2-21-1992

Costa Rica To Sell Part Of Weapons Inventory

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.
Costa Rica To Sell Part Of Weapons Inventory

by Deborah Tyroler

Category/Department: General
Published: Friday, February 21, 1992

On Feb. 13, Interior Minister Luis Fishman told reporters that an estimated 20,000 weapons valued at US$2 million would be put up for sale on the international market. Fishman said the weapons will not be sold to individuals or non-governmental groups, but only to governments of countries which pose no threat to international security. According to the minister, trade for other weapons of use to the police would also be acceptable. [The Costa Rican army was formally abolished in 1949. Public security force members currently number about 10,000, and are organized into the Civil Guard, the Rural Guard, and several specialized police units.] The weapons to be sold are all US-, Israeli-, or Soviet- manufactured. Included are 3,567 M-16 submachineguns, 327 UZIs, 1,409 M-14 automatic rifles, 859 AK-47s, and nearly 10,000 M-1 rifles. Most of the weapons were donated to the Costa Rican government in the 1980s. Others were confiscated over the same period from Nicaraguan contras or government troops who entered Costa Rican territory. (Basic data from Agencia Centroamericana de Noticias-Spanish news service EFE, 02/13/92)

-- End --