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## Nicaragua: More On Recent Polls (s/s)

by Deborah Tyroler

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The Greenberg-Lake poll, commissioned by Hemispheric Initiatives, was the first nationwide survey based on a sample derived from Nicaraguan voter registration lists. (See CAU 01/17/90 for earlier summary of this poll.) Electoral Support by Region Region FSLN UNO I 61% 9% II 47 26 III 44 25 IV 34 35 V 38 46 VI 42 26 Atlantic Coast 36 13 (Regions VII-IX) Total 44% 27% Greenberg-Lake used trained interviewers under the supervision of an international team of professionals to administer direct, face-to-face interviews in all nine electoral regions, in rural and urban areas, including areas of contra activity. Registered adults who intend to vote were included in the survey. The sample was designed using official voting districts for the national election. Interviews were conducted in Spanish, Miskitu, and English. Greenberg-Lake estimates a sampling error of plus or minus 3.7 percentage points. The survey schedule consisted of 104 items, including socio-economic and demographic data, presidential candidate preference, and a variety of opinion questions. Greenberg-Lake has a track record in Paraguay and El Salvador, both countries characterized by political violence, low literacy rates, and generalized lack of familiarity with polls. A sampling of Greenberg-Lake clients include Sen. Christopher Dodd, Governor Jim Florio, former vice president Walter Mondale, the National Education Association, and the United Auto Workers. Greenberg-Lake has scheduled a second national poll in Nicaragua for mid-January. Polls released in October, November 1989 A poll conducted by a group affiliated with the University of Central America in Managua showed 36.5% support for the FSLN versus 18.1% support for UNO. A second poll conducted by the independent research institute, Itztani, gave the FSLN a similar margin over UNO. Next was a survey commissioned by the Central America Research Institute, Berkeley, Calif. (CARIN), and conducted by the independent Nicaraguan Institute of Public Opinion (INOP). INOP surveyed 1,157 Nicaraguans of voting age in the urban areas of 12 Nicaraguan departments. Results showed Daniel Ortega with 26% of voter preference, compared to 21% for Chamorro. 29% of respondents said they were undecided; 84% said they planned to vote. When asked about Ortega's performance as president, 56% of those polled rated him as "good" or "excellent." During the last five days of October, US television network Univision polled 1,129 registered voters in six geographical regions. According to Univision, 40% of the respondents said they would vote for Ortega and 39% said they would vote for Violeta Barrios de Chamorro. 70% of respondents described Cuba as a friend of Nicaragua. The Soviet Union was called friend by 66% of the total. Only 25% of respondents considered the US a friend of Nicaragua. (Basic data from 01/21/90 report by Central America Resource Center, St. Paul Minn.)

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