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THE SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA:  
THREATS TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE  
AND SECURITY AND PEACE INITIATIVES

Letter dated 3 December 1986 from the Permanent Representative  
of Nicaragua to the United Nations addressed to the  
Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you as follows the text of the note which His Excellency Father Miquel d'Escoto Brockmann, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Nicaragua, sent today to His Excellency Mr. George Shultz, Secretary of State of the United States of America:

"I am writing to you in connection with the following serious incidents:

On 30 November, United States troops, aircraft and heavy weaponry began to be moved towards the border area between Honduras and Nicaragua. According to various press reports, on that day 25 United States military vehicles were heading towards the border area with my country along the main road from the Honduran village of Danlí, transporting military supplies, while two CH-47 helicopters of the United States Air Force were moving heavy war matériel.

This show of force in areas close to the Nicaraguan border, which is scheduled to last until 13 December, includes an artillery battery of the Second Battalion of the 116th Brigade of the Florida National Guard. It was also reported that troops of the Third Artillery Battalion of the Honduran Army would participate jointly in these actions with the United States artillery battery.

The movement of United States troops and matér to the border area between Honduras and Nicaragua is part of an effort to divert attention from the involvement of President Reagan and other top Administration

officials in the scandal created by the sale of weapons to Iran and the diversion of the funds thus obtained to finance the immoral war against Nicaragua, in blatant violation of United States domestic legislation and international law.

The Government of Nicaragua formally and vigorously protests at these acts of open provocation and threat, which heighten tension in the border area with Honduras, introducing a highly dangerous element which could significantly aggravate the Central American crisis and widen the conflict.

Such shows of force are taking place precisely in parts of Honduran territory which are extremely sensitive because of the presence of mercenary forces in the service of your Government, which is using the territory of that Central American country as a base for aggression against the Nicaraguan people. These serious incidents are also taking place at a time when Nicaragua has denounced the presence of United States warships off the Pacific and Atlantic coasts of Nicaragua.

The Government of Nicaragua denounces and vigorously condemns these intimidatory manoeuvres which are further evidence of the efforts which the United States Administration is making to provoke an outbreak of war in the area, by creating situations which increase the possibilities of confrontation and an escalation of the crisis.

Nicaragua demands the immediate cessation of these provocative manoeuvres, which form part of an immoral policy of force and threat which was condemned by no less than the International Court of Justice in its ruling of 27 June 1986, a policy which shows that your country has rejected civilized and peaceful means of settling disputes among States."

I should be grateful if you would arrange for this note to be distributed as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 42, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nora ASTORGA  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

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