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## **Nicaragua: Chronology Of Political Violence & Related Events, November 11 - December 2**

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Nov. 11: An Interior Ministry spokesperson in Matagalpa, capital of Matagalpa department, reported that 20 recontras attacked the village of Yali, Jinotega department and killed five former soldiers. According to the report, the recontras rounded up the former soldiers and executed them "one by one like animals" and then fled to nearby mountains. Nov. 15: Agence France-Presse reported that seven former soldiers were killed in El Bosque, Yali, Jinotega. Nov. 17: Unidentified assailants attacked police and soldiers in La Trinidad, Esteli department. Three vehicles were destroyed. Nov. 19: Government sources reported that at least 15 persons were killed in clashes in northern Nicaragua during the Nov. 11-18 period. Recontras kidnapped and assassinated a local official affiliated with the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) and two former soldiers in Pantasma, Jinotega. Nov. 22: Recontra forces under the command of Jose Angel Moran ("Indomable") destroyed 22 trucks and kidnapped five construction workers in Jinotega department. Nov 23: Army spokesperson Ricardo Wheelock reported that the army has commenced operations to "capture and prosecute" recontra chief Indomable. Moran is accused of 30 murders and 10 armed assaults. Nov. 24: Wheelock reported three recontras killed and four wounded at El Mojon, Jinotega department. Troops also seized two rifles, ammunition, and several army packs. Wheelock said the recontra group was under the command of Indomable. Nov. 25: A military spokesperson told reporters that the army had called off efforts to capture recontras led by Indomable after the group "abandoned the areas where they had been interfering with the coffee harvest." Nov. 28: Military sources reported five persons killed, 12 wounded, and three trucks destroyed in clashes between recontras and former soldiers at Puerto Viejo and Pita El Carmen, Matagalpa department. The Cargo and Transport Cooperative in Jinotega department declared a 72-hour strike to demand additional security measures to protect vehicles and workers against recontra attacks. Nov. 29: Police spokespersons reported that recontras set fire to three private trucks, one bus, one government-owned truck, and a coffee warehouse during on Nov. 27-28. Nov. 30: Police sources reported one civilian killed and two others wounded during a recontra attack at Quinamita, Chontales department. Local press sources reported that suspected recontras killed three civilians and injured another during an attack on a business establishment in El Progreso, Honduras, located near the Nicaraguan border. Dec. 1: Three persons were killed and another injured when recontras opened fire on a truck traveling near Juigalpa, Chontales. Dec. 2: Recontra forces killed two tobacco company employees on a road near Juigalpa, Chontales. Dec. 3: Honduran armed forces spokesperson Col. Roberto Lazarus denied that recontras were responsible for the Nov. 30 attack, and attributed the incident to common criminals. He said there are no recontras operating in Honduran territory. Lazarus said that the assailants fled to neighboring Olancho department and not across the border to Nicaragua. A survivor of the attack, however, asserted that the assailants were indeed four Nicaraguans. Two were wearing military uniforms and carried AK-47 rifles. The survivor, a civilian, said the attackers came from Nicaragua and fled in that direction. Dec. 4: Military spokespersons reported that in Los Chinamos, Chontales department, five persons were killed and three wounded during a clash between two recontra groups led by "Rojito" and

"Nelson," respectively. Army spokesperson Ricardo Wheelock said police suspect recontras were responsible for the murders of three civilians in Cano Bajo, located 220 km. southeast of Managua. Dec. 6: Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo met with recontra leaders "Tigrillo," "Dimas," "Bigote de Oro," "Bolivar," "Campeon" and "Freddy." After the meeting, Obando told reporters that he would write a letter to President Violeta Chamorro expressing his concern over the government's failure to deliver on promises to the demobilized contras. Dec. 8: In Esteli, capital of Esteli department, President Violeta Chamorro said she planned to meet personally with recontra leaders. Dec. 10: Interior Ministry spokespersons reported that in Priscilla, Zelaya department, 60 recompas (former soldiers under the FSLN government) kidnapped Orlando Balmaceda, mayor of nearby El Rama. Later, National Opposition Union (UNO) Deputy Humberto Castilla said Balmaceda was released the same day. [Basic data from Central American Historical Institute (Washington, DC), 11/28-12/04/91; ACAN-EFE, 11/14/91, 11/18/91, 11/23/9, 11/29/91, 12/01-04/91, 12/10/91; Agence France-Presse, 11/15/91, 11/19/91, 11/22-25/91, 11/28/91, 12/02/91, 12/03/91, 12/05/91, 12/06/91, 12/08/91, 12/10/91]

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