

top of everything, they have blocked our imports of paper and ink, " he said. " We only have enough to operate for two months. " # Supporters of President Daniel Ortega's government besiege journalists at a police station in Managua on Dec. 22. (Maynor Valenzuela/AFP/Getty Images) # Growing pressure on Ortega # Eight months after they started, the anti-government protests have largely been extinguished. But it is unclear whether the government's increasingly repressive measures will keep Ortega in power until the next election, in 2021. # The economy, which had been growing steadily in recent years, shrank by about 4 percent in 2018 as the political turmoil hit tourism and other businesses. # And international pressure is growing. On Dec. 20, President Trump signed into law a measure aimed at blocking new loans to Nicaragua by international financial institutions. His administration had already announced sanctions against senior Nicaraguan officials including Murillo, the vice president. # Today, almost no one envisions the rise of a foreign-backed rebel movement of the kind that fought governments in the region in the 1980s. But in Nicaragua, " there is a tradition on all sides of improvised weaponry, " said Geoff Thale, a specialist on Central America at the Washington Office on Latin America, a research and advocacy group. " You don't get civil war out of that, but you could get violent resistance. That is a concern, especially in the countryside. " # For now, beleaguered journalists are trying to find a way to keep putting out the news. The offices of Confidencial have been occupied by police, but reporters continue to update the website, working from undisclosed locations. # " We have improvised an alternative