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Costa Rican President Dismisses U.S. Disgruntlement Over Ambassador In Nicaragua

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In statements published Oct. 16 in local newspapers, Costa Rican President Rafael Calderon admitted that the US government is "bothered" by the continued presence of Carlos Aguilar, Costa Rican Ambassador to Nicaragua. Calderon said he has no plans to remove Aguilar unless requested to do so by the Nicaraguan government. Calderon denied reports indicating that US President George Bush had requested replacement of Aguilar on request by Nicaraguan President Violeta Chamorro. The Costa Rican president admitted that the US State Department had expressed opposition to Aguilar serving as ambassador. Aguilar is Calderon's cousin, and a close friend of Nicaraguan army chief Gen. Humberto Ortega. In statements published recently in Managua, President Chamorro denied having asked Bush or any other US official to apply pressure for Aguilar's removal. (Basic data from ACAN- EFE, 10/16/91)