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Guatemala: Notes On Rebel Activities

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On Nov. 27, about 40 rebels stopped vehicles on a highway near Nejab, Nuevo Boqueron municipality, El Quiche department, to collect "war taxes." When four soldiers attempted to escape from a bus, the rebels opened fire. Military sources reported that one soldier was killed, and the other three were wounded. In Pajapita, San Marcos department, guerrillas destroyed electricity cables, and exploded bombs containing pamphlets. About 30 rebels, mostly women, set up a stand in Nahuala, where they set off "pamphlet bombs." Unidentified independent sources cited by the Agence France Presse said this group of guerrillas was led by "Comandante Maria," a former law student at San Carlos University in Guatemala City who reportedly became a guerrilla after two classmates were killed. In a report released Nov. 28, the Defense Ministry reported that one soldier was killed and another two wounded in Escuintla department on Nov. 27. The rebels had attempted to occupy a private airstrip, and were repelled by soldiers. Also on Tuesday, soldiers clashed with guerrillas in Playa Grande municipality, El Quiche department. Two rebels were killed. (Basic data from AFP, 11/27/90, 11/28/90)

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