



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 by Example.

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.  
Griner, who has been in Paraguay

Offi

The registration process that involves identification of results has not been completed. A more detailed report will be issued next week.

complaints

Since the commission was formed, it has made impressive progress. During the past year, it has held numerous public hearings and allowed citizens to voice their concerns.

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

Throughout the 1991 municipal election, the process was altered to help voters find their voting sites.

and on... administered properly, in contrast to the... unable to locate their voting sites on... ration of the balloting, voters waited... a Sunday that the registration lists had... to find their voting sites, as opposed to...

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92.7% of the responding sites. This is, however, under-stated the coverage because of the unrepresentativeness of the polling material 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 problem 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 unapproved polling sites. Other irregularities included the use of unapproved polling sites, the use of unapproved polling sites, and the use of unapproved polling sites.

We also condemn the deliberate obstruction of the electoral process. SAKA has been accused of deliberately obstructing the electoral process because many blocked polling sites, who attributed the problems to the lack of lines. We believe that the obstruction of the electoral process is a deliberate attempt to obstruct the organization of SAKA.

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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 more the political option will be essential. That cooperation should be in a spirit  
of mutual respect, 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  
the establishment of a professional nonpartisan force. Civilian control of the military must  
be enhanced by training members of Congress on military affairs and also by strengthening  
dependence and capacity of the Ministry of Defense.

The delegation emphasizes that the holding of competitive elections, while essential,  
is only one aspect of a democratic society. It is urgent that many challenges remain in this re-  
spective branch to strengthen the creation of a strong  
legislative branch to oversee the executive, which is the first and foremost responsibility of the  
Paraguayan people and their elected representatives. All leaders 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  
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SOUTH AFRICA

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National Director  
Project Chile  
CHILE

Beverly Nagel  
Director of Latin American Studies  
Carleton College  
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Executive Secretary of the Council of  
Cooperatively-Elected Heads of Government  
The Carter Center  
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Acting Chairman  
Public Affairs Committee  
MALAWI

James Rosenau  
Professor of Political Science  
George Washington University  
UNITED STATES

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

Mikhail Soloviov  
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

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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 the first free and fair elections since the 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 hope that you will strengthen the ties of friendship between our two countries.

Sincerely yours,



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

Juan Carlos Wasmosy  
[redacted]

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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# THE CARTER CENTER

ONE COPENHILL, ATLANTA, GA 30308

# NEWS

## Assures Fairness

of National Elections

### 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. To assure fairness, the Carter Center, headed by its president, Jimmy Carter, chairman of the Commission on Freely Elected Heads of Government, sent a 13-person international

observers

## Delegation's Presence

Assures Fairness of National Elections in Paraguay

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## Delegation's Presence

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# Los votos para el presidente de la república

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Total		801.789	100

# 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 100-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, 52, won 52 percent of the 25 counties. He is a former governor and a major in the military. His political career has slipped since President Alfredo Stroessner was toppled in a military coup after 34 years in power.

An opposition leader said that the opposition had been weakened by a coup in 1989. He said that the opposition had been weakened by a coup in 1989.

Mr. Wasmosy is a member of the Colorado Party, a Washington-based political party. He is a member of the Colorado Party, a Washington-based political party.

Mr. Wasmosy's victory is seen as a sign of a new era of democracy in Paraguay. He is seen as a sign of a new era of democracy in Paraguay. He is seen as a sign of a new era of democracy in Paraguay.

Mr. Wasmosy had the support of the people. His victory was a sign of a new era of democracy in Paraguay.

### Army Leader

Mr. Wasmosy said that the people are not satisfied with the result. He said that the people are not satisfied with the result.

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A clear result in the election would have been a sign of a new era of democracy in Paraguay. He said that the people are not satisfied with the result.

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# Ruling Party Wins in Paraguay

## Called 'Free and Fair'

By Don Podesta

Washington Post Foreign Staff

PARAGUAY, March 10 — A team of observers sent by the National Democratic Institute today.

He characterized the election as free and fair and democratic, successful, but he criticized the army commander, too, having marked before the election that the military would not put with a change of ruling party.

Carter also greeted the phone lines of the national television station, which had been cut off Sunday afternoon and had not been restored today.

The colonel, who was in charge of the election, said that the election was free and fair and democratic, successful, but he criticized the army commander, too, having marked before the election that the military would not put with a change of ruling party.

Wasmosy had won 38.9 percent of the vote counted, a figure that was 1.5 percentage points slower than the official count. Roberto Laino of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party was second with 27.5 percent and Guillermo Caballero Vargas of the National Encounter party third with 27.1 percent.

Wasmosy had won 38.9 percent of the vote counted, a figure that was 1.5 percentage points slower than the official count. Roberto Laino of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party was second with 27.5 percent and Guillermo Caballero Vargas of the National Encounter party third with 27.1 percent.

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

Steban Caballero of Sakab said.

Wasmosy, 54, is a civil engineer and businessman who made a fortune out of 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 politicians during the term of Gen. Alfredo Stroessner, saying it was "a page" and looking forward to a "new page" would leave a "profound 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.

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# Paraguayans Vote

## For Civilian Leader

### Polling Orderly in Historic Provincial Election

By [Name] Washington Post Foreign Service

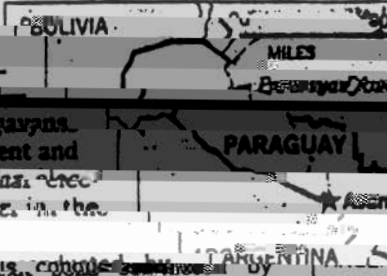
More than a million Paraguayans voted today for a new president and congress in the first popular elections for a civilian leader in the country's history.

television and radio stations dis- the agreed on the likely winner in the presidential race, as each of the three top candidates appeared of getting roughly 30 percent of 2 per- vote. On the basis of a lead of he exit centage points in one of t Party surveys, the ruling Colorado r the claimed victory minutes after took polls closed, and its followers to the streets to celebrate.

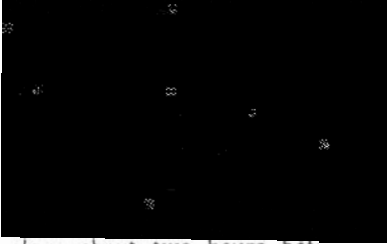
depend- The opaque lines of the in- up Saka, dent election watchdog group parallel, which was conducting a s afternoon, went head to of sabotage: 1817 raising questions tel monitors and ex- interpretio ssador Jon Glassman said 'USA. Amho as too busy to judge whether it w re had been any significant ir- the gularities.

But even before a clear winner emerged, what mattered to Para- guay was that the elections 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 Wasongy of the Colorado Party, Guillermo Caballero Vazquez of the National Encounter Party, and Domingo Irujo of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party—differed little in their platforms. All stressed economic modernizing the state and the promotion of privatization and principles. Irujo stressed democratic principles, a semi- Ten days before the vote in. Lino, an army commander, Gen. Irujo was the armed forces 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



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, and was led by Jimmy Carter, who was in three leading candidates.



clean about two hours before polls closed, saying, "So far all the best elections ever seen."

During the campaign, there was little debate about traditional political issues, such as social problems or the economy. The central issue

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



had been Rodriguez, who had been a close associate of Stroessner, quickly accepted the process and allowed the press to operate but he called for his three months after

gn that gave the president a little time to organize

igning par- ticipating thou- sand rallies 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.

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

President elect Juan Carlos was d

## 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...

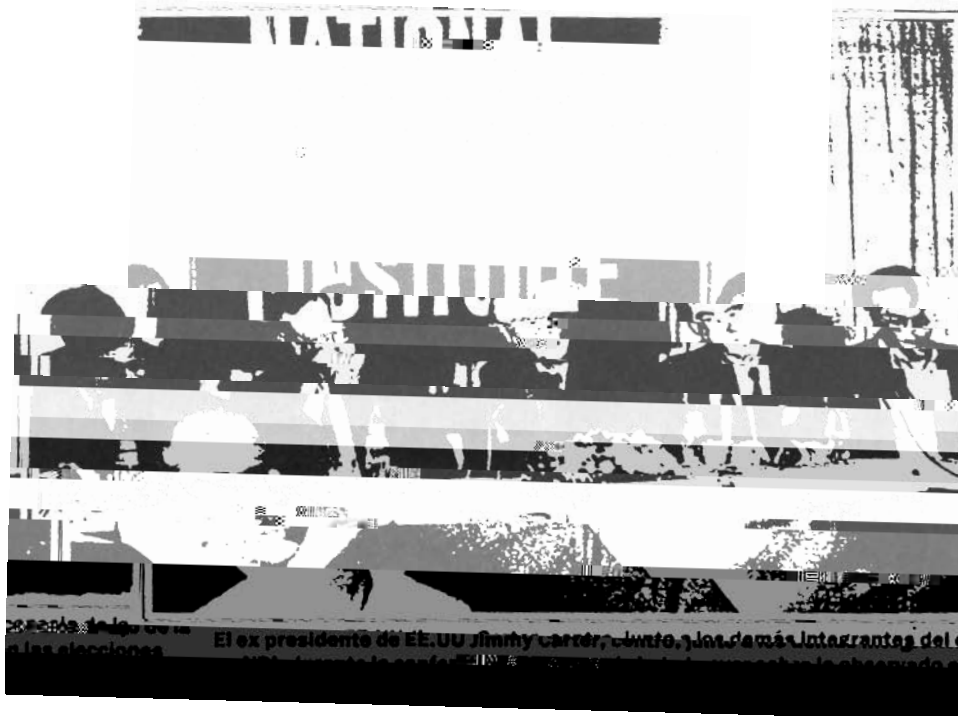
En ese sentido, dijo que han observado el proceso de elección en la capital, Cnel. Oviedo, Ciudad del Foncarn y áreas rurales y en algunas ciudades del área rural. Añadió que han observado que se realizó; h

LIBERADO



Seguidamente, particularmente el gobierno y la ANTE. O a...  
Organización Saka, no tuvo el resultado que se esperaba en forma responsable. Saka...  
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El ex presidente de EE.UU. Jimmy Carter, junto a los demás integrantes del

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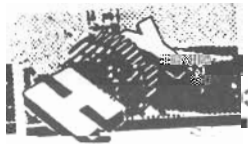
erece el Pa  
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el proceso político de los militares  
"El Gral. Oviedo ha dicho muy claro desde el comienzo  
que él violaría la Constitución de este país e involucrar  
como comandante militar en el proceso electoral. Esto lo  
el abiertamente, en acciones y declaraciones  
e torias. Una cosa que dijo es que el Gral. Oviedo y los mi  
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e, que "El Expreso", seguidamente  
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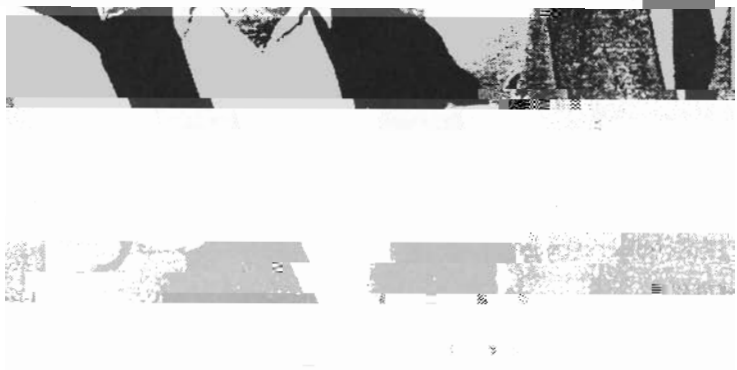
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El siguiente gobierno puede ser  
restringido por elementos autoritarios, especialmente los mili  
tares, que podrían tratar de retrasar el crecimiento de Par  
aguay hacia la democracia", exp



# "Es lo mejor que he visto"



## "Y"

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