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Nicaragua: Military & Police Collect 25,000 Weapons From Civilians

by Deborah Tyroler

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On July 5, head of the military joint chiefs, Maj.Gen. Joaquin Cuadra said soldiers had collected about 20,000 weapons from civilians throughout Nicaragua. The arms, mainly rifles, were in the hands of members of local militias and the self-defense brigades. Interior Minister Carlos Hurtado said police had collected from civilians 4,500 weapons. The government has established July 30 as the deadline for civilians to register handguns and hunting weapons, stipulating that "weapons of war" will be the exclusive charge of military personnel and others legally accredited to carry firearms. (Basic data from Notimex, 07/05/90)

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