

Nicaragua Cases, Part 1: 1970-1983

Last Updated: 22 October 2017

torg	gname	onset	min	max
T448	SANDINISTA NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT (FSLN)	10-Oct-77	1960	1996
T804	SANDINISTAS		1960	1995
T69	19 APRIL MOVEMENT (M-19)	28-May-78	1976	1997
T1182	MORAZANIST FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF HONDURAS (FMLH)		1980	1990
T124	CINCHONERO PEOPLE'S LIBERATION MOVEMENT		1980	1994
T2052	NICARAGUAN REVOLUTIONARY ARMED FORCE		1980	1984
T1228	ANTI COMMUNIST PATRIOTIC FRONT		1980	1980
T141	CONTRAS	17-Apr-82	1981	1987
T775	NICARAGUAN REVOLUTIONARY ARMED FORCES (FARN)		1981	1983
T773	NICARAGUAN DEMOCRATIC FORCE (FDN)	17-Apr-82	1983	1987
T1689	DEMOCRATIC REVOLUTIONARY ALLIANCE (ARDE)		1983	1991
T1814	MISKITO INDIAN ORGANIZATION		1985	1994
T1847	NICARAGUAN RESISTANCE		1987	1990
T1769	JORGE MARTINEZ ASSOCIATION OF COMBATANTS		1991	1991
T1866	PEOPLE'S INFORMATION GROUP		1991	1991
T1809	MIGUEL D'ESCOTO BROCKMAN COMMUNITY MOVEMENT		1991	1991
T1258	RECONTRAS		1991	1997

T1770	JOSE BENITO ESCOBAR WORKERS FEDERATION		1992	1992
T1879	PUNITIVE LEFTIST FRONT		1992	1992
T1948	YATAMA		1992	1992
T48	ANDRES CASTRO UNITED FRONT (FUAC)		1995	2000

ARDE and Contras appear to both be umbrellas. The individual groups are FARN, FDN, MISURA, etc.

Gleditsch et al treat FDN = Contras

- I. SANDINISTA NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT (FSLN)
 - Min. Group Date: 1960
 - Max. Group Date: 1996
 - Onset: 1977

Aliases: Sandinista National Liberation Front (Fsln), Frente Sandinista De Liberacion Nacional (Fsln)

Part 1. Bibliography

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Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: Sandinista, Sandinista National Liberation Front (Fsln), Frente Sandinista De Liberacion Nacional (Fsln)

Group Formation: 1960

Group End: 1996 (unknown why stopped using violence)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

The FSLN was founded by Silvio Mayorga, Tomás Borge, and Carlos Fonseca around 1960 or 1961, but the exact year is disputed (MIPT 2008; US Congress n.d.; La Prensa 2006; Garcia 2014; and Brown University n.d.). They started out as a group of student activists at National Autonomous University of Nicaragua in Managua (US Library of Congress n.d.). The group originally ascribed to Marxist-Leninist ideals and hoped to overthrow the Somoza regime (MIPT 2008). Their first violent incident might be as late as 1967, but it might have been earlier (La Prensa 2006). They used guerilla warfare, which, at first, was not successful until they began mobilizing more forces in the late 1970s (Gleditsch et. al. 2013, 485). After taking over the Nicaraguan government in 1979, they began fighting against opposition over their ideals, most notably the American-funded Contras (Global Security n.d.; Gleditsch et. al. 2013, 485-486).

Geography

The group attacked Somotillo, Leon, Managua, and Matagalpa, as well as several unknown locations (GTD 2017). No evidence of an external base could be found.

Organizational Structure

The FSLN was founded by Silvio Mayorga, Tomaás Borge, and Carlos Fonseca in 1960 (US Congress n.d.; La Prensa 2006). Fonseca died in 1976 before they took over the government (Garcia 2014). The earliest members of the group were students, but they later recruited peasants and laborers (Brown University n.d.). The group's exact size is unknown, but it was estimated to have around 3,000 members in 1978 (MIPT 2008; Gleditsch et. al. 2013, 487). In 1978, they were led by Daniel Ortega (Gleditsch et. al. 2013, 487). The group created its political wing, the Movimiento Pueblo Unido, in 1979 (Gleditsch et al. 2013, 488).

External Ties

The group had external ties to Cuba, Costa Rica, and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) before 1979 (MIPT 2008). The group specifically received logistical assistance and weapons from Cuba and Costa Rica, respectively (MIPT 2008; Brown University n.d.). After 1979, they received unspecified support from Libya, weapons from the USSR, and military advisors from Cuba (MIPT 2008; Brown University n.d.). They were also supported by Panama and Venezuela, both countries supplying them with weapons, the exact time periods in which this occurred are unknown (Gleditsch et. al. 2013, 487; Brown University n.d.). They also sent weapons to rebels in El Salvador beginning in 1980 (Brown University n.d.). They clashed with the American-funded Contras during the Nicaraguan Civil War in the 1980s (US Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services 2002; Global Security n.d.; Gleditsch et. al. 2013, 485-486).

Group Outcome

In 1967, the group launched their second major offensive, which marked a turning point in the group's violent behavior (La Prensa 2006). Violence intensified in 1974 when they started forming rural and urban fronts (Garcia 2014). The group actually ceased to exist as a terrorist organization in 1979, having overthrown the Somoza regime, but chose to help sponsor terrorist activity abroad (MIPT 2008). The group still exists as of 2017, but lost a lot of their political influence when they lost the general election in 1990 (Global Security n.d.; MIPT 2008). There were alleged incidents after 1990, but none of them have been confirmed (MIPT 2008; GTD 2017). In 1995, a reformist faction led by Sergio Ramirez formed Movimiento Renovación Sandinista (Global Security n.d.). The last known violent attacks were in November of 1996 when they were operating as a semi-violent political party (GTD 2017). Today, the group is a democratic socialist political party.

Notes for Iris:

- dynasty regime in Nicaragua at the time
- pretty dictatorial
- standard vanguard party composed of students

-unclear why they would be getting support from the PFLP or Israel
-PFLP is marxist-leninist so they might have had a common ideology which is why they might give support

II. SANDINISTAS
Min. Group Date: 1960
Max. Group Date: 1995
Onset: NA

Aliases: None

Part 1. Bibliography

Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: This is an alias for the FSLN.

Group Formation: This is an alias for the FSLN.

Group End: This is an alias for the FSLN.

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

This is an alias for the FSLN.

Geography

This is an alias for the FSLN.

Organizational Structure

This is an alias for the FSLN.

External Ties

This is an alias for the FSLN.

Group Outcome

This is an alias for the FSLN.

- III. 19 APRIL MOVEMENT (M-19)
Min. Group Date: 1976
Max. Group Date: 1997
Onset: 1978

Aliases: M-19 (Movement Of April 19), 19 April Movement, April 19 Movement, April 19 Movement (M-19), M-19, Movimiento 19 De Abril, Movimiento 19 De Abril (M-19)

Part 1. Bibliography

- "April 19 Movement." Terrorist Organization Profile No. 26, MIPT Knowledge Base, 2008, National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism, <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1dbf5n9nS6k1aWmyspBAxszbOxLRHBaDvklRdprXFMPY/edit>
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Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: ADM-19, Acción Democrática-Movimiento 19 (Democratic Action-Movement 19), ADM-19, Alianza Democrática M-19, Democratic Alliance M-19

Group Formation: 1972/1973

Group End (Outcome): 1989 (disarm, create a political party)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

M-19 formed between 1972 and 1973 in Colombia in response to what members perceived as a “stolen” presidential election (US Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services 2003). The group retroactively declared its birth as April 19, 1970 (Idaho State n.d.). The group fought to overthrow the government and replace the leader they believed had stolen a previous election (US Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services 2003; Crenshaw 2015). The group first came to attention for a series of violent robberies in 1973 and the January 1974 robbery of Simon Bolivar’s sword (Crenshaw 2015). The group ascribed to Marxism-Leninism and a populist ideology (Crenshaw 2015).

Geography

The group primarily operated in Colombian cities (US Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services 2003). The group’s operations concentrated in the Southern front in Putumayo and the Western front in Caldas, Cauca, Valle de Cauca, Quindio, and Tolima (Crenshaw 2015). The group is tied to one attack in Lima, Peru, where it kidnapped an Italian diplomat. However, there is no evidence of other violent activities in Peru or other countries beyond Colombia (GTD).

Organizational Structure

One of the group’s leaders - Jaime Bateman Cayon - was a former member of FARC. Ivan Marino Ospina also had a leadership role in the movement. Alvaro Fayad was the group’s chief military and political strategist (US Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services 2003).

Members came from middle to upper middle class backgrounds and included university students, unions, doctors, and families with ties to the government (US Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services 2003). The organization had approximately 1,500-2,000 members in 1985. These numbers decreased to 500 in 1987 (Crenshaw 2015).

The group’s political wing, the ADM-19, later splintered and became a legitimate political party (Crenshaw 2015).

The M-19 organized itself along two military fronts: one in the south of Colombia and the other in the west. The group subdivided the fronts into smaller units, which operated in different cities (Idaho State University n.d.).

The group funded itself through drug trafficking and kidnapping (US Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services 2003).

External Ties

The group fought MAS, a paramilitary group that participated in drug trafficking (US Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services 2003).

The group received military training in guerrilla warfare from Cuba (Crenshaw 2015).

Group Outcome

In 1980, the Colombian army arrested M-19 leader Jaime Bateman, which triggered an Embassy hostage crisis in Bogota (US Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services 2003).

In 1984, the Colombian government negotiated a disarmament deal with several factions, which led to the creation of the ADM-19 political group (US Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services 2003).

In 1985, when the political agreement fell apart, the Colombian government launched a major counterinsurgency offensive against the M-19 in Bogota (US Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services 2003). In 1987, security forces killed Alvaro Fayad, which hurt the group's ability to continue operations (US Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services 2003).

In 1989, the government and M-19 negotiated a secondary political agreement. The agreement led most members to disarm by 1990. Many former M-19 members joined the ADM-19 political group (US Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services 2003).

- IV. MORAZANIST FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF HONDURAS (FMLH)
Min. Group Date: 1980
Max. Group Date: 1990
Onset: NA

Aliases: Morazanist Front For The Liberation Of Honduras (Fmlh), Frente Morazanista Para La Liberacion De Honduras

Part 1. Bibliography

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<http://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6acff40.html>

Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: FPM, Morazanist Patriotic Front, FMLH

Group Formation: 1980

Group End: 1995 (group became a political party and never took credit for another attack)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

The group was founded in 1980 in Honduras when it split from Party for the Transformation of Honduras (PTH) (MIPT 2008). The group has communist ideals (MIPT 2008). PTH is a splinter group from the Communist Party of Honduras (MIPT 2008). The group was Communist and hoped to use violent means to overthrow the Honduran government as well as US intervention (MIPT 2008; Federation of American Scientists 1998; US State Department 1989). The group's first violent incident occurred in 1984 (GTD 2017).

Geography

The group originated in Honduras, so it is a transnational group (MIPT 2008). The group moved its operations to Nicaragua in the early 1980s when the Honduran government

started to adopt repressive measures to remove leftist insurgencies from the country (MIPT 2008). The group mainly attacked cities in Honduras, including Piedras Azules, Entrerios Mountains, Tegucigalpa, and Amaratuca (GTD 2017).

Organizational Structure

At its height, the group had around 300 members (Ruhl 1998). Its leaders and other information about its organization is unknown.

External Ties

It had ties to Cuba, but lost support for an unknown reason at an unknown date; they did not make any attempts to receive new support or choose different targets (Refworld 1999; Federation of American Scientists 1998). The groups also had unspecified ties to the Nicaraguan government (Federation of American Scientists 1998).

Group Outcome

The Honduran government used indiscriminate violence against the group in the early 1980s; this was part of the catalyst to move to Nicaragua (MIPT 2008). In the 1990s, after the Sandinistas lost the general election, most leftist groups in Central America lost most of their support, causing FMLH (MIPT 2008). In 1992, the group renamed itself Morazanist National Liberation Party and combined with the PTH, the Honduran Revolutionary Party, and the Patriotic Renovation Party to create the Democratic Unification Party (MIPT 2008). The group was recognized by the government in 1993 and its last known violent actions were in 1995 (MIPT 2008; Canada IRB 1999).

Notes for Iris:

- unclear reason why it split
- the armed wing of the political party
- Cuba support - boosted their capabilities, but it wasn't the determining factor in whether they could
- Nicaraguan government actively provides sanctuary for leftist groups

V. CINCHONERO PEOPLE'S LIBERATION MOVEMENT

Min. Group Date: 1980

Max. Group Date: 1994

Onset: NA

Aliases: Cinchoneros Popular Liberation Movement, Cinchonero Movimiento Popular De Liberaci N (Mpl), Cinchonero People's Liberation Movement

Part 1. Bibliography

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Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: None

Group Formation: 1980

Group End: 1994 (repressive Honduran government measures)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

The group was founded in 1980 (US State Department 1982; MIPT 2008). The group hoped to overthrow the Honduran government and opposed U.S. interest in the country (Sloan and Anderson 2009). The group had a Marxist-Leninist and populist ideology (Sloan and Anderson 2009). Cinchoneros were the armed wing of the People's Revolution Union, which was a splinter of the Honduran Communist Party (Sloan and Anderson 2009). It became known for car bombings and taking hostages, most notably 80 businessmen and government leaders in 1982 (MIPT 2008; Meislin 1982b). Its first violent attack was in 1980; they hijacked a plane going to New Orleans and flew it to Nicaragua for a hostage exchange (Sloan and Anderson 2009; MIPT 2008).

Geography

The group mainly attacked Tegucigalpa, Honduras, but also had some attacks in Guatemala and Costa Rica (GTD 2017). The headquarters are in Tegucigalpa, Honduras (US State Department 1982). The group had an external base in Nicaragua (Sloan and Anderson 2009; MIPT 2008).

Organizational Structure

The estimated membership size was under 200 people (US State Department 1982). Not much else is known about their organization.

External Ties

The group has alleged ties with Farabundo Marti Liberation Front, a leftist organization that opposed the government in El Salvador, which trained and helped forces in kidnappings (Meislin 1982c; Sloan and Anderson 2009). Cinchoneros also had alleged support from Cuba, specifically training, arms, funding, and logistical support, and the Sandinistas in Nicaragua, who offered them sanctuary in exchange for support fighting the contras (Sloan and Anderson 2009; MIPT 2008).

Group Outcome

Honduras responded to the group with massive amounts of indiscriminate violence and repression (MIPT 2008). The group disappeared in the mid-1980s, but made a reappearance in the late-1980s by drawing support from those against the American presence in the country (MIPT 2008). After the end of the Nicaraguan civil war in 1990, the group disappeared (MIPT 2008). The group's last known verified attack was in 1994 (GTD 2017). The group allegedly bombed a bus in 2004, but experts dispute the authenticity of this claim (MIPT 2008).

Notes for Iris:

- no evidence of inter-group competition
- they receive external support from the same resources
- there is a shift in Honduras' opinion right around the end of the Cold War maybe coinciding with the end of the Soviet Union

VI. NICARAGUAN REVOLUTIONARY ARMED FORCE

Min. Group Date: 1980

Max. Group Date: 1984

Onset: NA

Aliases: Nicaraguan Revolutionary Armed Force, Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias Nicaraguenses, Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias Nicarag_enses, Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias Nicaraguenses (Farn), Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias Nicarag_enses (Farn), Nicaraguan Revolutionary Armed Force, Nicaraguan Revolutionary Armed Force (Farn)

Part 1. Bibliography

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Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: Nicaraguan Democratic Union, UDN

Group Formation: 1980

Group End: 1981 (merger to become FDN)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

The group was founded by conservative businessmen who opposed the Somoza regime in 1980 or 1981 (Central Intelligence Agency 2007b; Schmid and Jongman 1988; Gunson et. al. 2015, 251). The group formed as a merger of ADREN and UDN (Canada IRB 2000). The group formed shortly after the Sandinistas came to power. They were guided by the CIA and were trained by both Argentinian and U.S. instructors (Gunson et. al. 2015). The group is anti-Sandinista and anti-leftist (Central Intelligence Agency 2007b). Despite being against the Sandinista rule, they claimed to fight for a democratic replacement rather than a return to the Somoza dictatorship (Schmid and Jongman 1988). The group's first violent incident was in 1981 (GTD 2017).

Geography

The group attacked various cities in Nicaragua including La Boca, Rivas, and Diriamba (GTD 2017). There is no evidence of any transnational attacks or an external base.

Organizational Structure

FARN is the armed wing of the UDN (Schmid and Jongman 1988). Initial members were 60 ex-National Guard officers and allies to Anastasio Somoza (Gunson et. al. 2015, 251). These members had an alliance with the 15 September League (Gunson et al 2015, 251). Some of the leaders were José Francisco Cardenal, who was a businessman, as well as Edmundo Chamorro and Fernando Chamorro (Gunson et. al. 2015, 251; Central Intelligence Agency 2007a).

In late 1982, the group's leadership shifted to a National Directorate of seven men, handpicked by the CIA (Gunson et. al. 2015, 251). Calero became the new leader of the group (Gunson et al. 2015, 251). The exact number of members in the group are unknown as leaders claimed that there were 15,000-18,000 members in 1985, but

independent sources say that there were only 8,000-12,000 (Canada IRB 2000; Gunson et. al. 2015, 251). Members were primarily military men from Somoza's National Guard (Gunson et al. 2015, 251; Canada IRB 2000). There was also a large number of disaffected or kidnapped Nicaraguan peasants in the group (Canada IRB 2000).

External Ties

No information could be found about any ties to other state or non-state actors.

Group Outcome

In 1984, ARDE, the alliance that the group was a part of, became involved with the Miami drug trade (Central Intelligence Agency 2007a). Around this same time, it became clear that the CIA did not want to let UDN win against the Sandinistas, possibly causing the group to not want to continue with its violent actions (Chamorro and Morley 1985). In 1981 or 1982, the group merged with several other organizations to become FDN/ARDE (Canada IRB 2000).

Notes for Iris:

- started by businessmen; they recognized the Sandinista government initially, and opposed the leftist regime in power
- large amounts of external support by the CIA
- members were mostly peasants
- we would likely say the ARDE or the "contra" name is an umbrella; UDN/FARN and FDN are important individual groups

VII. ANTI-COMMUNIST PATRIOTIC FRONT

Min. Group Date: 1980

Max. Group Date: 1980

Onset: NA

Part 1. Bibliography

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<https://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/Results.aspx?perpetrator=3289>

Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: Patriotic Anti-Communist Front, Anti Communist Patriotic Front

Group Formation: 1980

Group End: 1980 (never took responsibility for other attacks)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

The group's founding date is unknown, but they first came to attention for a violent attack on July 23-24, 1980 (GTD 2017). No information could be found about their aims or ideology although they presumably opposed the Sandinista government.

Geography

In both of the attacks, the group targeted Quilali, Nicaragua (GTD 2017).

Organizational Structure

The organizational structure is unknown.

External Ties

The group's external ties are unknown.

Group Outcome

The group disappeared after these two attacks and never took responsibility for any others.

VIII. CONTRAS
Min. Group Date: 1981
Max. Group Date: 1987
Onset: 1982

Aliases: Contras, Contrarrevolucionarios, Counter Revolutionaries

Part 1. Bibliography

- "Contras." Terrorist Organization Profile No. 250, MIPT Knowledge Base, 2008, National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism, https://docs.google.com/document/d/1qTiblesqD9gJaqsrrhKtvBnAriLM11TIYD6wk6jIn_c/edit
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- Charles Parkinson. “Rebels or Delinquents? Armed Groups Grip Northern Nicaragua.” Insight Crime. 2013.
<http://www.insightcrime.org/news-analysis/rebels-or-delinquents-heightened-armed-conflict-grips-northern-nicaragua>

Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: no other aliases

Group Formation: 1980 (Brown University N.D.)

Group End: 1990, Sandinista regime overthrown (MIPT 2008), some dissidents continue to operate as drug traffickers (Parkinson 2013).

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

“Contras” was a title given to an umbrella organization of counter revolutionary groups who wanted to overthrow the Sandinista leftist regime in Nicaragua (MIPT 2008; Brown University N.D.; Parkinson 2013). The groups began to fight in 1980 (Brown University N.D.). The initial violent attack is unclear as there were many groups. Eventually, four of the biggest contra groups formed the Unified Nicaraguan Opposition (MIPT 2008). Since the group sought to overthrow the current government, the group’s political aims were center-seeking (MIPT 2008). There is no clear ideology except that the groups were counter revolutionary and against the leftist Sandinista regime (MIPT 2008).

Geography

Groups have had transnational bases in Honduras and Costa Rica (Parkinson 2013). Many operations have been planned from Argentina and the US (Parkinson 2013). The group has transnational bases but most of their attacks were fought in Nicaragua (Parkinson 2013).

Conservatives and former guardsmen met in various places including, El Salvador, Miami, Honduras, and Guatemala, to discuss how to organize armed counterrevolutionaries (Brown University N.D.).

There is no evidence that the group has any ties to Mexico including transnational attacks, bases, members, external support, etc.

Organizational Structure

Members of the group included peasants and farmers, National Guardsmen, and dissident Sandinista soldiers (Brown University N.D.; Chomorro and Morley 1985). Many Protestants and Catholics were also contras since the Sandinista regime was against religion (Brown University N.D.).

In 1983, there were 6,000 contras (Brown University N.D.). The groups conducted many kidnappings and assassinations (Brown University N.D. Parkinson 2013;). The groups were also believed to be involved in drug trafficking and robberies (Parkinson 2013).

There is not one clear leader, as the contras were many groups. Important contra leaders, however, were Enrique Bermudez, Edgar Chomorro, Pedro Chomorro, Jose Francisco Cardenal (Brown University N.D.; Chomorro and Morley 1985).

External Ties

Argentina allegedly helped train contras as well as provided funding and military advisers (MIPT 2008;Brown University N.D.; Chomorro and Morley 1985). The US aided contra groups with financial and tactical support beginning in 1981 (MIPT 2008; Brown University N.D.; Chomorro and Morley 1985). The CIA allegedly met with many of the leaders but was not allowed to arm them (Brown University N.D.;Chomorro and Morley 1985). The CIA even paid salaries to group leaders (Chomorro and Morley 1985).

At first, Argentina was in charge of contra leadership (Brown University N.D.). But eventually, the US took over, wanting to make the contras look like a “respectable political identity” (Brown University N.D.).

Group Outcome

Because the contras incited internal turmoil and due to outside pressure from countries like the US, the Sandinista government allowed free elections in 1990 (MIPT 2008). The Sandinista government lost the elections and therefore were forced to step down (MIPT 2008). Most contras demobilized once the Sandinista regime ended (MIPT 2008).

Many dissidents continued to be active with criminal activities (Parkinson 2013). The Nicaraguan military employed many operations to combat these remaining criminal groups of rearmed contras who operate in small groups of about 20 (Parkinson 2013).

- IX. NICARAGUAN REVOLUTIONARY ARMED FORCES (FARN)
Min. Group Date: 1981
Max. Group Date: 1983
Onset: NA

Aliases: Nicaraguan Revolutionary Armed Forces, Nicaraguan Revolutionary Armed Forces (Farn), Revolutionary Armed Forces Of Nicaragua, Revolutionary Armed Forces Of Nicaragua (Farn)

Part 1. Bibliography

Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: This is an alias for FARN (T412).

Group Formation: This is an alias for FARN (T412).

Group End: This is an alias for FARN (T412).

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

This is an alias for FARN (T412).

Geography

This is an alias for FARN (T412).

Organizational Structure

This is an alias for FARN (T412).

External Ties

This is an alias for FARN (T412).

Group Outcome

This is an alias for FARN (T412).

- X. NICARAGUAN DEMOCRATIC FORCE (FDN)
Min. Group Date: 1983
Max. Group Date: 1987
Onset: 1982

Aliases: Nicaraguan Democratic Force, Nicaraguan Democratic Force (Fdn)

Part 1. Bibliography

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- Canada: Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, Nicaragua: Origins and activities of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN); whether its members participated in war crimes or crimes against humanity; whether it still exists (1981-February 2000), 10 February 2000, NIC33711.E, available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6ad712c.html>
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Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: Fuerza Democrática Nicaragüense, FDN, Contras

Group Formation: 1981 or 1982 (Canada IRB 2000)

Group End: 1990 (Canada IRB 2000), allegedly disbanded after winning the election

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

The Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN) was formed by the unification of guerilla groups with bases in Honduras, including the Nicaraguan Democratic Union and the Nicaraguan Democratic Alliance (Canada IRB 2000). The group was formed between 1981 and 1982 and it first began operating in Nicaragua in 1982 (Canada IRB 2000). The FDN originally wanted to overthrow the dictatorship of Somoza and replace it with democracy (Canada IRB 2000). The group would later work to overthrow the Sandinista government (Canada IRB 2000). The FDN's political aims are therefore center-seeking. The group's ideologies are anti-communist, right wing, and pro-democracy (Mendez 2010).

Geography

The Nicaraguan Democratic Force was based in Honduras and then Nicaragua (Canada IRB 2000). The FDN conducted a very high number of attacks in Nicaragua, including: El Tortuguero, Condega, Quilalí, San Carlos, Panalí, San Fernando, Pavona, Cuapa, Esteli,

Las Colinas, San Sebastian de Yali, Abisinia, Acoyapa, La Patriota, Mancotal, Presillas, San Isidro, La Campana, Juigalpa, Cepillo del Cerro, Cerro Quemado, Rancho Grande, Mesas de Carbonales, San Jose de Bocay, Santo Tomas, Cedro, Miraflores, Kilambe, Acoyapa, El Nispero, Wiwili, Bilambil, El Limón, Aguas Gatar, San Jose de Murra, Comalapa, La Union, Asturias, Bocana de Paiwas, El Almendro, Santa Clara, and more cities in Nicaragua (GTD 2016).

The FDN also conducted attacks in Colombia in the city of Cali in 1987 (GTD 2016). The FDN additionally launched attacks in Honduras in the city of La Zompapera in 1987 (GTD 2016).

The FDN were drug traffickers in both the United States and Central America (Canada IRB 2000). The Nicaraguan Democratic Force is therefore transnational.

Organizational Structure

The leader of the FDN was Colonel Enrique Bermudez (Canada IRB 2000). The group had a political wing which was later combined into the Civil-Military wing and was led by Alfonso Calero (Canada IRB 2000). Bermúdez, the FDN's leader, also was in charge of the Military Affairs wing within the FDN (Canada IRB 2000). The FDN were drug traffickers in both the United States and Central America (Canada IRB 2000). The FDN received financial, strategic, and military support from the US and allegedly Argentina (Kinzer 2015; Canada IRB 2000). In 1986, the FDN had 10,000 armed individuals (Canada IRB 2000). The FDN usually recruited from the poor class in Nicaragua (Canada IRB 2000).

External Ties

The Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN) was formed by the unification of guerilla groups with bases in Honduras, including the Nicaraguan Democratic Union and the Nicaraguan Democratic Alliance (Canada IRB 2000). In 1986, the US Congress agreed to aid the FDN with \$100 million dollars in order to defeat the Sandinista government and attack communism (Kinzer 2015). The Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and the government of Argentina assisted the FDN with attack strategy, planning, and allegedly the creation of the FDN (Kinzer 2015; Canada IRB 2000). The FDN military is allegedly said to have contained members of the National Guard and past military of Somoza's presidency (Canada IRB 2000).

Group Outcome

In 1987, not only was a bus found with men in FDN uniform, but subcommander Jose Gonzales of that region in Nicaragua also said that about 200 men numbered the Guerilla wing of the FDN at that point (Kinzer 2015). In 1990, the group committed their

last recorded violent act and allegedly disbanded afterwards (Canada IRB 2000). In 1999, the FDN announced that they were now a political movement (Canada IRB 2000). Nevertheless in a 2010 report, a few ex-members of the FDN announced that they would continue being a force to fight for democracy (Mendes 2010).

XI. DEMOCRATIC REVOLUTIONARY ALLIANCE (ARDE)

Min. Group Date: 1983

Max. Group Date: 1991

Onset: NA

Aliases: None

Part 1. Bibliography

- “Nicaragua Blast Said to Wound a Rebel Leader.” New York Times. 1984.
<http://www.nytimes.com/1984/05/31/world/nicaragua-blast-said-to-wound-a-rebel-leader.html>
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- Canada: Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, Nicaragua: Information on the contras of the Frente Sur, part of ARDE, including its activities from 1986 to 1993, 1 January 1994b, NIC16199.E, available at:
<http://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6ace250.html>
- Canada: Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, Nicaragua: Information on former contra commanders, whether they have been holding any government positions or have been politically active, on their integration into society in peacetime, and whether there were any successful programs established to assist former contras, 1 May 1997b, NIC26842.E, available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6ad9220.html>
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<http://www.upi.com/Archives/1984/05/24/Sandinistas-claim-ARDE-rebels-in-disarray/6949454219200/>

Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: None

Group Formation: 1983 (GTD 2016)

Group End: 1991 (GTD 2016); later disarm

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

The three leaders are Eden Pastora Gomez, Alfonso Robello Callejas, and Brooklyn Riviera, a Miskito Indian (Hopfensperger 1983). Pastora was a former member of the Sandinista government and Rogelio a former member of the National Reconstruction Junta. The ARDE claims that the Sandinista government was not loyal to their original ideologies (Hopfensperger 1983). The group is counter revolutionary (Hopfensperger 1983). ARDE is right wing and anti imperialist (Hopfensperger 1983). The group's political aims are center seeking because they want to overthrow the Sandinista government. Their first violent act was in 1983 in Nicaragua (GTD 2016).

Geography

ARDE has a base in San Jose, Costa Rica (Hopfensperger 1983). ARDE conducts most of its attacks in Nicaragua in cities, including: Managua, Camoapa, Rio Rama, Yacamali, Wayawas, Cerro Campana, Tigre de la Sarapiquí, La Pavona, San Lucas, La Milpa, San Isidro, La Esperancito, and San Miguelito (GTD 2016). In 1985, ARDE conducted an attack in Colombia in the city Yumbo (GTD 2016).

Organizational Structure

The three leaders are Eden Pastora Gomez, Alfonso Robello Callejas, and Brooklyn Riviera, a Miskito Indian (Hopfensperger 1983). In 1984, estimated numbers of the groups ranged from 2,000 to 3,000 (New York Times 1984). The CIA funded the ARDE as it did for the FDN in hopes of both groups becoming allies to combat imperialism (New York Times 1984). The group had a political wing while it was active (New York Times 1984).

External Ties

ARDE leader Pastora announced that the group refused to join forces with the FDN since they had militants that had supported Somozas infamous presidency (Bonilla N.D.; New York Times 1984). The CIA allegedly funded the ARDE as it did for the FDN in hopes of both groups becoming allies to combat imperialism (New York Times 1984).

The CIA threatened to stop funding if Pastora did not agree to form an alliance with the FDN (New York Times 1984).

Group Outcome

In 1984, the Nicaraguan government allegedly threw a bomb about a mile from San Carlos Nicaragua that seriously injured the ARDE leader Pastora and a few Costa Rican journalists (New York Times 1984). The group's last recorded attack was in 1991 in Nicaragua although the contras began to demobilize in 1990 (Canada IRB 1990; GTD 2016). In 1992, the government offered cash money for any contras who still had weapons and turned them in (Canada IRB 1997). In reward for demobilization, the government gave 373 farms to the contras, including this group, which benefited thousands (Canada IRB 1997). In 1996, Pastora formed a political party (Canada IRB 1997). By 1996, some say the party had about 1,000 members (Canada IRB 1997).

Nicaragua, Part 2: 1985-2012 Last Updated: 2 December 2017

torg	gname	onset	min	max
T1814	MISKITO INDIAN ORGANIZATION		1985	1994
T1847	NICARAGUAN RESISTANCE		1987	1990
T1769	JORGE MARTINEZ ASSOCIATION OF COMBATANTS		1991	1991
T1866	PEOPLE'S INFORMATION GROUP		1991	1991
T1809	MIGUEL D'ESCOTO BROCKMAN COMMUNITY MOVEMENT		1991	1991
T1258	RECONTRAS		1991	1997
T1770	JOSE BENITO ESCOBAR WORKERS FEDERATION		1992	1992
T1879	PUNITIVE LEFTIST FRONT		1992	1992
T1948	YATAMA		1992	1992
T48	ANDRES CASTRO UNITED FRONT (FUAC)		1995	2000

I. MISKITO INDIAN ORGANIZATION

Torg ID: 1814

Min. Group Date: 1985

Max. Group Date: 1994

Onset: NA

Aliases: None

Part 1. Bibliography

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<http://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/Results.aspx?perpetrator=1274>
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- Alex Schmid and Albert Jongman. "KISAN." Political Terrorism: A New Guide. Routledge. 1988. gDrive PDF.
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<https://www.csmonitor.com/1985/0719/omiski.html>
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<http://www.nytimes.com/1984/11/27/opinion/support-the-peace-effort-of-nicaragua-s-indians.html>
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https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/politics/1985/06/22/nicaraguan-indians-form-alliance/1fb97455-8c64-4623-b3a4-d178708488c9/?utm_term=.d0e6bf3b598b
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https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/politics/1986/08/27/miskito-contras-still-lack-aid-but-quit-camp-for-nicaragua/6a1a4648-3ad7-410d-be22-4a32c77f83cb/?utm_term=.89141e1eb36c

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- Nietschmann, Bernard. 1987. "Peace in Central America? Not for its Indian People." The Washington Post (Pre-1997 Fulltext), Sep 20, c07.
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Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: MISURA, Nicaraguan Coast Indian Organization, KISAN

Group Formation: 1985

Group End: 1987 (merger into Yatama)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

It is unknown when the group formed. The group is a guerilla organization consisting of indigenous Miskito people that fight against the Sandinistas who displaced them from their homelands (Kennedy 1984; Schmid and Jongman 1988, 628). Their official goal was to oppose the Sandinistas and replace the government (Kennedy 1984; Schmid and Jongman 1988, 628). They are ethno-nationalist and promote the rights of the Miskito tribe in Nicaragua (Schmid and Jongman 1988, 628). Their first known attack was in 1985 (GTD 2017). The group's catalyst for forming seems to have been the indiscriminate violence and forcible movement of thousands of Miskito people to Honduras (Diskin et al. 1986, 1; CIA 1982; Kennedy 1984).

Geography

The group operated out of Honduras from about 1983 to 1985 (Nusser 1985; Kennedy 1984). They attacked several villages in Nicaragua (Kennedy 1984; GTD 2017).

Organizational Structure

Their leader is Steadman Fagoth, who was a previous leader of MISURASATA (Nusser 1985; Schmid and Jongman 1988, 628). After being arrested in 1980, Fagoth fled to Honduras with 3,000 Miskito Indians (Central Intelligence Agency 1982). He was later forced to move to the United States in 1985 (Miller 1987). The group consists of Miskito, Sumo, and Rama Indians (Omang 1985). It had approximately 1,000 men in 1986 (LeMoyne 1986). It had approximately 2,000-3,000 fighters around 1987 (Schmid and Jongman 1988, 629). Members were primarily Miskito refugees in Honduras (Miller 1987). The group also has considerable support from civilians (Nusser 1985). One of the officials of the group was Wycliffe Diego, who later left the group to join KISAN (Omang 1985; Miller 1987). The group has factions, the specifics of which are unknown (Nusser 1985).

External Ties

The group has ties to the FDN, but allegedly did not receive any funding or other support from the FDN (Nusser 1985; Omang 1985). The group allegedly received some logistical support from the US in Honduran refugee camps as early as 1985 (LeMoyne 1986; Miller 1987).

Group Outcome

From at least 1981 to 1984, the Sandinista government used scorched earth tactics and indiscriminate violence against the Miskito people, forcing 45,000 to flee to Honduras (CIA 1982, 6; Kennedy 1984). The group united with MISURASATA, the Southern Indigenous Creole Community, and a few villages in July of 1985 (Omang 1985). In 1985, after negotiations with the Sandinistas, indigenous groups that had been displaced were allowed to return to their homelands and were promised autonomy by the government (Nusser 1985). It renamed itself KISAN in 1986 (Schmid and Jongman 1988, 628). The group merged with MISURASATA and KISAN in 1987 to form Yatama, which helped negotiate peace with the Nicaraguan government (Rone 1988). Despite being allowed back into Nicaragua, there were attacks in 1992 and 1994 for unknown reasons (GTD 2017).

Notes:

- they differ from the other Contras in that they have ethno-nationalist grievances
- the Sandinistas wanted to move any Contras away from this one area which is how they forcibly removed
- the forcible removal was the catalyst for them forming and them moving
- they're a very special wing of the Contras because they are more ethnic grievances
- ethnic identity seemed to make it easier to mobilize resources
- MISURA's leader came from MISURASATA
- the US was both providing arms and trying to facilitate negotiations

-KISAN had a lot of internal divisions, which precluded opportunities for negotiation (splintering is harmful here)

II. NICARAGUAN RESISTANCE

Torg ID: 1847

Min. Group Date: 1987

Max. Group Date: 1990

Onset: NA

Aliases: None

Part 1. Bibliography

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Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: RN

Group Formation: 1987

Group End: 1990 (The Sandinistas lost the general election)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

The group was founded in 1987 by the United Nicaraguan Organization (UNO) and the Southern Opposition Bloc (BOS) (Gunson et al. 2015). It is a contra umbrella group that replaced UNO and was created in attempts to fix the rift in the UNO leadership (Gunson et al. 2015; Central Intelligence Agency n.d.). It opposed the Sandinista regime (Gunson et al 2015; Los Angeles Times 1987). The group's first known attack was in 1987 (GTD 2017).

Geography

The group attacked many different cities and villages in Nicaragua (GTD 2017). It was not transnational and had no evidence of an external base.

Organizational Structure

The group is headed by a seven person directorate chosen by a 54-member assembly (Gunson et al. 2015). Leaders include Pedro Joaquín Chamorro, Alfredo César, Adolfo Calero, Alfonso Robelo, Aristides Sanchez, Azucena Ferrey, and Enrique Bermudez (Gunson et al. 2015; Los Angeles Times 1987). The group claimed to have 14,000 members, but the Nicaraguan government estimated the group to have only 8,000 members (Gunson et al. 2015). There were around 70 to 80 task-force commanders and 26 regional commanders in the group (Ronfeldt and Jenkins 1987, 19).

External Ties

It has ties to the United States, which gave them \$100 million, allowing the group to plan resources and train members (Ronfeldt and Jenkins n.d., 20; Los Angeles Times 1987).

Group Outcome

In 1988, the Contras and the Sandinistas signed a ceasefire agreement (Central Intelligence Agency n.d.). In 1990, the Sandinistas lost the general election, causing both groups to slowly fade away (Central Intelligence Agency n.d.). The group's last violent attack was in 1990 (GTD 2017).

Notes for Iris:

- the Southern Opposition Bloc is a smaller faction of the Contras, but hasn't come up before
- there were leadership divisions, but it's unclear why they thought merging would resolve (normally they splinter)
- the US only gave financial assistance, but the group was really active
- trends in the attacks: no geographic trends, but mostly military and government-oriented

- this group seems more successful than the FDN even though they aren't active as long. They are much more organized and able to execute more attacks. They had a lot more political resources and command structure. Don't know how to compare sizes.
- also interesting comparison to FARN group: there are really similar size estimates // and also access to similar external resources
- the group 'succeeds' and gets concessions in the long-run
- interesting comparison with FDN (check against Fortna coding)

III. JORGE MARTINEZ ASSOCIATION OF COMBATANTS

Torg ID: 1769

Min. Group Date: 1991

Max. Group Date: 1991

Onset: NA

Aliases: None

Part 1. Bibliography

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<http://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/Results.aspx?perpetrator=2138>
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 - "Jorge martinez association of combatants"
 - Jorge martinez nicaragua 1991
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 - "Jorge martinez association of combatants"
 - Jorge martinez nicaragua 1991

Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: NA

Group Formation: 1991

Group End: 1991 (never took responsibility for another attack)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

The group's only known attack was in 1991 against a mayor's office (GTD 2017). No information could be found about their ideology or political aims.

Geography

The group attacked Corinto, Nicaragua (GTD 2017).

Organizational Structure

The organizational structure is unknown.

External Ties

The group's external ties are unknown.

Group Outcome

The group never took responsibility for another attack after 1991 (GTD 2017).

IV. PEOPLE'S INFORMATION GROUP

Torg ID: 1866

Min. Group Date: 1991

Max. Group Date: 1991

Onset: NA

Aliases: None

Part 1. Bibliography

- GTD Perpetrator 2135. Global Terrorism Database. Study for Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism. Last modified June 2017.
<http://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/Results.aspx?perpetrator=2135>
- Searched ProQuest
 - "People's information group"
 - People's information group nicaragua 1991

Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: NA

Group Formation: 1991

Group End: 1991 (never took responsibility for another attack)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

The group's only attack occurred in 1991 when it attacked a radio station (GTD 2017). No information could be found about their ideology or political aims.

Geography

The group attacked Managua, Nicaragua (GTD 2017).

Organizational Structure

The organizational structure is unknown.

External Ties

The group's external ties are unknown.

Group Outcome

The group never took responsibility for another attack after 1991 (GTD 2017).

V. MIGUEL D'ESCOTO BROCKMAN COMMUNITY MOVEMENT

Torg ID: 1809

Min. Group Date: 1991

Max. Group Date: 1991

Onset: NA

Aliases: None

Part 1. Bibliography

- GTD Perpetrator 2137. Global Terrorism Database. Study for Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism. Last modified June 2017.
<http://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/Results.aspx?perpetrator=2137>
- Searched gScholar
 - "MIGUEL D'ESCOTO BROCKMAN COMMUNITY MOVEMENT
 - "Brockman community movement" 1991
 - BROCKMAN COMMUNITY MOVEMENT nicaragua
 - assault mayor office nicaragua 1991 BROCKMAN COMMUNITY MOVEMENT nicaragua
- Searched Proquest
 - "MIGUEL D'ESCOTO BROCKMAN COMMUNITY MOVEMENT
 - BROCKMAN COMMUNITY MOVEMENT 1991 nicaragua
 - assault mayor office nicaragua 1991 BROCKMAN COMMUNITY MOVEMENT nicaragua

Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: NA

Group Formation: 1991

Group End: 1991 (never took responsibility for another attack)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

The group's only known attack was in 1991 when it attacked a mayor's office (GTD 2017). No information could be found about their ideology, but they could be presumably supporting the now overtaken Sandinista government.

Geography

The group attacked Matagalpa, Nicaragua (GTD 2017).

Organizational Structure

The organizational structure is unknown.

External Ties

The group's external ties are unknown.

Group Outcome

The group never took responsibility for another attack after 1991 (GTD 2017).

VI. RECONTRAS
Torg ID: 1258
Min. Group Date: 1991
Max. Group Date: 1997
Onset: NA

Aliases: Recontras, 380 Northern Front, 3-80 Northern Front, Ex-Contras, Fn 3-80, Recontra 380, Recontra 3-80, Recontra 3-80 Northern Front

Part 1. Bibliography

- “Recontras.” Terrorist Organization Profile No. 4223, MIPT Knowledge Base, 2008, National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism, https://docs.google.com/document/d/1F5OaS_pTJg52rjAbH1YPQBazAZ5sSpR29XXjD-p-d9E/edit
- “The Ex-Contras and Recontras.” Nicaragua Country Study. U.S. Library of Congress. <http://countrystudies.us/nicaragua/51.htm>
- Dan Trotta. “In Nicaragua, `Recompas’ form to fight ‘recontras.’” Sun Sentinel. 1992. http://articles.sun-sentinel.com/1992-01-05/news/9201010713_1_recontras-recompas-santiago-murray
- David Dye. “Hostage-Taking Crisis Escalates Political Instability in Nicaragua.” Christian Science Monitor. 1993. <https://www.csmonitor.com/1993/0823/23022.html>
- Canada: Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, Nicaragua: Information on current existence of "Recompas" in Nicaragua and whether they have committed abuses against former Sandinistas, 1 January 1993, NIC12771, available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6ab8a3c.html>
- Canada: Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, Nicaragua: Information on abuses committed against former members of the armed forces, who were dismissed from service in 1990 and 1991, 1 August 1992, NIC11556, available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6ab6994.html>
- “Recontras, a retiro en Nicaragua.” El Tiempo. 1997. <http://www.eltiempo.com/archivo/documento/MAM-576224>
- Jared Kotler. “US reverts to Cold War Politics on Nicaragua.” Christian Science Monitor. 1992. <https://www.csmonitor.com/1992/0917/17191.html>
- “Last of rearmed Contras yield to Nicaraguan president.” Deseret News. 1997. <https://www.deseretnews.com/article/573588/Last-of-rearmed-Contras-yield-to-Nicaraguan-president.html>
- “Five Nicaraguan Soldiers Killed in Rebel Attack.” UPI. 1993. <https://www.upi.com/Archives/1993/10/09/Five-Nicaraguan-soldiers-killed-in-rebel-attack/3645750139200/>
- Oswaldo Bonilla. “Nicaraguan fighting leaves 5 dead.” UPI. 1994. <https://www.upi.com/Archives/1994/04/22/Nicaraguan-fighting-leaves-five-dead/8505766987200/>

Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: 380, 380 Northern Front, 3-80 Northern Front, Ex-Contras, FN 3-80, Recontra 380, Recontra 3-80, Recontra 3-80 Northern Front, Northeastern Front 380

Group Formation: 1991

Group End: 1997 (group was disarmed)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

The group possibly formed after the 1990 election due to the president not keeping her word of helping them reintegrate into society (El Tiempo 1997; Deseret News 1997). The group is anti-Sandinista, right-wing, and opposed the government (MIPT 2008). The group hoped to remove Sandinista influences from the government and change various government practices to better benefit former Contras (MIPT 2008; Deseret News 1997). Their first attack occurred in 1991 when 80 members attacked a police station (U.S. Library of Congress n.d.; Trotta 1992; Kotler 1992) The group mostly took part in kidnappings (MIPT 2008).

Geography

The group was from Nicaragua, most likely operating out of there (MIPT 2008). Many of the members sought asylum in Honduras in 1993 after Talavera escaped there (MIPT 2008). The group allegedly used their old base in Honduras to rearm and reequip (MIPT 2008).

Organizational Structure

The group is made up of former Contras with fighting experience (MIPT 2008; Trotta 1992; Kotler 1992). The group has somewhere between several hundred to over a thousand members (MIPT 2008). In 1992, the group had approximately 800 members (Trotta 1992). An initial leader was Jose Angel Moran, who eventually left for Miami in early 1992 (Christian Science Monitor 1992; Library of Congress n.d.). One of the leaders was Jose Angel Talavera (UPI 1993; MIPT 2008). In 1997, the group had 387 members when it surrendered to the government (Deseret News 1997). Another leader was Bernardo Martinez Rojas (Deseret News 1997). The group allegedly funded itself through private donations from abroad (MIPT 2008).

External Ties

They received logistical support within Honduras using the same sources and networks as the original Contra movement (MIPT 2008). The group was also funded by private donors in Latin America, as well as Cuban and Nicaraguan officials in Miami (MIPT 2008). The group refused offers of amnesty from the Nicaraguan government (UPI 1993).

Group Outcome

During the mid 1990s, the group began to break down when rebels gave up their arms in exchange for economic incentives from the government, especially after Talavera

escaped to Honduras (MIPT 2008). The group refused offers of amnesty from the Nicaraguan government (UPI 1993). The group officially ended in 1997, when the Recontras agreed to disarm (El Tiempo 1997; Deseret News 1997; MIPT 2008).

Notes for Iris:

-disputed leadership

-some members went to Honduras but others stayed in Nicaragua - the group suffered defections throughout the 1990s due to the amnesty and eventually wore down

-Contras had lots of external support whereas the Recontras did not - some people tired of fighting as well

VII. JOSE BENITO ESCOBAR WORKERS FEDERATION

Torg ID: 1770

Min. Group Date: 1992

Max. Group Date: 1992

Onset: NA

Aliases: None

Part 1. Bibliography

- GTD Perpetrator 1758. Global Terrorism Database. Study for Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism. Last modified June 2017.
<http://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/Results.aspx?perpetrator=1758>
- Searched Proquest:
 - JOSE BENITO ESCOBAR WORKERS FEDERATION 1992
 - ESCOBAR union nicaragua 1992
 - JOSE BENITO ESCOBAR union cornap nicaragua 1992
- Searched gScholar
 - JOSE BENITO ESCOBAR union cornap nicaragua 1992
 - JOSE BENITO ESCOBAR WORKERS FEDERATION 1992
 - ESCOBAR union nicaragua 1992

Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: NA

Group Formation: 1992

Group End: 1992 (never took credit for another attack)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

The group's only attack took place in 1992 when it targeted the Cornap headquarters in Managua, Nicaragua (GTD 2017). No information can be found about its ideology or aims.

Geography

The group's only attack occurred in Managua, Nicaragua (GTD 2017).

Organizational Structure

The organizational structure is unknown.

External Ties

The group's external ties are unknown.

Group Outcome

The group never took responsibility for another attack after 1992 (GTD 2017).

VIII. PUNITIVE LEFTIST FRONT

Torg ID: 1879

Min. Group Date: 1992

Max. Group Date: 1992

Onset: NA

Aliases: None

Part 1. Bibliography

- GTD Perpetrator 1757. Global Terrorism Database. Study for Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism. Last modified June 2017.
<http://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/Results.aspx?perpetrator=1757>
- Canada: Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, Nicaragua: A movement known as Punitive Forces of the Left; its date of formation, its leaders and the treatment of the group by the authorities (1990-1999), 1 January 1999, NIC30990.E, available at:
<http://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6ab8340.html>
- "Declaraciones a la Presna del Presunto Responsable." Inter-American Yearbook on Human Rights, Vol. 2. Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. 1998. P. 1511.
<https://www.cidh.oas.org/annualrep/97span/Nicaragua11.218.htm>
- News of the Month." Envio Digital. No. 135. 1993. <http://www.envio.org.ni/articulo/2441>

- “Comandante 3-80, veinte años después.” La Prensa. 2011.
<https://www.laprensa.com.ni/2011/02/16/opinion/52320-comandante-3-80-veinte-anos-d-espues>

Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: Fuerzas Punitivas de Izquierda, FPI, Punitive Forces of the Left

Group Formation: 1991

Group End: 1993 (group offered amnesty by government).

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

Frank Ibarra formed the group in 1991 despite still being in the Sandinista Popular Army (Inter-American Yearbook 1998). Their first known attack occurred in early 1992 (GTD 2017). They are pro-Sandinista and probably formed in reaction to losing the election in 1990 (Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada 1999). Their main attack was the assassination of Arges Sequeira Mangas, a former commander against the then Sandinista government (La Prensa 2011).

Geography

Their attacks took place in Nicaragua, such as in Managua and El Calvario (GTD 2017).

Organizational Structure

The leader was Frank Ibarra Rojas, a former Lieutenant Colonel of the Sandinistas People Army (Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada 1999). Another was Lenin Cerna (Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada 1999). The group was made up of only former military intelligence officers (Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada 1999). There was no information about the size, funding sources, or a possible political wing.

External Ties

The group negotiated amnesty with the government in 1993 (Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada 1999). No evidence of external support by other state or non-state actors.

Group Outcome

The group's last known attack was in December 1992 (GTD 2017). In 1993, the group was offered amnesty by the Chormorro government, which they accepted (Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada 1999).

IX. YATAMA

Torg ID: 1948

Min. Group Date: 1992

Max. Group Date: 1992

Onset: NA

Aliases: None

Part 1. Bibliography

- GTD Perpetrator 1820. Global Terrorism Database. Study for Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism. Last modified June 2017.
<http://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/Results.aspx?perpetrator=1820>
- Minorities at Risk Project, Chronology for Indigenous Peoples in Nicaragua, 2004, available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/469f38c2c.html>
- Canada: Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, Nicaragua: Update to NIC10702 of 1 May 1992 on a group known as Misurasata or Kisan and on whether there has been any reported mistreatment of members of this organization, 1 July 1996, NIC24080.E, available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6ab4a54.html>
- Canada: Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, Nicaragua: Information on human rights violations committed by Misura or Misurasata, 1985-1992, 1 May 1992, NIC10702, available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6ac611c.html>
- Phil Gunson, Greg Chamberlain, and Andrew Thompson. "Yatama." The Dictionary of Contemporary Politics of Central America and the Caribbean. Routledge. 2015.
<https://books.google.com/books?id=HEFACwAAQBAJ&pg=PA365&lpg=PA365&dq=yatama+dictionary+central+america+nicaragua&source=bl&ots=z7Bh06WcV4&sig=EvmvF2ObuiZzza8cvfegzRfklRs&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjBjsSGufPXAhUT5WMKHXYFGAN0Q6AEIKTAA#v=onepage&q=yatama%20dictionary%20central%20america%20nicaragua&f=false>
- Peter Ford. "Nicaragua's Indian rebels head home to bargain with Sandinistas." Christian Science Monitor. 1987. <https://www.csmonitor.com/1987/1023/otalk.html>
- "Indian rebel leader meets with Nicaraguan official." UPI. 1988.
<https://www.upi.com/Archives/1988/01/23/Indian-rebel-leader-meets-with-Nicaraguan-official/5417569912400/>
- John Otis. "Indian rebel group takes control of two Nicaraguan towns." 1992.
<https://www.upi.com/Archives/1992/02/18/Indian-rebel-group-takes-control-of-two-Nicaragua-towns/7718698389200/>

Umbrella or separate group? Separate group

Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: NA

Group Formation: 1987

Group End: 1998 (signed an agreement with the Guatemalan government to disarm and desist)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

The group was founded in 1987 when it replaced MISURASATA (Minorities at Risk Project 2004; Gunson et al. 2015). It was founded by Steadman Fagoth and Wycliffe Diego (Gunson et al. 2015, 365). They fought for indigenous people's rights and opposed the Sandinista government (Ford 1987). It won an official position in regional elections in 1990 (Minorities at Risk Project 2004). In 1992, it merged with MISURA and KISAN and became a political party (Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada 1996). A separate faction broke off and continued to fight in Guatemala until 1998 (Minorities at Risk 2004). It is unclear exactly when their first attack occurred.

Geography

Their main attacks occurred in Nicaragua (UPI 1992; GTD 2017).

Organizational Structure

One of the main leaders was Brooklyn Rivera (UPI 1988). The group is made up of members of various indigenous tribes along the Caribbean coast, including the Miskito tribe (UPI 1988). The group had around 1,700 members before its first disarmament in 1991 (Minorities at Risk Project 2004). The group had a political wing that formed in 1992 (Gunson et al. 2015; Minorities at Risk Project 2004).

External Ties

The group worked with the Sandinista party after the 1990 election, but severed ties in 1996 (Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada 1996). The group was associated with the Contras (UPI 1988). Diego, one of the leaders, was associated with the RN and the group later worked with them (Gunson et al. (2015).

Group Outcome

It won an official position in regional elections in 1990 (Minorities at Risk Project 2004). In 1992, it merged MISURA and KISAN and became a political party (Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada 1996).

They reportedly demobilized and disbanded in 1990, but there were several attacks afterwards (Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada 1992; Gunson et al. 2015, 365). The group originally disarmed in 1991, but there was still animosity towards the Sandinistas from the group (Minorities at Risk Project 2004). This led to them seizing control of some government offices a few months later (Minorities at Risk Project 2004). They eventually signed an agreement with the Guatemalan government in 1998 where they agreed to stop the attacks (Minorities at Risk Project 2004).

The group's last incident in Nicaragua occurred in 1992 (GTD 2017). The group's last incident in Guatemala occurred in 1998 (GTD 2017; Minorities at Risk Project 2004).

Notes for Iris:

- this is an independent group
- unclear what their opposition to the Guatemalan government is - their main opposition in Nicaragua ends in 1991
- ethnonationalist movements seems highly resolved and very passionate

X. ANDRES CASTRO UNITED FRONT (FUAC)

Torg ID: 48

Min. Group Date: 1995

Max. Group Date: 2000

Onset: NA

Aliases: Andres Castro United Front, Andres Castro United Front (Fuac), Frente Unido Andres Castro, Frente Unido Andres Castro (Fuac)

Part 1. Bibliography

- "FUAC." Terrorist Organization Profile No. 3086, MIPT Knowledge Base, 2008, National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism, https://docs.google.com/document/d/1F5OaS_pTJg52rjAbH1YPQBazAZ5sSpR29XXjD-p-d9E/edit
- GTD Perpetrator 760. Global Terrorism Database. Study for Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism. Last modified June 2017. <http://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/Results.aspx?perpetrator=760>
- United States Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services, Nicaragua: Information on Nicaraguan armed groups, 23 January 2002, NIC02002.RIC, available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/3dec9a814.html>

- Clifford L. Staten. "The History of Nicaragua." ABC-CLIO. 2010. <https://books.google.com/books?id=2eZxwYCYsrYC&pg=PA143&lpg=PA143&dq=ANDRES+CASTRO+UNITED+FRONT+fuac&source=bl&ots=EeExyyeV4c&sig=7DNSGlnw0wYDXN9PE69mDuPJ20o&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjB3ofV0fPXAhVoxoMKHTufDaA4ChDoAQgqMAE#v=onepage&q=ANDRES%20CASTRO%20UNITED%20FRONT%20fuac&f=false>
- Cindy Combs and Martin Slann. "Andres Castro United Front." Encyclopedia of Terrorism, Revised. Infobase Publishing. 2009. P. 9. <https://books.google.com/books?id=H7fT0BQxwDsC&pg=PA9&lpg=PA9&dq=ANDRES+CASTRO+UNITED+FRONT&source=bl&ots=lo5Zss3Uly&sig=k4Qza7PzF9kcvIFt4LV110jK1v4&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwi409i30fPXAhXm6IMKHdX1CmsQ6AEINjAD#v=onepage&q=ANDRES%20CASTRO%20UNITED%20FRONT&f=false>
- Jose Luis Rocha. "Fundamentalism, Exclusion, Identity, and Annihilation." Envio. No. 243. 2001. <http://www.envio.org.ni/articulo/1537>

Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: NA

Group Formation: 1992 or 1995

Group End: 2001 (the group disbanded after several demoralizing losses to the police and army)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

The group formed in 1992 or 1995 by former Sandinista officials; their political aim was to demand access to land and political reforms to improve the welfare of individuals exploited by Law 209 (US CIS 2002; MIPT 2008; Staten 2010, 143). The group is anti-Sandinista (United States Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services 2002).

It started organizing in 1992 under the leadership of Edmundo Olivas (United States Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services 2002). Rather than wanting to change the entire country, the group focused on improving the Mining Triangle with the hopes of impoverished residents of the area (United States Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services 2002). The group's first violent incident is disputed, but likely occurred sometime between 1995 and 1997 (Envio 2001; US CIS 2002; GTD 2017).

Geography

The main attacks occurred in Nicaragua, specifically the Siuna Mountains region (GTD 2017; United States Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services 2002). They primarily operated in the Siuna mountain region also known as the Mining Triangle (United States Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services 2002).

Organizational Structure

At the time of demobilization in 1997, there were 400 members in the group (MIPT 2008). Members were primarily ex-Sandinista military men (MIPT 2008; Staten 2010). The main leaders of the group were Tito Fuentes, Edmundo Olivas, and Damián, all of which were mysteriously killed in 1997 shortly after the leaders announced they would rearm because the government did not faithfully abide by the disarmament deal (United States Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services 2002). The new leader after those three were killed was José Luis Marenco (United States Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services 2002). After the deaths of the main leader, the group dwindled to between 35 and 100 members (United States Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services 2002).

External Ties

The group had the same political aims as the National Coordinating Committee of Retired Officers (CNOR) (United States Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services 2002).

Group Outcome

In 1997, the group and the government made an agreement to demobilize in exchange for economic aid (MIPT 2008). However, after the army showed up to the disarmament ceremony, FUAC seized the Peace Commission members as hostages (United States Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services 2002).

It re-emerged after 1997 as a rebel group, claiming that the government had not kept its promises (Combs and Slann 2009, 9). In 2001, after several attacks from the police and army, the group suffered many losses, eventually disbanding (United States Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services 2002).