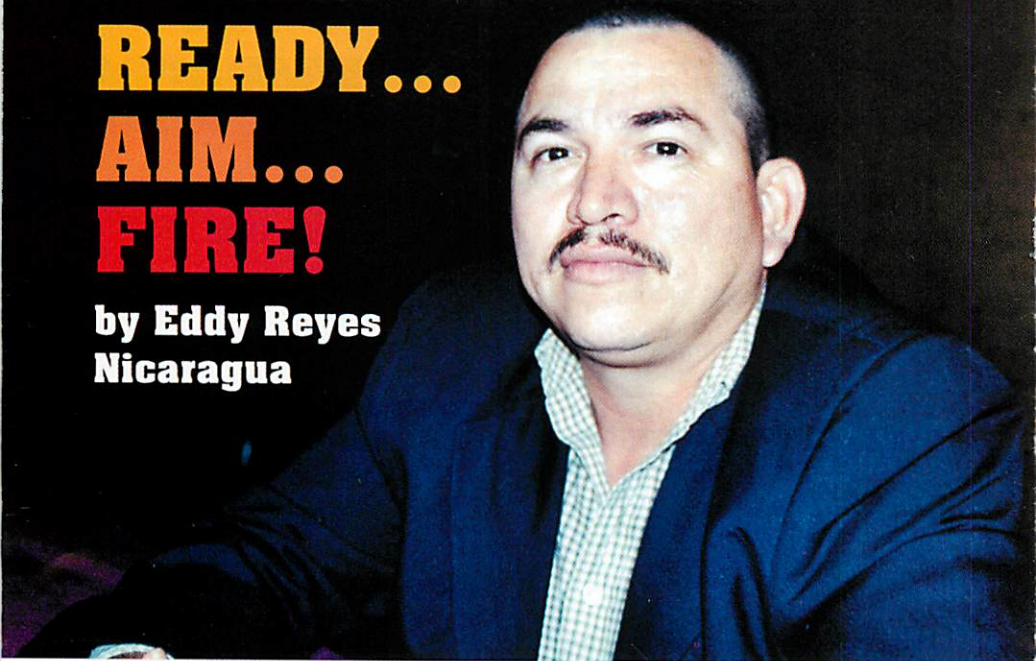


READY... AIM... FIRE!

by Eddy Reyes
Nicaragua



“Ready...aim...fire!”

The firearms clicked.

The firing squad of six soldiers had lined me up against the wall to be shot. I didn't kneel or close my eyes. I wanted to see the man who was going to kill me! I did not blink my eyes when the guns clicked. I wanted them to see my eyes. I waited.

After the clicks, I had to pinch myself. “Am I dead or am I still alive?” I asked myself. Then the firing squad of six men started laughing after the click. Maybe

there weren't any bullets in the weapons; but I didn't know it! When I saw they were laughing, I understood that I was not being killed. It was a real miracle, but I did not understand it. I thought I was a very special guy and very lucky. At that time, I did not have any relationship with God, whatsoever.

During the September, 1978 insurrection, the guerillas had to retreat. As a Sandinista, I was captured and held prisoner. But I did not have any arms at the

time. The blood flowed as they started beating me. They wanted to make me to denounce someone else. At the end of that day, they said "Because he does not speak, he does not talk, we are going to kill him, against the wall." Then they told me to kneel.

After they tricked me as a supposed firing squad, they pushed me against the floor again, thrusting a gun to my back. Then a Red Cross vehicle passed by. I had been a life-saver with the Red Cross before the war. The Red Cross recognized me. The Red Cross told the authorities that they knew me. I think that saved my life. But I had been imprisoned and tortured before.

My past life was dedicated to the political military for my country, Nicaragua. I became a Sandinista guerilla in 1975. After that, when we won in 1979, I got into the armed forces officially. During that period, after 15 years of war, I became a major, working in the management of information and counter-intelligence, as the chief of economic security in Nicaragua. My responsibility was to protect the whole economy.

I did not practice religion, nor did I have any religious values. During the war, I studied Marxism,

scientific communist and socialistic theories. The government opened up an opportunity to prepare me in the university. I became a lawyer, specializing as a master of public law, having studied four years at the University of Barcelona, Spain (in Nicaragua).

By 1990, I had decided to retire from the army. I was tired of the war. I had wasted my life. My behavior was affected; I was fighting with everyone. Of course I received the benefits as a retired military official, retiring from the armed forces.

About four years ago, I came to a FGBMFI meeting. I was invited to a business meeting, without knowing it was a meeting with Christian men. I was in that meeting with the intention of making some business. I found businessmen who were speaking about God in a different, non-traditional way. The big problem for me was that I was an atheist.

I didn't have the concept of a good family, as I was so involved in the activity of the war. Previously, I had destroyed families. I would have a wife and children in the house, as well as money, but I did not sleep very well. There was a real hole, a



Mr and Mrs. Eddy Reyes, 2002

real vacuum in my life.

I came to that FGBMFI meeting as a businessman. I asked two things of God: 1. I wanted to have a genuine family. 2. I had a lot of problems with my health (chronic gastritis and ulcers), so I asked God for my health. I had to take pills in order to sleep. I was also an alcoholic. Under my breath, I said to God, "Señor, if it is true, You make a lot of miracles. If You exist, give me two miracles. Make my health better and give me a family!"

God gave me both things I had asked for! 15 days after I asked God for two miracles, I was taken to the hospital in a very critical condition. They examined me. No ulcer. No hernia, nothing. I did not have anything. My system was like brand new.

Jesus gave me a wife. I got back all of my sons. With my wife, I have unity. We also have unity in the spiritual way for everything. If we agree on something, we agree.

That night, I did not feel anything special. I went to my normal house. I

did not know what happened in those 15 days, but I stopped sleeping in the chair; I slept on the bed. I was living on air. I didn't know what was happening to me, but I stopped drinking alcohol. I could not live in infidelity, either. I said, "Lord, I need Your help! Take adultery away from me!" He did, permanently.

Everybody goes to church, but we are on fire with the Holy Spirit. They say to us, "There is something you have that is different?" We worship. They let us put hands on the people who come to church. It is something that is not normally permitted. The people actually receive miracles!

I now feel like a new man. Jesus filled the hole and vacuum

I had in my heart! I have a family. I have no worries. My debt will be paid by Jesus. He gave me my health and my family. He will complete everything.

In Nicaragua, the most important thing is not the Sandinistas that come to Christ, but what Christ has done among the Sandinistas. There are many who have come to God through this Fellowship. The Fellowship is the place where former enemies can embrace each other. There is no other place in Nicaragua where the people from different parties can embrace. The

Fellowship is for all the world to unite together.

Now, when I see a political or military opponent, I see somebody that needs to find God. Nicaragua will be a light to the nations, spiritually. You can even see it happening right now. It does not matter what party is in power, "King Jesus" will be in control for the future of Nicaragua. We believe Nicaragua belongs to Jesus. God does not permit me to be a soldier just to liberate a nation....except for that nation to be really free through Jesus! The truth will make us free!

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