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Flooding In Northern Guatemala Continues

by Deborah Tyroler

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Three weeks of torrential rains and subsequent flooding in Izabal, Huehuetenango, El Quiche and Alta Verapaz departments have resulted in the deaths of seven persons, and another 17 are missing. On Dec. 8, Col. Emilio Batres told reporters that land and air access to certain areas of the four departments had been completely cut off due to flooding by the Rio Chixoy. The National Emergency Committee (CNE) estimated that between 15,000 and 20,000 residents of the affected areas had no contact with the outside world. As of Dec. 8, the army had evacuated 780 homeless families. (Basic data from ACAN-EFE, 12/08/90; Notimex, 12/07/90)

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