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Salvadoran Rebels Reject Government Pre-conditions For Resumption Of Peace Talks

by Deborah Tyroler

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According to a March 6 broadcast by Radio Venceremos, the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) has rejected President Alfredo Cristiani's pre-conditions imposed on the rebels prior to resumption of peace talks. Recently, Cristiani reiterated his government's "willingness to negotiate," but insisted that the FMLN "publicly renounce all actions which affect the civilian population," and particularly economic sabotage. The FMLN asserted that any aspect of a cease-fire constitutes a topic for negotiation during peace talks, and is not to be imposed prior to said talks by either side. Thus, any cessation of rebel hostilities, transport stoppages, and acts of sabotage are topics for negotiations, as are the Salvadoran government's aerial bombings and other military operations carried out on a continual basis throughout the country which impact on both the rebels and civilians. At the Central American summit in December, Cristiani agreed to resume peace talks with the assistance of the United Nations. (Basic data from Notimex, 03/06/90)

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