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Deborah Tyroler

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## **U.N. Human Rights Commission Hears Testimony On Human Rights Situation In Guatemala**

*by Deborah Tyroler*

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On Jan. 31 in Geneva at the 47th annual meeting of the UN Human Rights Commission, Raul Molina, of the United Representation of the Guatemalan Opposition (RUOG), presented a document on the human rights situation in Guatemala. Molina emphasized that Thursday was the 11th anniversary of the attack on the Spanish Embassy in Guatemala City by government troops. [Students, labor union members, indigenous rural workers, and embassy employees were killed in the attack. The embassy had been occupied by Guatemalans in attempt to call attention to army repression against indigenous communities in El Quiche department.] Molina asserted that 11 years later, Guatemala retains the dubious distinction of recording the highest number of human rights abuses of all Latin American nations. Last year, he said, documented cases of abduction, torture, extrajudicial execution and disappearance increased relative to 1989. According to Molina, the Dec. 2 Santiago Atitlan massacre was a case in point, indicating that human rights abuses continue in a systematic fashion. Despite the election of two civilian governments in the past six years, he said, the situation of gross human rights violations has not significantly changed. Molina requested that the Commission appoint a special human rights investigator for Guatemala. (Basic data from EFE, 01/31/91)

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