

11-24-1989

Salvadoran Government Rejects Renewed Cease-fire Offer By Fmln

Deborah Tyroler

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/noticen>

Recommended Citation

Tyroler, Deborah. "Salvadoran Government Rejects Renewed Cease-fire Offer By Fmln." (1989). <https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/noticen/3560>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Latin America Digital Beat (LADB) at UNM Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in NotiCen by an authorized administrator of UNM Digital Repository. For more information, please contact amywinter@unm.edu.

Salvadoran Government Rejects Renewed Cease-fire Offer By Fmln

by Deborah Tyroler

Category/Department: General

Published: Friday, November 24, 1989

Late Nov. 22, the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) renewed an offer to participate in a negotiated cease-fire that would be supervised by the United Nations. In a communique signed by the five top rebel commanders and broadcast over Radio Venceremos, the FMLN said, "To the Security Council of the UN we express our disposition to define an immediate cease-fire." The government had previously proposed an immediate cease-fire "under no pre-conditions" to be followed by negotiations. On Thursday, the FMLN amended its cease-fire proposal, saying they would "cooperate" in negotiating terms of a cease-fire. Rebel spokespersons said a cease-fire without terms works only to the government's benefit. The guerrilla proposal also asked that the armed forces be represented at the talks, since the military exercises real power in El Salvador. The government has also rejected this proposal on previous occasions. Pastor Heydra, spokesperson for Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez, said FMLN representatives will meet with Perez. He added that earlier reports about a resumption of contacts between the rebels and the Salvadoran government were not true. Salvadoran Justice Minister Oscar Santamaria and presidential secretary Juan Martinez Valero met with Perez on Tuesday. Salvadoran Communications Minister Mauricio Sandoval said the rebel offer for a negotiated cease-fire was addressed to the Salvadoran people and the international community, not to the government itself. He said, "They are doing this because of the big defeat they suffered, because their offensive failed," he said. In Caracas, President Perez said a cease-fire should be a precondition to peace talks and warned against increased US military involvement. During a news conference at military headquarters, President Cristiani rejected the FMLN's cease-fire proposal, describing it as "propaganda." He also said the 11-day rebel offensive had been defeated. Shortly after the press conference began, guerrillas set off several bombs about five blocks away. Cristiani also told reporters that government control over the media in El Salvador would continue for another month. [On Nov. 12, the day after the rebels launched their biggest offensive in the past nine years, the government imposed a state of siege. All radio and television stations were forced to join the "cadena nacional." The programming of Radio Cuscatlan, the military station, became the only source of broadcast information and opinion. The government has installed censors at all television and radio stations, ensuring that viewers and listeners discover only what the government believes strengthens its position in the fighting.] Fighting was observed at Apopa on Thursday. At the Soyapango cemetery east of the city, gravediggers buried five bodies that had been left at the cemetery gates. They said they expected more work. (Basic data from several reports by AP, 11/22/89, 11/23/89; AFP, 11/22/89)

-- End --