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## **Honduras: National Party Candidate Claims Win In Presidential Election**

*by John Neagle*

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On Nov. 27, unofficial returns from balloting in the Nov. 26 presidential election showed 50.2% for National Party candidate Rafael Leonardo Callejas, and 44.25% for Carlos Flores, candidate of the governing Liberal Party. The new president will take office Jan. 27 for a four-year term. Both candidates made it clear they wanted the US-supported Nicaraguan contras out of Honduras. Callejas fears that without US aid to the contras, however, Honduras alone will have to cope with "persuading" them to leave. Honduras is the second most impoverished country of the western hemisphere after Haiti. Population is 4.3 million. About 35% of school-age persons and adults are illiterate. More than half of the labor force, 58.9%, works in agriculture. Eighty percent of Honduran exports derive from agriculture, and the main exports are bananas, coffee, lumber, meat and metals. The foreign debt totals over \$3 billion. (Basic data from AP, 11/27/89; AFP, 11/26/89, 11/27/89; New York Times, 11/28/89)

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