1-31-1989

Ecuadoran Rebels Announce Truce Offer

John Neagle

Recommended Citation

Neagle, John. "Ecuadoran Rebels Announce Truce Offer." (1989). https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/notisur/2667

Ecuadoran Rebels Announce Truce Offer

by John Neagle
Category/Department: General
Published: Tuesday, January 31, 1989

On Jan. 26, in a 40-minute televised interview, a man identifying himself as Commander Joaquin, announced that his guerrilla group has offered to sign a peace accord with the government of President Rodrigo Borja. The commander is head of Alfaro Vive, a rebel group nearly destroyed under the previous administration of Leon Febres Cordero. The rebels are believed to number about 200, mainly intellectuals and university students. Interior Minister Andres Vallejo said the government was "pleased with the decision," but that signing an accord was unnecessary. "This action," he said, "falls within the government's offer to do everything it can to restore peace." Commander Jaoquin said the rebels have met eight times with government representatives since Borja assumed power last August. During the interview, he said that the group had decided to answer the government's call for "national cooperation" to overcome a severe economic crisis. Alfaro Vive, which calls itself leftist and nationalist, but rejects marxism, began launching attacks in 1983. They staged kidnappings, bank robberies and seized some radio stations. When four leaders were killed in 1986, the group was nearly destroyed. The organization takes its name from Eloy Alfaro, a liberal reformer who fought conservative governments at the turn of the century. (Basic data from AP, 01/27/89)

-- End --