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## **El Salvador: Car Bombs Explode Near Treasury Police Barracks**

*by Deborah Tyroler*

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On Jan. 20, one person was killed and seven wounded when two car bombs exploded outside the Treasury Police barracks in downtown San Salvador. Treasury Police director Col. Heriberto Hernandez said one of the civilians died in the blast and five others suffered serious burns and shrapnel wounds. Hernandez added that two policemen also suffered shrapnel wounds. The car bombs exploded simultaneously at 6:30 a.m. local time on two different sides of the facility. Hernandez blamed the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) for the blast, calling it "a terrorist act which only caused major damage among the civilian population." The colonel said catapults were built into the car bombs so that explosives were hurled over the barracks just before the main explosions. He said the catapulted bombs exploded in the air and caused minimal damage and injuries. The explosions marked the first bomb attacks of the year by suspected rebels. On Dec. 25, an urban FMLN unit detonated car bombs at the headquarters of the Army chief of staff and the Defense Ministry. (Basic data from AFP, 01/20/89)

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