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President Ortega On Timetable For Prisoner Release, Prison Population (s/s)

by Deborah Tyroler

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On Aug. 15, President Daniel Ortega announced in Pantasma the release of 29 campesinos who had been jailed for collaborating with the contras. He said another 1,200 campesinos associated with the contras or contra activities would be released Sept. 3 if the pro-government Union of Farmers prepares a list of imprisoned peasants. The rest of the prisoners accused of collaboration with the contras would be released in the course of contra demobilization, he added. The president also reported on the number of prisoners remaining in Nicaraguan jails as follows: Common criminals 5,328 Former members of the Army (EPS) and Police (MINT). 235 Former members of Somoza's National Guard 39 Nicaraguans associated with the contras 1,515 Total prison population 7,117 [Basic data from 08/16/89 report by Agendas International (Suite 1301, 820 Second Ave., New York NY 10017); AFP, 08/15/89]

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