

4-17-1992

## Nicaragua: Taxi Drivers Launch Strike

Deborah Tyroler

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

---

### Recommended Citation

Tyroler, Deborah. "Nicaragua: Taxi Drivers Launch Strike." (1992). <https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/noticen/7317>

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](mailto:amywinter@unm.edu).

## **Nicaragua: Taxi Drivers Launch Strike**

*by Deborah Tyroler*

*Category/Department: General*

*Published: Friday, April 17, 1992*

March 31: Hundreds of taxi drivers blocked traffic in downtown Managua by parking their vehicles in front of the presidential office complex. The protesters were attempting to pressure the government into firing Transportation Minister Jaime Icabalceta. The drivers, members of nine taxi cooperatives, asserted that Icabalceta has failed to follow through with promises made last year to resolve the problem of "pirate taxi drivers." At present, 1,715 taxis are legally registered to operate in the capital city. Hundreds of "pirate taxis" operate without authorization. Leaders of the cooperatives met with an interior ministry delegation but failed to reach an agreement on the issue. April 1: Taxi drivers continued to block downtown traffic. The protesters rejected a government proposal to provide licenses to 300 of the pirate drivers. April 3: Four people suffered shotgun wounds, two taxis were destroyed by fire, and 16 persons arrested when pirate drivers clashed with protesters. Security forces used tear gas to disperse the crowd. Later, representatives of the protesters met with Interior Minister Alfredo Mendieta and Transportation Minister Icabalceta. Meeting participants agreed to reorganize taxi services, seek mechanisms to legalize the pirate taxis, and enforce existing laws against drivers operating without a license. (Basic data from Agence France-Presse, 04/01/92, 04/03/92; Agencia Centroamericana de Noticias-Spanish news service EFE, 03/31/92, 04/01/92, 04/04/92)

-- End --