

11-24-1989

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### Recommended Citation

Tyroler, Deborah. "Nicaragua: Former Contra Leader Alfredo Cesar Removed From Leadership Of U.N.o. Campaign Committee." (1989). <https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/noticen/3555>

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## **Nicaragua: Former Contra Leader Alfredo Cesar Removed From Leadership Of U.N.o. Campaign Committee**

*by Deborah Tyroler*

*Category/Department: General*

*Published: Friday, November 24, 1989*

On Nov. 14 former contra leader Alfredo Cesar was removed from his position as director of the National Opposition Union (UNO) campaign committee. Cesar asserted that the decision was a "mistake," since UNO leaders were responding to a "Sandinista campaign against me attempting to link UNO with the armed resistance." Notimex cited unidentified political sources close to UNO who said the real reason for Cesar's removal from the committee was the publication of a letter to contra military commander Enrique Bermudez. In the letter, Cesar reportedly called on Bermudez to avoid signing an agreement with the Nicaraguan government on demobilization of contra forces in Honduras since the contra presence was indispensable to the success of UNO's electoral campaign. UNO presidential candidate Violeta Barrios de Chamorro reportedly condemned the decision to fire Cesar. She said that if UNO leaders do not reconsider their decision, she will resign as the coalition's presidential candidate. An unidentified member of the UNO policy committee cited by Notimex said that Barrios de Chamorro does not dictate UNO decisions about what it must do or not do. (Basic data from Notimex, 11/17/89)

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