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El Salvador: Foreign Journalists Targeted By Death Threats, Intimidation

by Deborah Tyroler
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On Jan. 1, a bomb exploded outside San Salvador's Camino Real hotel, site of several foreign news service offices. The blast completely destroyed a vehicle belonging to a Reuters correspondent, and partially damaged cars owned by the New York Times and the Associated Press. Shortly after the bomb exploded, unidentified persons ransacked the homes of United Press International (UPI) reporter Daniel Alder, and Thomas Long, a correspondent who works for CBS radio news, the New York Times and the Miami Herald. The Foreign Press Correspondents Association in El Salvador (SPCA) released a statement denouncing the attacks as well as recent death threats targeting foreign journalists. The organization attributed the bombing and recent acts of intimidation to rightwing death squads. The SPCA expressed concern that harassment of reporters was part of a campaign to sabotage the peace process. (Basic data from Agence France- Presse, ACAN-EFE, 01/01/92)

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