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MEXICO

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Salinas' Colombia Visit Ends; Accords Signed
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 Television in Spanish 1300 GMT 12 Jul 89*

[Report by Javier Solorzano and Raul Rodriguez from Bogota—recorded]

[Text] President Carlos Salinas de Gortari concluded a visit to Colombia which lasted a little over 24 hours. The president participated in many activities there, and the Colombian press published many reports on the visit.

While touring the streets of Bogota, President Salinas de Gortari greeted the Colombians and his greetings were enthusiastically returned. The president also met with the country's intellectuals, who said it was a meeting of minds for reflection. There is great admiration and love for Mexico in Colombia, and it is evident in the contacts between the two nations. This was the prevailing atmosphere during the president's luncheon with intellectuals. The luncheon was one of the most interesting points of his visit, aside from meetings with President Virgilio Barco. At the end of the visit, the two presidents signed a nine-point agreement, and a declaration on the historic visit, given the current status of Mexican-Colombian relations.

Mexico wants to change its image abroad, particularly in Latin America. Mexico wants to integrate itself with realism, without rhetoric, and is internally modernizing itself in every sector. Within this process, the central point of its political evolution is its abidance by the law, respect for the voters' will, and acceptance of free election results. All of this was stated by the Mexican president during talks with foreign reporters in Bogota, where he was asked what the common denominator was of his first state visits to Latin American countries, meaning Venezuela and Colombia, which concluded this evening.

President Salinas de Gortari ended a busy, but productive state visit to Bogota. He and Virgilio Barco signed 10 specific agreements, including a plan to increase their bilateral cooperation and economic activities, technical and scientific cooperation in the energy and mining sectors, exchange and cooperation in the coal sector, cooperation in the prevention and control of drug abuse and trafficking, and technological and cultural cooperation.

Today's activities included a lengthy meeting between the two presidents at Narino Palace. It was a friendly meeting during which the two reasserted that progressive and balanced cooperation is one of the loftier goals in the region, given Latin America's acute problems. Both presidents also condemned terrorism; and confirmed that political solutions, accompanied by an intensive development program, represent the optimum solution for Central America.

PAN Wins Baja California Governorship
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 Television in Spanish 1305 GMT 11 Jul 89*

[Text] The State Electoral Commissions [CEE] of Baja California and Michoacan announced results of the 2 July elections. It was confirmed that PAN [National Action Party] candidate Ernesto Ruffo won the governorship of Baja California. In the local deputies election in the 15 electoral districts in Baja California, 13 have been counted, resulting in 7 seats for PAN and 6 for the Institutional Revolutionary Party [PRI]. The two districts still to be counted are the Second and Third Districts in Mexicali.

The CEE in Michoacan reported that 16 of the 18 districts there have been counted. The PRI won in 10 districts and the Democratic Revolutionary Party won in the 6 remaining districts. The two districts yet to be counted are the 13th in (Chichipán) and the 14th in Los Reyes.

It should be noted that the elections in Baja California and Michoacan have been the most hotly contested in the country. It should also be noted that no party obtained a majority in the state legislative bodies in either of these regions. There will be a need for negotiations and coordination to carry out any major government programs in these areas.

The 2 July elections ended the era when election results were overwhelming and absolute victories. Today, the diversity of political parties is a challenge that must be met responsibly and efficiently. The elections in Michoacan and Baja California have made it apparent that this is an era of political pluralism, perfected democracy, and a time for coordination and negotiation in the country. As of today, all parties will have to make alliances in the new national political arena.

Election Impact Noted

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 8 Jul 89 p 2*

[Text] The Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI), Mexico's ruling political group since its founding by President Plutarco Elias Calles 60 years ago, claims to be experiencing a significant moment in history.

Rafael Rodriguez Barrera, general secretary of the PRI's National Executive Committee, announced Friday in Durango that his party "continuously renews itself because life in Mexico is characterized by constant changes."

In a separate but closely related development in Mexico City, Tourism Secretary Carlos Hank Gonzalez affirmed Friday that the PRI is not being splintered from within. He added that the National Action Party's (PAN) triumph in Baja California "is painful for PRI militants but challenging and a source of new strength, as it will