

# Attacked From 2 Sides, Nicaragua Says

## Guerrilla Raids Reported on Costa Rica, Honduras Borders

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MANAGUA, Nicaragua—Invading guerrilla patrols, probing nicaragua's frontier defenses in the south and the north, clashed with troopers of this nation's national guard, according to official announcements Sunday.

Casualties occurred on both sides but their exact number is not yet known by authorities in this capital.

A band of Sandinista National Liberation Front guerrillas crossed the San Juan River into Nicaragua from Costa Rica early Sunday, retreating back into Costa Rica after skirmishes with the guard. The action was repeated several hours later.

Both incursions occurred near Boca de Sabalos in the hilly jungles of southeastern Nicaragua not far from the Caribbean Sea, according to Col Aquiles Aranda Escobar, official spokesman for the national guard.

Aranda said a casualty count would not be available until guard patrols still pursuing guerrilla stragglers, returned to their bases.

In the opposite corner of the coun-

try, Sandinista guerrillas attacked a national guard post at Achuapa on Friday, according to a report released Sunday by Col. Simon Gonzales, military commander of the northwestern province of Leon.

Gonzales said the guerrillas had entered Nicaragua from Honduras. He estimated that half of the attackers were wounded in the fighting.

Honduras closed its land frontier to southbound traffic late last week and reinforced its border patrols with army troops to prevent illicit crossings into Nicaragua.

The bulk of the Sandinista rebels now outside of the country are reported to be in clandestine training camps in Costa Rica where they received haven after September's bloody, two-week insurrection that claimed more than 1,500 lives. Relatively few of the guerrillas are believed to have fled northward into Honduras when the uprising was crushed by the national guard.

Officials speculated Sunday that guerrilla probes from Costa Rica will

continue as the Sandinistas who are encamped there seek infiltration routes in advance of a new assault they have repeatedly threatened against the government of President Anastasio Somoza.

The three heads of an international mediation commission seeking to avoid another outbreak of civil war met by themselves here Sunday, searching for a formula to break a deadlock that threatens to torpedo the mediation effort of the Organization of American States.

The mediators, led by diplomats from the United States, Guatemala and the Dominican Republic, are said to be looking still for a solution in some kind of plebiscite that would give Nicaragua's citizens a direct voice in solving their grave political crisis.

Both sides—Somoza's Liberal Party and his civic opposition, which calls itself the Broad Opposition Front—rejected on Friday a mediation suggestion that a national referendum be called on the future of Somoza in Nicaraguan public life.