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On U.S. Statements Regarding Cuban Weapons Shipments To Salvadoran Rebels Through Mexico

by Deborah Tyroler

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According to reports distributed on Dec. 25 by some US news wires, unidentified State Department officials in Washington were quoted as saying that Cuba is now shipping weapons to the Salvadoran Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) through Mexico's Yucatan peninsula. The officials were reported as saying that the Cubans were now using Mexican territory to reduce international pressure on Nicaragua for sending arms to the FMLN. On Dec. 26, Notimex reported that Mexican government officials described such statements as "irresponsible, false" and totally without grounds. The Mexican Foreign Ministry on Dec. 27 issued a communique denying reports of Cuban weapons shipments through the Yucatan, and requested that the US provide any information it has on said weapons shipments. (Basic data from Notimex, 12/26/89; AFP, 12/27/89)

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