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Amnesty International: Oct. 31 Attacks Took Place In Context Of Escalating Human Rights Violations

by Deborah Tyroler

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On Nov. 6, the London-based human rights organization, Amnesty International, called on the Salvadoran government to undertake a serious investigation of the Oct. 31 bombing of the FENASTRAS office. Amnesty International said human rights sources claimed that Defense Minister Gen. Rafael Humberto Larios made a statement that the labor movement would suffer the consequences of the Oct. 30 rebel attack on the ministry. (See CAU 11/01/89 for report on rebel attack.) Amnesty said the attacks on FENASTRAS and on CRIPDES, a human rights group, last week in San Salvador "were not isolated incidents but took place in the context of escalating human rights violations against members of trade unions and grassroots organizations perceived by the government as sympathetic to the guerrillas." Amnesty International said it was appealing to President Alfredo Cristiani "to guarantee the physical security of trade unionists following persistent reports of violent attacks on trade union premises, and arbitrary arrests, torture and 'disappearances' of trade unionists in recent months." (Basic data from AP, 11/06/89)

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