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Nicaragua: Update On Recontra & Recompa Activities, October 19 - 23

by Deborah Tyroler

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Oct. 19: According to a report published by the newspaper El Nuevo Diario, 10 recontras robbed 150,000 cordobas (US\$30,000) from the National Development Bank branch in Wiwili, Nueva Segovia department. The newspaper also reported that an agricultural worker who supported the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) was killed by a recontra in Nuevo Amanecer, Nueva Segovia. Oct. 21-22: Unconfirmed reports indicated that a group of recontras occupied a farm cooperative near La Concha, Masaya department. A new recompa group, Commandos of the People, was established. Oct. 22: A Nicaraguan Energy Institute (INE) spokesperson said recontras attacked the Centroamerica hydroelectric plant in Jinotega department. No damages nor casualties were reported. In San Isidro, Matagalpa department, 60 recompas pertaining to the "Pedro Altamirano column" occupied the local distribution center of the National Basic Foodstuffs Enterprise (Empresa Nacional de Alimentos Basicos-ENABAS). The recompas' objective was to show support for ENABAS employees currently engaged in a dispute with management. Later, members of the same recompa group occupied a stretch of the Panamerican Highway. The recompas shot and injured two persons who refused to come to a stop. Oct. 23: Interior Ministry spokesperson Frank Cesar said that 40 recontras led by "Indomable" attacked the village of Condega, Esteli department. One civilian was killed and three others were injured. The recontras detained 400 persons for several hours, and stole weapons owned by local farmers. In an attempt by army and police officers to dislodge about 20 recompas blocking the Panamerican Highway (see report above), two recompas were injured. [Basic data from 10/17- 23/91 report by Central American Historical Institute (Intercultural Center, Georgetown University, Washington, DC); ACAN-EFE, 10/22/91; Agence France-Presse, 10/23/91, 10/24/91)

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