2-7-1992

Nicaragua: Chronology Of Political Violence & Related Events, January 23 - February 3

Deborah Tyroler

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/noticen

Recommended Citation

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Latin America Digital Beat (LADB) at UNM Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in NotiCen by an authorized administrator of UNM Digital Repository. For more information, please contact amywinter@unm.edu.
Nicaragua: Chronology Of Political Violence & Related Events, January 23 - February 3

by Deborah Tyroler

Category/Department: General

Published: Friday, February 7, 1992

Jan. 23: Military spokespersons reported one civilian killed and three others injured when a land mine exploded under a public bus near Jinotega, capital of Jinotega department. Next, a National Police patrol was ambushed by recontras near La Pedrera, 200 km. northwest of Managua. No report on casualties was available. An Interior Ministry spokesperson reported that 52 recompas from the "Benjamin Zeledon Southern Front" surrendered their weapons to local government officials in Nueva Guinea, Zelaya department. Under an agreement between recompas and the government, several members of the Front are to be integrated into local National Police and military units. Jan. 24: A government press release said that under an agreement signed by Interior Minister Carlos Hurtado and recontra chief Jose Angel Moran ("Indomable"), recontras under Moran's command are to be disarmed by Feb. 10. According to government spokespersons, 115 recompas and 75 recontras disarmed over the Jan. 20-24 period. Jan. 25: Corina Centeno, head of the Health Workers Federation (FETSALUD), reported that recontra forces led by commander "William" assassinated physician Martin Condega in Waslala, Jinotega department. Centeno and the Interior Ministry reported that Condega was abducted by recontras. After suffering several forms of mutilation, the physician was shot to death. The recontras stole medicine and diverse medical supplies, destroyed hospital equipment, and assaulted other hospital employees. Jan. 26: A military spokesperson reported that 131 recontras and 155 surrendered weapons to government officials in the Las Cuchillas and El Dorado regions of northern Nicaragua. According to a government press release, four police officers and two rebels were killed during a recompa attack against the police barracks at Wiwili, Jinotega department. The Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) condemned the Jan. 25 assassination of Dr. Martin Condega. Jan. 29: Military spokespersons reported the initiation of an army offensive in northern Nicaragua against all recontras and recompas who have thus far rejected participation in negotiations with the government. Unidentified individuals kidnapped the mayor of Muy Muy, Matagalpa department, and released him unharmed two hours later. Next, recompas occupied the town of Rancho Grande, Jinotega. No casualties were reported. Jan. 30: Interior Minister Hurtado confirmed that army troops had been deployed in northern Nicaragua to pursue recontras and recompas. He added that a second search operation was scheduled to begin Feb. 10, the deadline for demobilization of recontras under the command of "Indomable." The Feb. 10 operation is aimed at locating recontras who refuse to disarm. Lt. Col. Rodrigo Gonzalez, commander of military forces in Matagalpa, reported that a military unit was in pursuit of the recontra group responsible for Condega's murder. In addition, said Gonzalez, "We have received orders from the high command to pursue, capture, and hand over" a group of recompas responsible for the deaths of four police officers on Jan. 26 in Wiwili, Jinotega. In a communiqué, recontra chief "Rojito" said his followers will not surrender their weapons, "because they are our only means of defense." Feb. 2: Interior Ministry spokespersons reported that 501 recontras and recompas disarmed over the Jan. 21-Feb. 2 period. Next, local media reports indicated that as much as 25% of the year's coffee crop, had been lost due to the ongoing military conflict in northern Nicaragua. Feb. 3: Interior Ministry
spokespersons said 451 recontras, headed by commander "Bigote," and 349 recompas surrendered their weapons in Tomatoya, Jinotega department. Feb. 5: Daily newspaper La Prensa reported that recontra leader Francisco Valdivia ("Dimas") asked the government for US$15 million to demobilize the 3,000 men under his command. Valdivia is requesting US$5,000, a house and farmland for each demobilized recontra. (Basic data from ACAN-EFE, 01/23-26/92, 01/30/92, 02/02/92, 02/03/92; Agence France-Presse, 01/24/92, 01/25/92, 01/30/92, 02/03/92, 02/05/92)

-- End --