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LETTER DATED 13 OCTOBER 1981 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF NICARAGUA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT
OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you, and through you to the members of the Security Council, the proposals of the Unified Revolutionary Directorate of the Farabundo Martí Front for National Liberation (FMLN) and the Executive Committee of the Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR) of El Salvador, in connexion with the search for a political solution to the conflict now going on in that fraternal country, which have been transmitted to the General Assembly by His Excellency Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra, Co-ordinator of the Governing Junta of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua:

"Commander of the Revolution
Daniel Ortega Saavedra
Co-ordinator of the Governing Junta of National Reconstruction
of Nicaragua

The Farabundo Martí Front for National Liberation and the Revolutionary Democratic Front (FMLN-FDR) hereby authorize you to transmit to the United Nations General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session, and to the peoples of the world, our proposals in connexion with the search for peace talks aimed at finding a solution to the crisis now being experienced by our country.

The following is a text of our proposals:

The Farabundo Martí Front for National Liberation and the Revolutionary Democratic Front (FMLN-FDR) take this means to address themselves to the international community and to the peoples of the world because they consider the United Nations an expression of the principles of peace, justice and equality between States and peoples and, consequently, an appropriate forum for witnessing the aspirations of the Salvadorian people and its representative organizations, FMLN and FDR.

We wish first of all to express our gratitude for the many statements of solidarity with the struggle of our people which have been made throughout our struggle both by Governments and by political, social and religious organizations and personalities. We particularly wish to express our

gratitude for the solidarity of the Governments and peoples of Mexico and France, which have recognized our Fronts as representative political forces, and for the statements made and the initiatives taken by the majority of the countries of the international community in favour of a political solution.

If our people, led by its organizations, FMLN and FDR, today finds itself engaged in an armed struggle, it is because régimes of oppression and repression have closed all peaceful paths to change, leaving the people no legitimate road to liberation other than recourse to armed struggle, the exercise of the universal constitutional right to resort to rebellion against an unlawful and bloodthirsty authority.

Our war is therefore a just one, and one which is necessary for the building of peace and equality among all Salvadorians.

However, our desire is peace, and it is in order to achieve it that we are proposing a political solution whose objectives are the ending of the war and the establishment of a new economic and political order which will guarantee to Salvadorians the enjoyment of their civil rights and a life worthy of human beings.

All of this carries with it our express desire to initiate a dialogue with the civilian and military representatives to be designated by the Junta, through a process of peace talks.

We propose that these peace talks, which reaffirm our commitment to finding and implementing a political solution, should be based on the following general principles:

1. They shall be held between delegates named by the Farabundo Martí Front for National Liberation and the Revolutionary Democratic Front (FMLN-FDR) and representatives of the Governing Junta of El Salvador.
2. They shall be held in the presence of Governments which, acting as witnesses, will contribute to the solution of the conflict.
3. They must have a global character, which will include the fundamental aspects of the conflict, and must be based on an agenda established by both sides.
4. The Salvadorian people must be informed of the entire progress of the talks.
5. The talks shall be initiated without the stipulation of any preconditions by either party.

In an effort to establish a basis which will ensure a political solution, FMLN-FDR expresses its willingness to discuss the following points:

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- A. Definition of a new political, economic and legal order which will permit and stimulate full democratic participation by the various political, social and economic sectors and forces, especially those which have previously been forced aside. Elections shall be an important element as a mechanism for the participation and representation of the people.
- B. The restructuring of the armed forces, on the basis of those officers and troops of the present army who are not guilty of crimes and genocide against the people, and the integration of commanders and troops from FMLN.

Our Fronts regard elections as a valid and necessary instrument of the expression of the people's will, provided that there exist conditions and a climate which will enable the citizenry to manifest its will freely. In El Salvador today an electoral process does not meet this requirement, since there is still maintained intact the repressive apparatus of the régime which murders trade-union and political leaders and activists, continues to persecute the progressive sectors of the Church and is guilty of the physical elimination of tens of citizens daily. Furthermore, the régime is keeping the state of siege, martial law and press censorship in effect and is stepping up its war against the people with the arms and advisers sent by the United States.

A political solution is necessary for our people, for the stability of the region, and for peace and security among nations: it implies that Governments will scrupulously respect the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of other peoples. Consequently we address ourselves directly to the Government of the United States, calling upon it to cease its military intervention in El Salvador, since such intervention is contrary to the interests of the Salvadorian and United States peoples and endangers security and peace in Central America.

Our proposal is made in response to the clamour for justice which is in keeping with the purest principles of international law and of the interests of the world's nations and peoples in the effort to find peaceful solutions for hotbeds of tension. And in this effort, the Salvadorian people expresses confidence in the understanding, participation and support of the international community in order to gain its right to peace, freedom and independence.

Unified Revolutionary Directorate
of the Farabundo Martí Front of
National Liberation (FMLN)

Executive Committee of the
Revolutionary Democratic
Front (FDR)

I request you to have this letter circulated as a Security Council document.

(Signed) Javier CHAMORRO MORA
Ambassador

Permanent Representative of Nicaragua
to the United Nations