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El Salvador: Update On Fighting & Violent Incidents, January 9 - 23
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Jan. 9: The armed forces press office (COPREFA) reported that 10 Farabundo Marti Liberation Front (FMLN) rebels were killed, and 16 rebels and two soldiers wounded near the Cerron Grande dam, Chalatenango department. One rebel was killed and another wounded at San Antonio Los Ranchos and La Laguna, Chalatenango. Radio Farabundo Marti reported nine soldiers and one rebel wounded at Cerron Grande and San Antonio Los Ranchos. Jan. 12: According to COPREFA, two rebels were killed, and one rebel and two soldiers were wounded at Potonico, Chalatenango. Next, two soldiers were wounded near Santa Clara, San Vicente department. Fighting was also reported at San Antonio Los Ranchos and Tejutla, Chalatenango. No casualties were reported. Jan. 22: Rebel commander "Erick" told reporters that soldiers entered territory under rebel control near San Francisco Javier, Usulutan department. He said, "The army has invaded the area which we have been assigned to occupy during the informal ceasefire." No fighting was reported in the area. Jan. 23: According to Red Cross spokespersons, a grenade explosion in Tejutla, Chalatenango, caused the deaths of six children and an elderly person. Another two civilians were injured. Next, two civilians were killed and 30 others injured when an unidentified person tossed a grenade into a crowd participating in a funeral service at Apaneca, Ahuachapan department. COPREFA reported that army units will be deployed to back up police in crime prevention efforts. Since early January, police have reported an increase in common crime statistics in San Salvador and other cities. (Basic data from ACAN-EFE, 01/23/92; Agence France-Presse, 01/23/92; Spanish news service EFE, 01/22/92)

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