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On Debate Surrounding Close-down Of Nicaraguan Contra Office In Miami

by Deborah Tyroler
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On July 17, the State Department announced that it had not yet adopted a final decision on financing the Nicaraguan contras' political office in Miami. Spokesperson Richard Boucher denied that contra leaders had been informed of financing cutoff last week during a meeting in Washington. Contra leader Silvio Arguello asserted that the funding would be eliminated, while another leader, Adolfo Calero, said they were informed that the funds would be reduced. The US government spends approximately $260,000 per month on salaries, office rental and the like, for the contra political affairs office in Miami. These expenditures are not related to the $49.7 million approved by Congress in April toward providing "humanitarian" aid to the contra troops camped in Honduras. (Basic data from Notimex, 07/17/89)

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