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Nicaragua: Former Contra Commander & Presidency Minister Exchange Accusations On Responsibility For Violence

by Deborah Tyroler

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On Oct. 31 at a press conference, Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo accused former contra commander Oscar Sovalbarro ("Ruben") of instigating the demobilized fighters' land invasions which have caused numerous casualties. In response, Sovalbarro issued a communique saying he would hold Lacayo responsible for any future violence perpetrated by Sandinistas against disarmed contras. The statement also said the social pact signed Oct. 26 had created a tinderbox in the Nicaraguan countryside. (According to an Oct. 29 report by Notimex, an unspecified number of former contra commanders declared their support for the social pact. See CAU 10/31/90 for report on pact.) (Basic data from AFP, 10/31/90)

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