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Salvadoran Rebels Offer To Resume Peace Talks Under U.N. Mediation, & A Cease-fire If U.S. Suspends Military Aid

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On Jan. 11, the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) proposed to resume peace talks with the government of President Alfredo Cristiani, under the mediation of the United Nations. The Front also offered an "immediate cease-fire" in the civil war if the US suspends military aid to the Salvadoran government. In a statement signed by the five members of the rebel general command, the FMLN asked Cristiani to arrange within the next 30 days a meeting with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to resume "the process of negotiation," broken off since October. The statement said the continuation of US military aid to the Salvadoran government does not promote a negotiated solution to the conflict. Moreover, "increasing military aid to the army leaves open the possibility that a case such as that of the Jesuits is repeated in the future." The FMLN called on the government to meets its commitments under the Central American peace plan by instituting judicial reforms, lifting the state of siege, and reestablishing freedoms of expression, mobilization and organization. Next, the Front request the "release of more than 3,000 political prisoners, and termination of repression against the Church and other [social and political] sectors." (Basic data from Notimex, AFP, 01/11/90)

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