

## **El Salvador: Government Troops Prevent Access To Morazan Department By Humanitarian Assistance Organizations**

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*Category/Department: General*

*Published: Friday, August 30, 1991*

In an Aug. 29 report, the Agence France-Presse cited unidentified members of the French organization Doctors Without Borders (Medicos Sin Fronteras-MSF) as saying that they are experiencing difficulties in carrying out humanitarian assistance programs in Morazan department. A traditional stronghold of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN), Morazan is currently the site of a large-scale counterinsurgency campaign by the army. MSF members have been confined to the town of Jocoatique by soldiers for "reasons of security." The MSF is carrying out a public health campaign in Morazan designed to prevent the spread of cholera. Eight cases of the disease have been confirmed in El Salvador. The FMLN's Radio Venceremos reported that the MSF was "expelled" from Morazan by the army, while troops also prevented International Red Cross teams from visiting communities in the same department. Public health services in Morazan are non-existent. (Basic data from AFP, 08/29/91)

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