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## **Nicaragua: Peasants Evicted From Agriculture Minister's Ranch**

*by Deborah Tyroler*

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In a recent broadcast, Radio Havana reported that rural workers occupying the ranch of Agriculture Minister Roberto Rondon were forcibly evicted by 300 men armed with knives, sticks, pistols and grenades, resulting in the disappearance of three peasants and many injuries. The workers were protesting eviction from their landholdings by former contras and supporters of the Nicaraguan Opposition Unity (UNO). The protesters had intended to remain on Rondon's ranch until the government had responded to demands for the return of their land. According to Radio Havana, Rondon was likely aware of plans to occupy his ranch. Unidentified sources quoted by the station linked the attack against the rural workers to the "Civic Brigades" organized by Vice President Virgilio Godoy. [Basic data from Nicaragua Network (Washington, DC), 08/10/90]

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