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## **Guatemala: U.N. Representative Says Human Rights Situation Unchanged**

*by Deborah Tyroler*

*Category/Department: General*

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In an Oct. 5 communique, Christian Tomuschat, the UN's special human rights envoy for Guatemala, said information and interviews collected during a recent 12-day visit demonstrate that the human rights situation "continues to be serious." Tomuschat met with government officials, clergypersons, and representatives of government and independent human rights groups, political parties, unions and business and professional organizations. He also visited conflict zones in El Quiche department. Tomuschat said that "despite the laudable efforts" of President Vinicio Cerezo's government, it has failed to consolidate rudimentary conditions necessary for establishing the rule of law. The UN envoy described the rule of law as essential for "strengthening the democratic process" in Guatemala. Tomuschat will present a final report to the UN Human Rights Commission in January. (Basic data from AFP, 10/05/90)

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