6-14-1989

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Deborah Tyroler

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Salvadoran Business Groups Declare Four-hour Shutdown To Protest Assassination Of Minister

by Deborah Tyroler
Category/Department: General
Published: Wednesday, June 14, 1989

On June 12, the National Association of Private Enterprise (ANEP) and the National Permanent Council of Small Enterprise (CNPPE) called on all employers and employees to shut down activities between 2 and 6 p.m. on June 13 to express repudiation of the assassination of presidency minister Antonio Rodriguez Porth. At a press conference, ANEP and CNPPE representatives said notices of the four-hour observance would be published in all Salvadoran daily newspapers on the following day. Rodriguez Porth, a principal ideologue of the Salvadoran right, was killed June 9 upon leaving his home. As of June 13, no one has claimed responsibility for the assassination. ANEP said the strike was "a show of repudiation of all forms of terrorism and an expression of solidarity with efforts to achieve the peace that the Salvadoran people yearn for." On Tuesday, stores closed and radio and television stations went off the air at 2 p.m. The strike coincided with the visit of Vice President Dan Quayle, who joined the government in blaming the assassination on the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN): "That type of violence was perpetrated by the FMLN and the leftist guerrillas cannot be tolerated." (Basic data from Notimex, 06/12/89; AP, 06/13/89)

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