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Nicaraguan Poll: Over 40% Undecided On Choice For President

by Deborah Tyroler

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On Oct. 26, Raul Obregon, director of the Central American University's polling institute (ECO), announced results of a survey conducted between Oct. 2 and Oct. 7 in 31 municipalities. A total of 4,397 persons of voting age were interviewed, he said. Obregon said 40.1% of the respondents indicated they had not yet decided on their choice for president in the Feb. 25, 1990, election. A total of 36.5% said they planned to vote for the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN), 18.1% for the National Opposition Union (UNO), and 1.7% for other parties. In response to a question on whether the opposition is capable of resolving the country's problems, 44.2% of the respondents said "no"; 21.4%, "yes"; and, 28.1%, "I don't know." Regarding the FSLN's performance in governing the country, 50.7% said the current administration had brought improvements to Nicaragua. Next, 15.3% of respondents said the FSLN was "sometimes" responsible for improvements; 23.1% said Nicaragua had deteriorated under FSLN rule; and, 10.5% did not respond. A total of 78.4% said they planned to vote in February; 9.4% said they had no intention of voting; 10.7% responded that they did not yet know if they would vote, and 1.7% did not respond. (Basic data from Notimex, 10/26/89)

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