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## **El Salvador: Episcopal Priest Tortured By National Guard Officers**

*by Deborah Tyroler*

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On Jan. 10, Episcopalian priest Jose Ignacio Meza told reporters that National Guard officers tortured him and forced him to sign a statement confessing membership in the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN). Meza was arrested Jan. 4 and held at National Guard headquarters in Cojutepeque, Cuscatlan department. (See CAU 01/10/92 for previous coverage of Meza's disappearance.) According to Meza, "The Guards...also suggested that I would be forced to go on television accusing [Catholic] Archbishop Arturo Rivera y Damas and Msgr. Gregorio Rosa Chavez of being communist collaborators." Judge Alcidez Guandique ordered Meza's release Jan. 9, on the ground he was detained without due cause. (Basic data from Agence France-Presse, 01/10/92)

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