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Deborah Tyroler

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Nicaragua: Barricada On Contra Movements

by Deborah Tyroler

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On March 8, Barricada, the Sandinista National Liberation Front's official newspaper, said that contras based in Honduras are mobilizing for cross-border attacks, citing unidentified sources "close to the rebel leadership" in Tegucigalpa. The Nicaraguan Defense Ministry said it had no information other than the report in Barricada. According to the newspaper, 6,000 contras commanded by Enrique Bermudez had moved out of the jungle camps to strategic points on the border. These units, said Barricada, were preparing for "offensive actions-" against Nicaraguan targets, not demobilization. In its March 7 edition, Barricada said the contras were moving deeper into Honduras to avoid detection by international observers, who have not yet been deployed. (Basic data from AP, 03/08/89)

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