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THE SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA:

 THREATS TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND
SECURITY AND PEACE INITIATIVES

SECURITY COUNCIL

Forty-first year

Letter dated 16 April 1986 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of
the Permanent Mission of Nicaragua to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the statement issued by the President of the Republic of Nicaragua, Daniel Ortega Saavedra (see annex), in connection with the statement issued in Panama City on 7 April 1986 by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the countries of the Contadora Group and of the Support Group.

I should be grateful if you would have this note circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 21, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Arelys BELLORINI
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

ANNEX

Nicaraguan response to the statement issued in Panama City
on 7 April 1986 by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs
of the countries of the Contadora Group and of the
Support Group

In connection with the statement issued in Panama City on 7 April 1986 by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the countries of the Contadora Group and of the Support Group, in which they requested the Central American States to make their positions known within a week, the Government of Nicaragua wishes to state the following:

(1) For the past four years, our country has been the victim of United States aggression. To this day, President Reagan's Government, in defiance of the international legal order and despite the condemnation of the Governments and peoples of the world, persists in its attempts to intensify the aggression against our people, which has already killed and injured tens of thousands and caused billions of dollars in economic losses and the destruction of our productive installations.

(2) Nicaragua was the first and only Central American country to give its full support to the 1984 Contadora Act, which was openly rejected and sabotaged by the United States Government.

(3) The revised Contadora Act which emerged after the difficulties created by the United States contains items which seriously impair our country's sovereignty and security and are therefore unacceptable to us.

(4) The Government of Nicaragua supports the assertion contained in the statement of 7 April to the effect that the process of diplomatic negotiation sponsored by the Contadora Group is the only feasible means of securing a political understanding conducive to peace and co-operation in Central America, although it is not and cannot be linked to the literal acceptance of the proposal in the revised Contadora Act.

(5) The Government of Nicaragua recognizes the validity and confirms its endorsement of the Caraballeda Message, issued by the Contadora Group and the Support Group on 12 January 1986, and ratified by the Central American countries a few days later in Guatemala and subsequently at Punta del Este.

(6) The Government of Nicaragua accepts the invitation extended to the five Central American Governments to resume immediately negotiations on the only two outstanding aspects of the Contadora Act, namely, the control and reduction of armaments, and military manoeuvres.

(7) Nicaragua agrees to sign the aforementioned Act on 6 June, on condition that by then United States aggression against Nicaragua has ceased completely and agreement has been reached on the outstanding aspects of the revised Act; this would all be within the framework of the concept of "simultaneity" explicitly provided for in the Caraballeda Message.

(8) Nicaragua is a country under attack by the mightiest imperialist Power on earth. No people in that position would ever agree to disarm. Accordingly, Nicaragua declares that, unless there is an end to United States aggression, on no account will it agree to disarm for the benefit of the United States, for that would constitute a betrayal of our people, an action of which the Sandinist Revolution will never be guilty.

(9) Nicaragua fully accepts and supports the observation in the statement of 7 April to the effect that if peace in the region is to be achieved, it is imperative for all interference by any State in the internal affairs of another to cease, such interference being incompatible with the principles and provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the Charter of the Organization of American States, and constituting a flagrant violation of the international legal order.

(10) Nicaragua confirms its readiness to establish immediately with Costa Rica the civilian mission to investigate border incidents between the two countries, and welcomes the fact that the Contadora Group and the Support Group have, in the Panama City statement, expressed their readiness to carry out a general reconnaissance of the border between the two countries during the month of April 1986, with a view to identifying the requirements of the civilian mission and ensuring that it is established as soon as possible.

(11) Nicaragua is prepared to establish immediately a similar civilian commission with Honduras, and to have the Contadora Group and the Support Group play a similar role.

(12) Nicaragua confirms its readiness to initiate as soon as possible bilateral talks with the United States, as a contribution to the search for stability and peace in Central America.

(13) Nicaragua, a Latin American country that is the victim of brutal and unjustifiable aggression at the hands of the United States Government, urges the Governments of the countries of the Contadora Group and of the Support Group to take appropriate action in the light of that reality.

The people and Government of Nicaragua, which are now confronted with an escalation in terrorism on the part of the United States Government, are convinced that the militant solidarity of the heroic peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean, together with the solidarity of all the peoples of the world, including the people of the United States, will help us to overcome the aggression and secure peace.

Managua, 11 April 1986

