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El Salvador: Archbishop Says Church Has Proof Army Killed Civilians

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On July 9 during his Sunday homily, Archbishop Arturo Rivera y Damas said the country's Roman Catholic Church has "judicial proof" of "several murders (of civilians) committed by members of the armed forces." He said soldiers also detained numerous civilians in recent weeks, in some cases entire families. Next, the archbishop expressed concern over the impact of inflation on living standards. The government recently lifted price controls resulting in inflation of nearly 50% on prices of basic foodstuffs and other subsistence goods since President Alfredo Cristiani's inauguration on June 1. (Basic data from AFP, 07/09/89)

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