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Nicaragua: FSLN Directorate Member Says Sandinistas Will Take 70% Of Vote In February

by Deborah Tyroler
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On Sept. 14, Bayardo Arce, member of the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) directorate, told reporters that the FSLN would receive 70% of the vote in the February elections. In the November 1984 elections, the Sandinista ticket comprised of President Daniel Ortega and Vice President Sergio Ramirez, captured 62% of the vote. Many political analysts, however, predict that the FSLN is not likely to capture a large majority of ballots in February since the opposition is larger and better organized than in 1984. Arce contends that the only difference in 1990 will be that voters will have nine choices instead of the six party tickets of 1984. Regarding the National Opposition Union (UNO), he said, "I see no extraordinary element." Arce said Sandinista candidates will be announced after the FSLN convention scheduled for Sept. 25. (Basic data from Notimex, 09/14/89)

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