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

Letter dated 17 December 1986 from the Permanent Representative
of Costa Rica to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose the text of the note dated 16 December 1986 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica, Mr. Rodrigo Madrigal Nieto, addressed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nicaragua, Mr. Miguel D'Escoto Brockmann (see annex).

I request you to circulate this letter and its annex as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 42, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Carlos José GUTIERREZ
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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ANNEX

Note dated 16 December 1986 from the Minister for Foreign
Affairs of Costa Rica addressed to the Minister for
Foreign Affairs of Nicaragua

I am writing to you to register, in the strongest terms, Costa Rica's protest at the following events:

On 1 December, at 4.50 p.m., Mr. Jorge Arroliga Robleto, of Nicaraguan nationality, presented himself at the Civil Guard post at the mouth of the Sarapiquí with a bullet wound in the ankle. Mr. Arroliga Robleto, a farmer, was carrying maize in a boat along the Costa Rican side of the San Juan Abajo River when members of the Sandinist People's Army called out to him, with threats, that he should cross the river towards Nicaraguan territory. Mr. Arroliga Robleto, who was accompanied by his five-year-old son, answered that it was forbidden to cross to the other side, to which the Sandinist soldiers responded with rifle fire. Mr. Arroliga Robleto had to throw his son into the river, and subsequently, already wounded himself, hid him among the undergrowth until he was able to take him home and then present himself to the Costa Rican authorities to report the incident.

Similarly, on 10 December, at 10.25 a.m., Mr. Antonio Martínez Terra, of Nicaraguan nationality, a 20-year resident of Costa Rica, and Mrs. Cristina Orozco Obundo, of Costa Rican nationality, presented themselves at the same Civil Guard post in Delta 8 requesting the assistance of the post's commanding officer and the Puerto Viejo Red Cross in transporting their daughter Xinia Martínez Orozco, two years old and of Costa Rican nationality, who was on the south bank of the San Juan River when shots were heard from Nicaraguan territory, one of which wounded the child.

The Government of Costa Rica is bound to express to you its deep concern at the above events, and at the fact that such serious cases of bloodshed involving the participation of the Sandinist People's Army have been repeated in this sector within such a short time.

The Government of Costa Rica is concerned that the Nicaraguan Government remains unmoved by such reprehensible actions on the part of the Sandinist Army, even though it is defenceless civilians who are harmed by them. Clearly, this attitude on the part of your Government does not contribute to easing the tensions in the Central American isthmus.

Even though these events undoubtedly provide new material on the basis of which to judge Nicaragua in the case before the International Court of Justice, the Government of Costa Rica hereby reiterates its strong protest to your Government.
