6-16-1989

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Nicaragua: Barricada Denounces Plans By U.S. Congress To Provide Another $3 Million To Political Opposition

by Deborah Tyroler
Category/Department: General
Published: Friday, June 16, 1989

In its June 15 edition, the Sandinista National Liberation Front daily newspaper Barricada published a report on plans by the National Endowment for Democracy to spend a total $5 million in Nicaragua for support of the political opposition in the February 1990 general elections. The NED is a private non-profit corporation that receives almost all of its funding from the US government. Congress has already appropriated $2 million to the Endowment for use in "promoting democracy" in Nicaragua. During the week of June 5, the Senate passed a bill that would provide $3 million in additional funds for the NED to spend in Nicaragua. The House is expected to vote approval of the bill. Barricada wrote, "The opposition is a fraud and the real competitor...in the elections will be the US government." The newspaper also reported that the Organization of American States will send up to 200 representatives to observe the elections. (Basic data from Notimex, 06/15/89)

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