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Note On U.N.e.s.c.o. Assistance Programs

by Deborah Tyroler

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On Feb. 17, officials reported that President Jorge Serrano and Federico Mayor, director of the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), signed several technical and financial assistance accords. The agreements include UNESCO aid to the public education system, the military academy (Escuela Politecnica Militar), and contributions toward construction of a new museum. UNESCO has reportedly agreed to provide assistance in modernizing military training based on a belief that the Guatemalan army has demonstrated a solid commitment to defend and consolidate the democratic process in a strictly professional manner. UNESCO aid to the academy will consist of personnel training, equipment for establishing a database and library retrieval system. Assistance to the public education system is focused on reducing Guatemala's 50% illiteracy rate. (Basic data from Agencia Centroamericana de Noticias-Spanish news service EFE, 02/17/92)

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