



## Security Council

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ORIGINAL: SPANISHLETTER DATED 11 APRIL 1983 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE  
OF HONDURAS TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to present my compliments to you and refer to the note sent to you, in your capacity as President of the United Nations Security Council, on 4 April 1983, by the distinguished Government of Nicaragua, in connection with its proposal to agree to have the Council empower His Excellency Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, Secretary-General of the United Nations, to co-operate with and give assistance to the countries promoting the Contadora Island initiative in establishing a dialogue between Nicaragua and Honduras and between Nicaragua and the United States of America.

- I. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Honduras has instructed me to make certain comments in connection with that proposal, and I make those comments below.

Honduras has maintained unchanged its position of peace and has repeatedly declared that it is most willing to contribute at any time to the establishment of a lasting peace in Central America; to that end, it formulated a specific "Peace Initiative", which was announced by Mr. Edgardo Paz Barnica, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Honduras, both in the Council of the Organization of American States and in the United Nations General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session.

- II. My Government believes that peace in the region could be achieved if, in the present status of the political problems existing in Central America, all States fulfilled in good faith the international commitments they have undertaken, most particularly the commitments relating to the arrangements provided for in the Charter of the United Nations and in the Organization of American States, the latter being a regional organization of the kind which is referred to in Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations, more specifically in Article 36 of that document, and to which His Excellency Sir John Thomson, Ambassador of the United Kingdom, referred in his statement of 29 March 1983 in his capacity as President of the Security Council (S/PV.2427, p. 42).

- III. At the same time, the Permanent Representative of Honduras to the United Nations, participating at the invitation of the President of the Security Council, made it clear in his statement that his country respects international treaties and that both Nicaragua and Honduras have a regional and continental commitment by virtue of being members of the Organization of American States, whose charter clearly states that disputes between member States shall be submitted to the procedures indicated in that charter before they can be brought to the United Nations Security Council (S/PV.2425, pp. 81-82).
- IV. My Government emphasizes that the problems of Central America cannot be limited to a dialogue or to bilateral dialogues, in view of the fact that the context of the crisis in Central America and the Caribbean far transcends the regional context, and therefore all the parties in that crisis must participate together in the search for a serious and lasting common solution in order that they may not only guarantee peace but also restore the security of the region.
- V. My country has taken a favourable view of the initiative recently taken at Contadora Island by some Central American and Caribbean countries, as well as other initiatives taken by friendly countries along the same lines, and especially the dialogue promoted by His Excellency Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, Secretary-General of the United Nations, between the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Nicaragua and Honduras on the occasion of the most recent session of the United Nations General Assembly. Nevertheless, it seems appropriate to point out to you that my Government has now submitted a formal petition to the Council of the Organization of American States, with a view to urging the other four Governments of Central America - Costa Rica, Nicaragua, El Salvador and Guatemala - to hold as soon as possible, in co-operation with the Government of Honduras, a meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs, for the purpose of initiating a process of global and regional negotiation which will make it possible to perfect the agreements needed to restore tranquillity to Central America and normalize once and for all the tense situation prevailing in the region.
- VI. All of the foregoing constitutes the basis of our present political and juridical position in the international field, which takes concrete form in a commitment that we shall first exhaust regional efforts within the context of the inter-American system. This is all the more relevant if we take account of the fact that we are waiting to hear in the near future the results of our petition submitted to the Organization of American States.

I should be grateful to you, Madam, if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Enrique ORTEZ COLINDRES  
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of  
Honduras to the United Nations

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