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El Salvador: Update On Fighting & Violent Incidents, October 28-november 6

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Oct. 27: The armed forces press office (COPREFA) reported two Farabundo Marti Liberation Front (FMLN) rebels and two national police officers killed in a clash near Tecoluca, San Vicente department. Four rebels were wounded in rural Santa Ana department. Next, a soldier was assassinated by suspected rebels in Tecoluca, San Vicente. Two rebels were wounded at Estanzuelas, Usulután department. Oct 28: COPREFA reported that FMLN rebels sabotaged several electricity towers throughout the country. Next, five rebels were wounded at Las Vueltas and San Jose Las Flores, Chalatenango department. Four rebels were wounded at Mazahuat, Santa Ana department. Oct. 29: COPREFA reported four rebels and two soldiers killed at Ozatlan, Usulután department. Radio Venceremos reported eight troop casualties at Ozatlan. COPREFA reported that rebels occupied a highway between Santiago de Maria and Villa el Triunfo, Usulután. Next, troops destroyed an FMLN camp at Cinquera, Cabanas department. Oct. 30: According to COPREFA, troops supported by artillery and air force units attacked rebel targets at Cerro Guazapa, San Salvador department. No reports on casualties were available. Air force paratroopers destroyed an FMLN camp in Cuscatlán department. Oct. 31: COPREFA reported two rebels killed and six soldiers wounded at Guazapa, San Salvador. Two rebels were killed and one soldier were wounded at Santa Clara, San Vicente department. Next, two rebels were killed and six soldiers wounded near San Guayabal, Cuscatlán. In addition, two rebels were killed and two others wounded at San Francisco Javier, Usulután department. FMLN spokespersons reported eight troop casualties at San Jose Las Flores, Chalatenango department. Military sources reported that rebels destroyed a storage facility at a coffee plantation near Santiago de Maria, Usulután department. The plantation is owned by Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani. One soldier was killed and another wounded in San Salvador. Nov. 2: According to Radio Farabundo Marti, rebels caused 531 troop casualties during October. The FMLN reported six rebels killed and six wounded during the same period. Next, rebels sabotaged 128 components of the electricity grid, two power substations, three sugar mills, and three coffee plantations. Rebels also seized 11 automatic rifles, two M-60 machineguns, five grenade launchers, and other materiel. In addition, insurgents destroyed two bridges in Usulután department, and a national telecommunications company office in Cuscatancingo, San Salvador department. COPREFA reported one soldier killed and four wounded in a rebel ambush near Ahuachapan, Ahuachapan department. One soldier was killed, and three soldiers and one civilian wounded at Suchitoto, Cuscatlán department. Next, rebels fired on a bus in San Salvador. No casualties were reported. Nov. 4: According to COPREFA, six rebels and three soldiers were killed, and 14 rebels and six soldiers wounded during fighting in northern and eastern El Salvador. A government communique reported that rebels dynamited a 46,000-volt power line supplying electricity to La Paz department, and five other 115,000-volt lines. The sabotage incidents caused prolonged power blackouts throughout the nation. Nov. 5: Military sources reported that rebels fired mortars at military installations in San Vicente, capital of San Vicente department. No casualties nor damage were reported. One rebel, one soldier, and one civilian were killed in Chalatenango, Morazan, and La Union departments, respectively. FMLN spokespersons reported 11 troop

casualties at Cerro Guazapa, San Salvador. According to COPREFA, rebels attacked public security forces at a coffee plantation in Nejapa, San Salvador. Two rebels were killed, and two rebels and two soldiers wounded at Rosario, Cuscatlan department. Next, one National Police officer was killed and four others wounded at Apopa, San Salvador department. Five rebels were wounded at Tejuteque, Cabanas department. In addition, two soldiers were wounded during a rebel attack on a power substation in La Libertad department. Next, one rebel and one soldier were killed, and three soldiers wounded in a clash at Santiago de Maria, Usulután. One soldier was wounded at Villa Victoria, Cabanas. In addition, one civilian was injured at Osicala, Usulután. FMLN spokespersons reported 20 troop casualties at Santiago de Maria. Nov. 6: COPREFA reported that rebels attacked military units in at Santa Tecla, La Libertad departments. No casualties were reported. Rebels sabotaged an electricity substation in Nuevo Cuscatlan, La Libertad. (Basic data from Associated Press, 10/31/91; Agence France-Presse, 10/28/91, 10/30/91, 10/31/91, 11/02/91, 11/04-06/91; ACAN-EFE, 10/28/91, 10/30/91, 10/31/91, 11/02/91, 11/05/91, 11/06/91)

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