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Nicaraguan Government To Provide Medical Assistance For Sandinista & Contra Wounded

by Deborah Tyroler

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On Nov. 30, Health Minister Ernesto Salmeron announced a medical assistance program to benefit 10,000 Sandinista soldiers and 5,000 contras wounded in combat. The Pan-American Health Organization is to provide \$1.5 million, and the government of Finland, \$2.4 million. Salmeron said the program had been delayed because the US government had not yet disbursed \$30 million earmarked for assistance to former contras. The Red Cross has contributed \$45,000 toward carrying out a census of the war wounded as well as of civilians who do not have access to medical attention, but mainly civilian war wounded. The nation's seven hospitals are to coordinate the effort in an attempt to identify the types of care required by Nicaraguans affected by the war. (Basic data from AFP, 11/30/90)

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