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President Azcona: Honduras Will Not Remove Contras As Long As They Threaten Only Nicaragua

by Deborah Tyroler

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On Jan. 19, President Jose Azcona Hoyo told reporters that as long as the contras represent a threat only to Nicaragua, his government would not attempt to remove them. According to Notimex, Azcona was responding to a remark by Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega who said that Azcona had told him he would not remove the contras from Honduras for fear of a coup. A total of 12,000 coffee growers have been displaced in El Paraiso department by the contra army. On several occasions, the Association of Honduran Coffee Growers (AHPROCAFE) has insisted that the US government provide \$15 million in indemnization for damages caused by the contras since 1981. (Basic data from Notimex, 01/19/90)

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