

normal place of residence could still cast their votes.

However, this system had a major defect. Some of the 144 polls that were set up to handle the national lists at the fairgrounds in San Salvador, were allocated the same number of ballots per box (500) as were the regular polls and they ran out of ballots by the middle of the afternoon. Voters coming to these polls had to be redirected to two other polls in different locations that had the national lists in the capital area, because of the inconvenience or the lateness of the hour many may have missed the opportunity to vote at all. Other than this difficulty, voting day proceeded well, with few serious problems. The Canadian team, by splitting into groups, was able to visit a large variety of polling locations, involving numerous polling stations (ballot boxes). Although the team observed a number of minor irregularities, in our opinion these incidents were not such that they would have effected the outcome of the election.

CONCLUSION:

The findings of the team may then be summarized as follows: As a result of strenuous and determined efforts by the Central Electoral Council many of the shortcomings noted in our report on the first round of the elections had been overcome by the time voting took place on May 6. The improvements undoubtedly permitted a greater proportion of the potential voters to exercise their franchise than on the previous occasion, though, as noted above, miscalculation on the allocation of ballots reduced the number of voters amongst displaced persons. Scattered instances of some pressure on voters by party workers were reported, though not witnessed by Canadian team members at any of the polls visited. However, the consensus is that voting and counting generally took place in an atmosphere of freedom, patience, good will and even good-humour.