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Update On Contra Demobilization Plans

by Deborah Tyroler

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On Aug. 18 in Managua, Nicaraguan UN Ambassador Alejandro Serrano told Sandinista newspaper *Barricada* that the United Nations and the Organization of American States (OAS) will form an international committee to oversee the demobilization of the Nicaraguan contras on Aug. 25 in New York. The International Support and Verification Committee (CIAV) will supervise the demobilization, relocation and repatriation of the contra forces, to be completed by Dec. 7. Serrano said that Managua's request that the World Court postpone its suit against Tegucigalpa for permitting the contras to use Honduran territory would create conditions for the arrival of a special UN force at the Honduran-Nicaraguan border to monitor demobilization efforts. The UN peacekeeping force, comprised of troops from Spain, Canada and West Germany, could commence its mission in August, said Serrano. In a statement appearing in the Aug. 21 issue of daily newspaper *El Heraldo* (Tegucigalpa), chief of the Honduran armed forces, Gen. Humberto Regalado, said the Honduran army has pledged support for the CIAV in its mission to oversee demobilization of the Nicaraguan contras. He added that the Aug. 7 accords signed by the five Central American presidents must be followed to the letter. (Basic data from AFP, 08/18/89; Xinhua, 08/21/89)

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