

reduce or eliminate the previous major administrative problem.

Although there had been a majority opinion at the political level in El Salvador that the use of the voters' list was a principal cause of the long lineups and confusion, the fact that President Magaña had vetoed the bill in late April to eliminate the voters' list, meant that the same system as previously would be used. However, the voters' list had been updated -- 85,000 additions, corrections and deletions having been made to the March 25 list.

One of the most serious problems which delayed the opening of the polls and caused serious confusion at the previous election was the delivery of supplies -- including ballots -- to the polling officials and the polls themselves. This time, the election officials had drastically changed the system. Delivery was under the direct control of the Council and the Operations Centre. Ballot boxes, ballots, signs, ink and other supplies were packaged in clearly marked and sealed boxes and delivered to the departmental (provincial) polling places several days before the election, placed under lock and key and guarded. On the morning of May 6th, all boxes were distributed from the departmental location to the nearby municipal polls starting at 5:00 a.m. This system resolved the major supply problem which had adversely affected the previous election.

The election officials were of the opinion that because there were only two parties instead of eight, some of the past difficulties and confusion would be reduced. Once again, the list of the polling stations was published in the