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Nicaragua: Army Officer Commits Suicide

by Deborah Tyroler

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On Jan. 19 in Managua, police spokespersons reported that Maj. Julio Cardenal Caldera, chief of military construction for the Sandinista Popular Army (EPS), committed suicide Jan. 18 at his Managua residence. According to police, Cardenal returned home from an unknown location, greeted his family, and then entered his bedroom where he shot himself in the stomach with a rifle. Relatives said Cardenal left no explanation for his suicide. Cardenal Caldera was the brother of Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) commander Gabriel Cardenal, assassinated in 1979 by Somoza's National Guard; and, Antonio Cardenal (“Jesus Rojas”), a leader of the Farabundo Martí Liberation Front (FMLN) killed in combat with the Salvadoran army in April 1991. (Basic data from ACAN-EFE, 01/19/92)

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