

"Their bodies and hearts will not tremble when the time comes to defend their revolution and homeland with courage and determination."

At the beginning of the ceremony, Sandinist Police Commander Doris Tijerino said that the PV Voluntary Police have completed a total of 8.3 million hours of voluntary service so far this year. This does not include productive activities in war zones, she stressed. She did admit, however, that there is a shortage of funds, and some difficulties must be overcome in order to improve the recruitment of members.

Also present at the ceremony were Deputy Interior Minister Luis Carrion, senior officials of the MININT [Interior Ministry] and the Defense Ministry, leaders of mass organizations, and other special guests.

150 CONTRA DESERTERS RETURNED TO FAMILIES

A190418 Managua International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Dec 85

[Text] One-hundred and fifty youths deserted the counterrevolutionaries' ranks during the last semester of 1985, it was officially reported today. Yesterday 19 citizens of various Atlantic coast ethnic groups turned themselves in to the Sandinist People's Army under the amnesty law decreed by the revolutionary government in mid-1985. The defectors were turned over to their families during an open-air mass in the Moravian school in Bluefields. The return of the Miskitos and creoles to their communities resulted from the popular consultation on the autonomy of the Atlantic coast region that the Moravian and Evangelist pastors in that area conducted.

ARDE CLAIMS 93 CASUALTIES INFLICTED ON ARMY

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[Text] San Jose, 18 Dec (ACAN-EFE) -- The anti-Sandinist forces led by Eden Pastora have inflicted 93 casualties, dead and wounded, on the Nicaraguan Army during a total of 27 clashes that took place in southern Nicaragua last month, it was reported here today.

The official radio station of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE), "Voz de Sandino," reported that the most violent clashes took place in El Rama, eastern Nicaragua and near El Castillo, in the southern area bordering with Costa Rica.

In addition to the 93 casualties, the anti-Sandinist forces captured 3 members of the Sandinist People's Army (EPS) -- identified as Guillermo Zeledon, Francisco Ocampo, and Napoleon Pineda -- and "their lives were spared," the ARDE report added.

The rebel station also said that Eden Pastora's forces set fire to three garrisons in the vicinity of El Cacao, La Fonseca, and El Castillo, in southern Nicaragua.

During these actions, ARDE also seized 26 Soviet-made AK-47 rifles, 26 magazines, over 4,000 rounds of ammunition, 28 pairs of new boots, 11 uniforms, 4 knapsacks, and some food supplies.