

2-8-1989

Salvadoran Defense Minister Against Postponement Of Presidential Elections

Deborah Tyroler

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/noticen>

Recommended Citation

Tyroler, Deborah. "Salvadoran Defense Minister Against Postponement Of Presidential Elections." (1989).
<https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/noticen/2724>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Latin America Digital Beat (LADB) at UNM Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in NotiCen by an authorized administrator of UNM Digital Repository. For more information, please contact amywinter@unm.edu.

Salvadoran Defense Minister Against Postponement Of Presidential Elections

by Deborah Tyroler

Category/Department: General

Published: Wednesday, February 8, 1989

On Feb. 7, Salvadoran Defense Minister Gen. Carlos Eugenio Vides Casanova argued against accepting a proposal by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) to postpone the March 1 presidential election until September. He said he thought the rebels were attempting to create dissent between the military and civilians. Earlier in the day in a telephone call from Nicaragua broadcast by a local radio station, the FMLN said that since the military was the "real power" in El Salvador, the proposal would fail without military support. The rebel spokesperson read a statement requesting the armed forces to take a public position on the election postponement. Vides Casanova responded with a news conference. According to the defense minister, the military does not believe the rebels' proposal to be a serious one. In remarks directed at politicians considering the rebel proposal, Vides Casanova said, "If you want your candidates to lose, go ahead and do it." The military, he added, would support whatever decision taken by political leaders, although postponing the election would "hand over all the advantages" to the left. In the broadcast, the FMLN offered to negotiate a 60-day ceasefire with the military. Vides Casanova said, "We think they are trying to create a division between the armed forces and the organs of state and an internal division within the armed forces." (Basic data from AP, 02/07/89)

-- End --