

In our report to you of March 26, 1984 about the outcome of the Presidential elections in El Salvador, which took place on March 25, 1984 we undertook to make a further report when the results of the voting were announced by the Central Elections Council. Information has come to the Canadian Embassy in Costa Rica to the effect that the vote turn-out numbered 1,278,000 represented by 549,727 or 43.41% votes for the Christian Democratic Party, 376,917 or 29.76% for the Nationalist Republican Alliance (ARENA); 244,556, or 19.31% for the National Conciliation Party; 7.52% for the remaining five parties. These figures are based upon embassy calculations of known results.

Since the election, no evidence has been forthcoming of fraud or intimidation which would change the conclusions we reach.

We expect from our observations that some of the technical difficulties that prevented many citizens from exercising their franchise can be overcome before the run-off elections tentatively scheduled for May 6, 1984.

The number of votes cast is substantially in excess of the one million upon which we predicated our first report and there are two parties that have a significant majority; we therefore conclude that the results of the elections broadly reflect the wishes of the people of El Salvador.