APPENDIX B

SELECTED BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

AGUIRRE, Gilberto. Baptist. Together with Gustavo Parajón, he ran CEPAD throughout the Sandinista period. He is still the NGO’s executive director.

ARISTA, Rafael. AoG regional director for the Jalapa region during much of the 1980s. Intimately aware of many of the problems Evangelicals suffered in the northern highlands. Led non-combatant brigades in Contra areas for those refusing to take part in SMP. Now vice-superintendent of the AoG, based in Managua.

AYALA, Guillermo. CNPEN pastor (he is the CNPEN director for Managua). High profile Evangelical leader and one of those arrested in 1985.


BELL, Amalia. Former chief librarian at CIEETS and Miskita from the Atlantic Coast. Her brother fought with Miskito leader Steadman Fagoth.

BOLAÑOS Hunter, Miguel. Former member of the DGSE who defected to the U.S., which drew on his testimony for propaganda purposes. Provided detailed information about the state security apparatus and the Sandinistas’ dealings with the churches.

BORGE, Tomás. One of the founder members of the FSLN in 1961, and later a leader of the Marxist Guerra Popular Prolongada tendency. National Directorate member and one of leading Sandinista comandantes, who became the head of the Ministry of the Interior (MINT) and controlled the La Barricada newspaper.

CARAZO, Raul. Mildly izquierdista Evangelical (according to his own admission) and former seminarian. Well-educated, with plenty of first-hand experience of events in the 1980s. Knows some of the CEPAD people quite well, particularly Benjamín Cortés.
Casco, Miguel Angel. One of the AoG rebels who, together with Oscar Godoy and Carlos Escorcia, was expelled from the denomination for taking a strongly pro-revolutionary line. Eventually joined the Sandinista national executive and served in the Nicaraguan parliament in the 1990s. Disagreed and became disillusioned with the FSLN leadership and direction and left the party, apparently having received threats against him.

Cerrato Hodgson, Saturnino. Young AoG minister who moved up rapidly through the denomination’s ranks after the missionaries left. A member of the AoG executive in the early 1980s and became CNPEN’s first president in the early 1980s. He went on to become superintendent of the AoG from 1984–1986, followed by Bartolomé Matamoros. Cerrato is the current superintendent of the AoG, and is based in Managua.

Corrés, Benjamín. Member of the Church of Christ (a breakaway from the Baptists). A CEPAD executive and former president of the NGO. Now the principal of the Protestant ecumenical college CIEETS.

Cuthbert, Dexter. Costeño. Evangelical Episcopalian who now heads Franklyn Graham’s (son of Billy Graham) Samaritan’s Purse, an NGO.

Douglas, Joseph. Costeño. Former schoolteacher near Puerto Cabezas who rejected Sandinista indoctrination of the educational system. Fled when orders were issued to arrest him and eventually joined the Miskito resistance. Later became a senior Contra commander with the FDN, leading 900 rebels. He later toured the U.S. to help secure Contra support from Congress and other interest groups. Now resident in North America.

Escorcia, Carlos. Son of the well-known AoG church founder, Carlos Escorcia Sequeira. Brought up within the denomination before rebelling and strongly supporting the Sandinistas. Spent some time at Ernesto Cardenal’s Solentiname community. Together with Oscar Godoy and Miguel Angel Casco he was eventually expelled from the AoG for his revolutionary stance.

Espinoza, Mario. Evangelical youth leader during the early 1980s before going on to pastor a Pentecostal church. Became president of CNPEN in the late 1990s.