relations With Ruling Parties In Mainland China & Zimbabwe

by Deborah Tyroler

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On Oct. 20, Francisco Chamorro, a member of the Sandinista National Liberation Front's foreign relations department announced that during a recent visit in the Peoples Republic of China, the FSLN had "formalized relations" with the Chinese Communist Party. This agreement, he said, had an historical precedent in 1971 when the late Sandinista commander Carlos Fonseca visited China. According to Chamorro, the agreement signed by party officials involves the exchange of ideas, bibliographies and information. Chamorro said the Chinese party officials told the FSLN delegates they supported the Guatemala peace accords, and condemn continued US support for the contras. The Sandinista delegates visited several sites where the Chinese government has invited the entry of foreign capital investment and the establishment of joint ventures. There are presently 350 such projects in China, involving governments and private companies of many countries, including Japan and the Federal Republic of Germany. On the same day, Jose Pasos, deputy leader of the FSLN foreign relations department, said an accord had been signed with Zimbabwe's Zanu Party. Pasos stated that the accord constitutes the first step toward strengthening bilateral relations, particularly in the areas of education and culture. Pasos said that in talks with Zimbabwean party officials, the two sides discussed Nicaragua's request to host the next summit of the Non-Aligned Movement, currently chaired by Zimbabwe. Nicaragua and Indonesia are competing for the privilege of hosting the Movement's ninth summit. The host country will be selected at a foreign ministers conference to take place in Malta next year. (Basic data from PRENSA LATINA, 10/20/87)

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