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Salvadoran Rebels Launch New Offensive

by Deborah Tyroler

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Recently, the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) launched an offensive called "Death to Reagan Policy!" The offensive includes their first large-scale attacks against government military installations in 18 months, an intensified economic sabotage campaign and the organization of the fifth nationwide transportation strike of the year. (See CAU, 09/23/88 on strike.) On Sept. 13, guerrillas attacked the El Paraiso barracks in Chalatenango, and on Sept. 22, they attacked an army post at Corinto in eastern Morazan department, according to an army communique. Rebel bombings in the capital have also been stepped up, mainly as part of the FMLN's economic sabotage program. On Sept. 16 alone, the rebels were responsible for four explosions in downtown San Salvador, and "several" attacks on electrical equipment serving the San Benito and Escalon residential neighborhoods. (Basic data from several reports by Prensa Latina, Radio Venceremos, AP, New York Times)

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