

Los más buscados de Nicaragua 2

¶7. (U) Such misogynistic attitudes are common in the FSLN, as is the tolerance of domestic and sexual violence. When FSLN National Assembly deputies voted to lower the criminal penalties for statutory rape in March 2006, FSLN deputy Nathan Sevilla justified the vote by stating that sex with minors was "normal" in rural Nicaragua and thus should not be considered a serious crime.

¶8. (SBU) Sources: personal testimony of Zoilamerica, legal documents filed by Zoilamerica in Nicaraguan institutions

(including the courts, the police and the office of the Human Rights Ombudsman) and the IACHR, media records of Ortega's "public relations" campaign using Rosario Murillo and his own mother.

Protection and Blackmail of Fellow Alleged Rapist Ricardo Mayorga

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¶9. (U) In September 2004, boxer Ricardo Mayorga allegedly raped a young woman in a Managua hotel. Sensing an opportunity to blackmail Mayorga, Ortega and the FSLN agreed to protect the boxer in the courts if he would give the party a large portion of his international boxing winnings and "advertise" for Daniel in public. Mayorga agreed, and an FSLN judge found him not guilty in December. Much of Mayorga's winnings now reportedly go to Ortega, and when Mayorga fought in Chicago in August 2005, he dedicated the fight to Daniel, wore the FSLN colors, and flashed the number of the FSLN slot on the Nicaraguan electoral ballot ("casilla") to the international media.

¶10. (SBU) Sources: media accounts of Mayorga's arrest, trial, his public "pro-Daniel" comments and his August 2005 fight, private testimony offered by lawyers involved in the case, testimony of the rape victim.

Daniel Ortega a Thief like Aleman

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¶11. (U) Property Confiscations: After the victory of the revolution in 1979, Daniel immediately confiscated the Managua residence of current National Assembly deputy Jaime Morales. Ortega subsequently stole other houses and property surrounding the Morales residence and created his own private compound on an entire block in downtown Managua.

¶12. (U) The Pinata Phenomenon: After the FSLN lost the election in 1990 but before it handed over power to Dona Violeta, Ortega supervised the theft of billions of dollars worth of land and state-owned companies that went to his immediate family, Humberto Ortega and other prominent Sandinistas. Other companies involved in transportation, lumber, sugar mills, and slaughterhouses nominally went to the FSLN, but effectively ended up in the hands of Ortega, his family, and their closest associates.

¶13. (SBU) Sources: Nicaraguan government property records

document the Pinata and the 1980s confiscations in great detail. Ortega still lives in the Morales house and occupies the entire block to this day. Testimony of those whose property was seized is also widely available and hundreds are registered with the U.S. Embassy. Other sources include State Department annual Human Rights Reports and complaints filed with the CPDH human rights organization.