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El Salvador: Summary Of Fighting & Violent Incidents, August 13-28

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Aug. 13: The armed forces press office (COPREFA) reported seven rebels and three soldiers killed, and 15 rebels and five soldiers wounded in a clash near San Jose Las Flores, Chalatenango department. Next, one soldier was killed and another wounded in fighting at San Antonio Los Ranchos, Chalatenango. Radio Farabundo Marti reported four troop casualties in San Antonio Los Ranchos. According to Radio Farabundo Marti, 125 soldiers have been killed in the last 22 days in Chalatenango. Aug. 15: COPREFA reported one rebel killed in fighting at Chinameca, San Miguel department. Four soldiers were wounded in Cabanas department. In addition, unidentified persons in a moving vehicle injured two civilians with machinegun fire in San Salvador. Radio Farabundo Marti reported one soldier killed and four wounded in San Miguel department. Next, one soldier was killed in Las Vueltas, Chalatenango. In addition, the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) captured a soldier in La Libertad department. According to the rebel broadcast, the soldier will be turned over to the International Red Cross. Aug. 18: According to Radio Venceremos, soldiers entered the Segundo Montes resettlement community in Morazan department, and attacked civilians with tear gas. Thirty people were injured. Military spokespersons denied injury to civilians, described as FMLN "collaborators." Aug. 19: Army spokespersons reported the capture of FMLN leader Eugenio Chicas Martinez ("comandante Marcos Jimenez") in San Salvador. Chicas Martinez was reportedly head of rebel political activity in the capital. Aug. 20: Red Cross sources reported seven persons injured in a gun battle between unidentified persons on a bus in San Salvador. According to COPREFA, seven rebels and four soldiers were killed, and two rebels and six soldiers wounded in a clash at San Fernando, Morazan department. Next, 11 rebels were killed, and eight rebels and one soldier wounded in Cinquera, Cabanas department. In addition, two Civil Defense members were wounded during a rebel attack in Aguilares, San Salvador department. Military spokespersons reported two rebels and two soldiers killed, and two rebels and two soldiers wounded during fighting in Morazan department. In a communique, COPREFA reported two rebels killed, and five rebels and two soldiers wounded at Chapeltique, San Miguel department. One soldier was wounded at Torla, Morazan department. Next, troops suffered at least three casualties at an unspecified site in western El Salvador. Radio Venceremos reported one soldier killed and 10 wounded at Chapeltique and Chinameca, San Miguel department. Six troop casualties were reported at Dulce Nombre de Maria, Chalatenango department. Police spokespersons reported two police agents wounded, and one civilian injured when rebels attacked a National Police patrol in San Salvador. Aug. 21: Red Cross spokespersons reported that an unidentified person armed with a grenade hijacked a San Salvador bus with the intention of robbing passengers. The assailant was killed and seven passengers injured when the grenade accidentally detonated. According to COPREFA, government intelligence operations uncovered a rebel weapons cache in San Salvador. Soldiers confiscated four SAM-14 missiles, 40 rifles, 1 million pieces of ammunition, and other materiel. COPREFA reported six rebels killed and two wounded in fighting at Perquin, Morazan department. Four rebels were wounded in San Gerardo, San Miguel department. Next, three soldiers were killed and four wounded in a

clash at El Playon, San Vicente department. In addition, two soldiers were wounded at Victoria, Cabanas. Radio Farabundo Marti reported 12 troop casualties during fighting in Chalatenango department. Aug. 22: COPREFA reported that soldiers located another FMLN weapons cache in Santa Tecla, La Libertad department. The cache consisted of 965 detonators, one communications radio, and numerous rifle magazines. Military spokespersons reported six soldiers wounded in a rebel attack in northern San Salvador, and two soldiers were wounded during a similar incident in another San Salvador neighborhood. COPREFA reported four soldiers and three rebels killed, and three soldiers wounded during fighting at Tecoluca, San Vicente department. According to FMLN spokespersons, rebels caused 10 government troop casualties during an attack in northern San Salvador. Police sources confirmed the attack but denied the report of casualties. According to COPREFA, a third rebel weapons store was discovered in San Salvador. Authorities impounded 965 detonator capsules, eight rolls of slow burning fuse, a radio and a rifle loader. Aug. 25: Radio Venceremos reported 183 troop casualties, three rebels killed and two wounded during the Aug. 18-24 period. In addition, rebels seized six rifles, one M-72 LOW rocket launcher, 1,000 ammunition cartridges, and other materiel. COPREFA reported that rebels took three soldiers prisoner in San Francisco Gotera, Morazan department. In addition, two soldiers were wounded during a rebel attack in Mejicanos, San Salvador department. Aug. 26: According to COPREFA, two rebels and one soldier were killed, and four rebels and five soldiers wounded in a clash at Berlin, Usulután department. Next, troops dismantled an FMLN camp in Usulután. Military sources reported two rebels and two civilians killed, and seven rebels, one soldier, and four civilians wounded in fighting near Chinameca, San Miguel department. COPREFA reported four rebels killed and five wounded in Perquin, Morazan department, and San Jose Las Flores, Chalatenango department. Next, rebels assassinated a civilian in Santa Ana department for refusing to collaborate with the FMLN. Radio Farabundo Marti reported 75 troop casualties in Chalatenango department during the Aug. 16-26 period. Aug. 28: According to COPREFA, two rebels and one soldier were killed, and six rebels and one soldier wounded in clashes at San Jose Las Flores and Agua Caliente, Chalatenango department. Four rebels were killed and four wounded in Jucuaran, Usulután department. FMLN spokespersons reported 10 troop casualties during fighting at Agua Caliente. (Basic data from Salpress, 08/22/91; ACAN-EFE, 08/16/91, 08/21/91, 08/22/91, 08/26-28/91; AFP, 08/13/91, 08/18-22/91, 08/25/91, 08/26/91; EFE, 08/14/91)

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