

PRELIMINARY POST-ELECTION STATEMENT

INTERNATIONAL DELEGATION TO
NATIONAL ELECTIONS IN PARAGUAY

May 10, 1993
Asunción, Paraguay

We are pleased to offer this preliminary statement on behalf of the international
delegation sponsored by the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI) and
the Council of Freely-Elected and Led Governments.

The delegation observed the balloting and counting in 333 polling stations in small towns and villages in a consensus. The statement represents a

The delegation has been here since Wednesday, May 5. On Thursday and Friday, the
delegation met with a broad spectrum of government officials, political leaders and candidates
of the electoral process. On Saturday, we met with local officials. On Sunday, we observed the balloting in 333

44

The delegation has the experience of NDI with
elections to the 1989 national and local elections, has supported
programs in Paraguay for the past four years and recently organized
to train local officials. NDI has had experience monitoring
electoral process in 11 countries in the Western Hemisphere.

NDI provided assistance to a consortium of nongovernmental organizations, to
conduct a quick count for the election. No sponsored a visit by a team to help
in voter registration to help the voter registration lists. In March, NDI sent
a five-person team to study the electoral process. Last week, NDI published a report by
the team's findings and observations. The report was prepared by
Griner, who has been in Paraguay

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...of the registration process that involves the publication of results has not been reviewed. A more detailed report will be issued next week. Complaints

complaints

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investigated the candidates' backgrounds and analyzed their platforms. One independent newspaper editor, who had suffered a recession in the past four years, become free in the past four years.

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92.7% of the responding sites. This is, however, under-stated the coverage because of the unrepresentativeness of the polling stations and the presence of irregularities.

Some people were concerned that election materials would not be available in sufficient quantities. However, our survey found that they were at 96.8% of the mesas and 99.4% of the responding sites.

Despite concerns that the full list of polling procedures would not be followed, they were generally followed without significant problems at 94% of the mesas and 95% of the responding sites.

Significantly, given the concerns raised about the quality of the voters list, the survey found that voters were generally able to find the correct location and vote without problems at 97.3% of the mesas and 98.6% of the responding sites.

Most importantly, the overall voting process was satisfactory at 91% of the mesas and 94.5% of the responding sites.

Irregularities were more common in the process of voter registration, including the use of false identification cards, and the use of force or intimidation. These irregularities were observed at 100% of the mesas and 100% of the responding sites. Complaints were received from 100% of the mesas and 100% of the responding sites.

We also condemn the deliberate obstruction of the electoral process. SAKA has been accused of deliberately projecting the electoral results, which was done because any blocked complaints would have attributed the problems to the Guayan authorities. Paragraphs 10-12 of the report know that seven of SAKA's lines obstruct the organization's work.

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crossing of Paraguay's border at certa
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democratic institutions being to cooperate with

in "because the next government is not likely to have a majority in Congress, cooperation
is not the political option available. That cooperation should be encouraged as soon as possible
possible, whose We encourage the president-elect to begin a dialogue with the other party
assistance will be needed to effectively govern.

the ruling party to sever its ties with the military and to work toward
establishment of a professional nonpartisan force. Civilian control of the military must
be enhanced by training members of Congress on military affairs and by strengthening
dependence and capacity of the Ministry of Defense.

The delegation emphasizes that the holding of competitive elections, while essential
part of a democratic society. It is agreed that many challenges remain in this regard
legislative branch to oversee the executive, such as the creation of a strong
Paraguayan people and their elected representatives at all levels who must strive to meet these
challenges. The international community remains committed to supporting the

**Council of Freely Elected
and Independent Heads of Government**

Carter Center of
Emory University
One Copeland Hall
Atlanta, Georgia 30307

**National Democratic Institute
for International Affairs**

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Council of Freely
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Kenneth Malley
Board Member
National Democratic Institute
UNITED STATES

Bonginkosi Mhlanga
Member of Election Commission of Parliament
Africanist Congress of Azania
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Manuel Chinkwira
Acting Chairman
Public Affairs Committee
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Professor of Political Science
George Washington University
UNITED STATES

Stephen Schlesinger
Director for International
Organizations
New York State Department
Economic Development
UNITED STATES

Mikhail Solovtsov
Advisor
Mayor of Moscow
RUSSIA

Assador to Paraguay

Leo Valladao
Human Rights
HONDURAS

Patricia We
Professional
Committee
Hemisphere Affairs
UNITED STATES

Ken Wollay
President
National Democratic Institute
UNITED STATES

m Assi

April 21, 1984

Mr. [redacted]
[redacted]
Embassy
Asunción, Paraguay

Resident: Dear Mr. Pi

We have the honor of inviting you again to attend the May 9th general elections in Paraguay as an international observer.

These elections represent the most important step towards consolidating democracy in Paraguay. They will be a milestone in our country's first civilian government in more than fifty years. Various international observers have already agreed to be present. However, because of your interest in human rights, we would like to have you as an observer in the event of a free and fair election. We would like to have you as an observer in the event of a free and fair election. We would like to have you as an observer in the event of a free and fair election.

Sincerely yours,

10/11/84
Guillermo Caballero Vargas - Domingo Laíño
Embajador General - Presidente Encargado
Alianza por el Centro - Partido Liberal
Nacional - Auténtico

Juan Carlos Wasmosy

1116
LIVE



June 4, 1993

To His Excellency, *Francisco* Wasmosy

Please accept my warmest congratulations on your election as the next President of the Republic of Paraguay. Your choice as the first freely-elected civilian President in the country's history has special historic significance.

I am having had a chance to meet you in your position to consolidate Paraguayan investment, modernization, promote trade with the United States and eliminate threats to represent

that you are
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Francisco Wasmosy

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TSK

THE CARTER CENTER

ONE COPENHILL, ATLANTA, GA 30309

NEWS

Assures Fairness

of National Elections

Free Elections in Paraguay

On May 9, voters in Paraguay elected Juan Carlos Wasmosy as the country's first civilian president in more than 35 years. The Carter Center's presence in Paraguay assures fairness and freedom for the elections. The center's presence in Paraguay is a 31-person international mission.

Freely Elected Heads of Government

Delegation's Presence

Assures Fairness of National Elections in Paraguay

Paraguay

Wassmo (coalition)

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is for president Vargas of the Encarnacion. This is for the

Delegation's Presence

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President Carter's Delegation

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who has led two previous delegations to Paraguay.

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Government's Candidate Wins Paraguay's

Presidential Election

By JAMES BROOKE

Special to The New York Times

ASUNCIÓN, Paraguay, May 10 — After voting marked by fraud and sabotage, Paraguayan politicians clanked today and recognized Juan Carlos Wasmosy as the winner of the first democratic elections in this South American nation's 125-year history. The repeat election analysts said fraud had not been widespread enough to have changed the outcome, which gave Mr. Wasmosy of the governing Colorado Party a seven percentage point margin over his closest rival, Domingo Lafora of the Liberal Party. Mr. Wasmosy said the irregularities, which he said were "not significant," would not affect the result.

Mr. Wasmosy said that the people are

Mr. Wasmosy won 52.5 percent of the 25 counties. He is a former governor and a major in the army. His political career has slipped since President Alfredo Stroessner was toppled in a military coup after 34 years in power.

An opponent, Lafora, said that the opposition had been weakened by a military coup in 1989.

Mr. Wasmosy is a member of the Colorado Party, a Washington-based political party. He is a former member of the National Congress and a former member of the National Council.

Mr. Wasmosy's victory is seen as a sign of a new era of democracy in Paraguay. He is expected to take office in August. His government is expected to focus on economic development and social reforms. He is also expected to continue the process of democratization that began in 1989.

Mr. Wasmosy had a strong political background.

Army Leader

Mr. Wasmosy said that the result was not insignificant. He said that the people are

Mr. Wasmosy had a strong political background.

A clear result in the election was expected. Mr. Wasmosy's victory was seen as a sign of a new era of democracy in Paraguay.

Mr. Wasmosy

Mr. Wasmosy

Mr. Wasmosy will extend his term in Paraguay's presidency for a second term, after being re-elected in the 1997 election.

Mr. Wasmosy

Ruling Party Wins in Paraguay

Called 'Free and Fair'

By Don Podesta

Washington Post Foreign Staff

Paraguay's ruling party, the Colorado Party, won a decisive victory in Sunday's presidential election, according to preliminary results announced today.

The Colorado Party, led by Alfredo Stroessner, secured 58.9 percent of the vote, according to the official count. The main opposition party, the National Encuentro, came in second with 27.1 percent.

Stroessner, 77, has ruled Paraguay since 1989, after a period of military rule. He is the son of a Paraguayan dictator who ruled from 1954 to 1989.

A team of observers sent by the National Democratic Institute today characterized the election as free and fair and democratic, but they criticized the army commander, Gen. Alfredo Stroessner, for marking the election with a military would not put with a change in ruling party.

Stroessner also announced that the phone lines of the opposition-monitoring group Sakab were cut off Sunday afternoon and had not been restored.

The Colorado Party's victory was a surprise to many observers, who had expected a closer race. The party's lead was not solidified until the vote counting was well advanced.

Stroessner's victory was a surprise to many observers, who had expected a closer race. The party's lead was not solidified until the vote counting was well advanced.

There were several reports of Colorado partisans harassing voters Sunday, and a judge ordered the border closed to Paraguayans returning home to vote, which Carter also noted as irregularities. Violations of Paraguay's laws. But Wasmosy's margin of victory was so large that the incidents could not have changed the outcome.

The incidents, who had been badly split after a bruising primary that Wasmosy at first appeared to have lost, ranked Caballero Vargas in one election point. But in the closing days of the campaign, they were able

Stroessner Caballero of Sakab said.

Wasmosy, 54, is a civil engineer and businessman who made a fortune during the construction of Paraguay's massive Itaipu Dam on the border with Brazil. During the campaign, he was criticized for modernizing the country's infrastructure.

Wasmosy responded to questions about punishing violations during the campaign of Gen. Alfredo Stroessner, saying it was a "page" and look for would leave prosocial human rights diary.

In a speech

involved the name of the Colorado Party repeatedly, Wasmosy promised to be "faithful to the constitution."

Gen. Stroessner, in a televised speech today

Paraguayan Election Draws Heavy Turnout

ASUNSIÓN, Paraguay, May 9 — In a referendum to give the people a chance to vote for a civilian president, Paraguayan voters responded with a heavy and enthusiastic

turnout. The results were expected to be decisive after the referendum.

Paraguayan voters responded with a heavy and enthusiastic turnout.

of this kind. Soldiers blocked the way to the polls. By the time the army's army

counting was completed, the results were expected to be decisive after the referendum.

Paraguayan voters responded with a heavy and enthusiastic turnout.

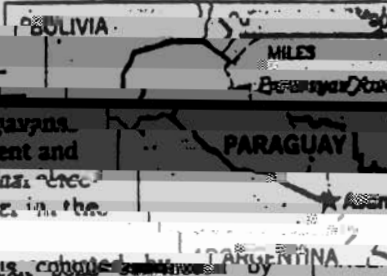
at a change in the government but the results were expected to be decisive after the referendum.

Paraguayans Vote

For Civilian Leader

Polling Orderly in Historic Provincial Election

By Jim Doherty
Washington Post Foreign Service



More than a million Paraguayans voted today for a new president and congress in the first popular election since the 1950s for a civilian leader in the country's history.

television and radio stations dis- the agreed-on tiebreaker winner in the presidential race, as each of the three top candidates appeared to get roughly 30 percent of the exit centage points in one of the Party surveys, the ruling Colorado Party claimed victory minutes after the polls closed, and its followers took to the streets to celebrate.

depend- The opaque lines of the in- p Saka, dent election watchdog group parallel, which was conducting a 5 afternoon, went head-to-head of sabotage: 18th raising questions to monitors and exit poll operators. leader Jon Glassman said 'USA. Amhoas too busy to judge whether it were had been any significant irregularities.

But even before a clear winner emerged, what mattered to Paraguay was that the election came off at all. The country has long been dominated by the armed forces, and the traditional means of choosing a new government here has been a coup d'etat.

The three leading candidates were: Gen. Carlos Wasongay of the Colorado Party, Guillermo Caballero Vangaras of the National Encounter Party, and Domingo Irujo of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party—differing little in their criticisms of the authoritarian, modernizing the state and the pro-long through privatization and principles. Irujo stressed democratic principles, a semi- Ten days before the vote in Linoior army commander, Gen. Carlos was not prepared to accept a "co-govern" and by other than to "co-govern" the would continue to fight that the country, Irujo said, would be



Friday's election was watched by more than 200 international observers from the Organization of American States and the National Democratic Institute, among other groups, along with reporters led by Bill Jimmy Carter, who was in three leading candidates.

clean about two hours before the polls closed, saying, "So far as I know, it was the best election ever seen here."

During the campaign, there was little debate about traditional political issues, such as social problems or the economy. The central issue was the Colorado Party to yield control of the government after ruling for 40 years.

of the Colorado Party to yield control of the government after ruling for 40 years. The country's 132,000 men, women and children were not prepared to accept a "co-govern" and by other than to "co-govern" the would continue to fight that the country, Irujo said, would be

Early this morning, a television

In addition to a president, Paraguayans voted for a new 45-seat Senate and 80-member House of Deputies, 17 regional governors and 168 state council members.

Since it became South America's first independent country in 1811, Paraguay has



iguez, the current president. had been Rodriguez, who had been a close associate of Stroessner, may have quickly won the process and allowed the press to operate but he called for his three months after the election.

gn that gave the president a little time to organize his campaign, drawing parties and organizing

and organizing

and organizing

Dirty Democracy in Paraguay

Fortunately, electoral chicanery did not decide the outcome of Paraguay's first-ever democratic presidential election last week. Unfortunately, when enough chicanery took place to mar the process, it has been a proud achievement.

On Election Day, rifle fire dinged the only opposition television channel, while Government officials temporarily cut the phone lines of opposition parties and a nonpartisan group planning to complete an independent vote count.

Quick information...

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preparing for a democratic succession, but army commanders and Colorado Party leaders were kept trying to undermine his good works.

President elect Juan Carlos would d...
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Election

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El recurrente injerencia militar en el proceso por la democracia

El ex presidente de la NDI (National Democratic Institute) que presenció las elecciones en el pasado...

organización Saka, que, pese a las promesas que le hizo el presidente Rodríguez, no fueron restablecidas.

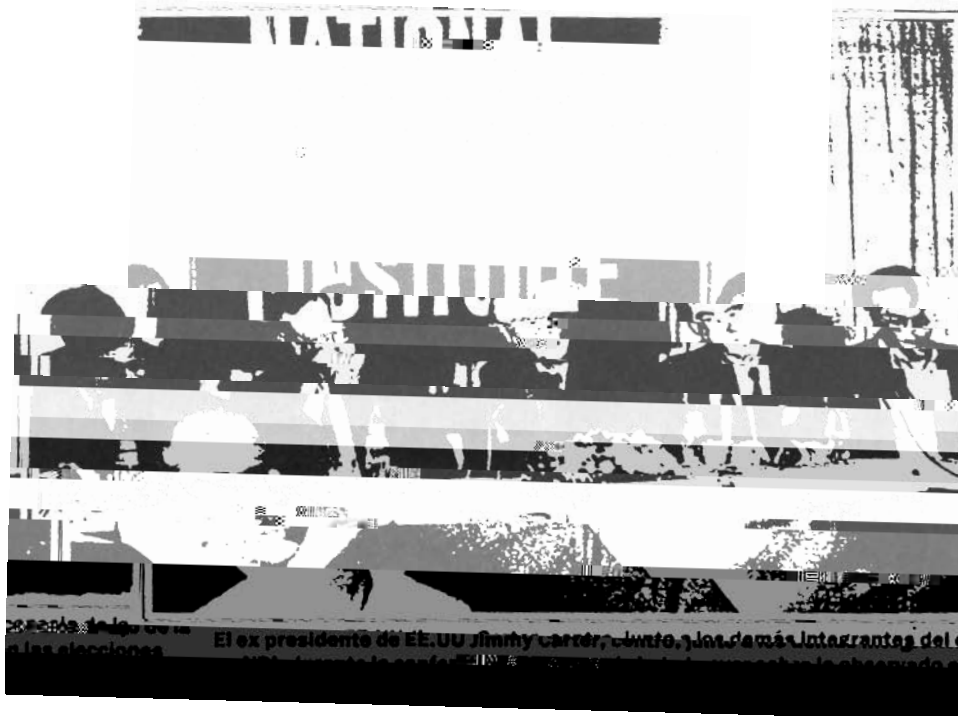
En la conferencia de prensa convocada en el hotel Excelsior, Carter dio un informe del consejo de observadores de la NDI, que presenció las elecciones en el pasado...

En ese sentido, dijo que han observado el proceso de elección en la capital, Cnel. Oviedo, Ciudad del Foncarn y áreas rurales y en el área rural. Añadió que ha observado que se han realizado...



Seguirá particularmente el gobierno y la ANTE. O a lo largo de la línea de observación en forma responsable. Saka no se dio cuenta de que esas líneas dedicadas a los servicios de emergencia se instalaron, pero esas líneas se cortaron. El presidente Rodríguez...

Agregó que, sin embargo, se reanuda la instalación de líneas telefónicas a Saka...



El ex presidente de EE.UU. Jimmy Carter, junto a los demás integrantes del

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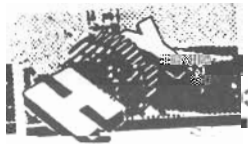
erece el Pa
do ser iamen
el proceso político de los militares
"El Gral. Oviedo ha dicho muy claro desde el comienzo
que él violaría la Constitución de este país e involucrar
como comandante militar en el proceso electoral. Esto lo
el abiertamente, en acciones y declaraciones.
e torias. Una cosa que dijo es que el Gral. Oviedo y los mi
reñirían, pero deberían unirse a la paz siempre", punt
e, que "El Expreso", seguidamente
aflició otros lugares, pero es una
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Esperamos que todas las acciones que se vayan preparando a los ni
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"Es lo mejor que he visto"



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