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LETTER DATED 2 OCTOBER 1981 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE  
PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On 25 September the Government of Nicaragua addressed to you a complaint concerning the military exercise Halcon Vista, conducted by my Government (S/14710). Because that complaint included many false statements and innuendos, I desire to provide you and other members of the Security Council with the facts about these charges.

Like many other nations, the United States periodically conducts military exercises in international waters. These exercises do not pose a threat to any nation and are fully consistent with the Charter of the United Nations. In the last decade the United States has participated in 16 such Caribbean exercises, together with six other Caribbean nations.

Halcon Vista can in no way be considered a threat to Nicaragua or to international peace and security, and it is unfortunate that the Government of Nicaragua has sought to misrepresent the exercise in this manner.

We have informed the Government of Nicaragua of our views and of our peaceful intentions. We have further informed the Government of Nicaragua that if it wishes to observe the exercise on an exceptional basis, the United States Government would be willing to consider such a request.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for this letter to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Jeane J. KIRKPATRICK