

The armed forces was once again restricted to providing physical security to the voters and voting materials.

Guerrilla activity was not great, despite one or two reported attacks on voting day in the San Miguel Department of eastern El Salvador. Two team members who spent much of the day in San Miguel and Morazán were able to confirm that, even in these conflict zones, guerrilla action did not have much, if any, effect in reducing the turnout or on the voting process. On March 25 a total of 58 towns with a combined population of about 100,000 were estimated to have been under guerrilla control. On May 6 indications were that the number of towns deprived of the vote was 41. It is therefore our view that voting was not disrupted as a result of guerrilla activity even to the extent of the last election.

Voter turnout appeared to be high, perhaps in the 1.3 - 1.4 million range; this despite fears in advance of apathy as a result of having to repeat the process as soon after the first round. Official figures on the number of votes cast are not yet available, so a final judgement on how representative the election was will have to await the submission of our final report. As in the case of the team's report on the first round, and given the absence of observed fraud or coercion, if the number of votes once again exceeds the one million mark it will be the conclusion of the Canadian observers that the results broadly reflect the will of the Salvadoran people.

W.R. Bailie

R.A. Gould

F.M. Filleul

I agree with this Report based on the information contained herein and from my first-hand observations of the March 25 election.

R.G.L. Fairweather