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LETTER DATED 16 AUGUST 1982 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE
PERMANENT MISSION OF NICARAGUA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO
THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to refer to the difficult situation currently faced by the Central American region and to the notes of 30 July (S/15331) and 4 August 1982 (S/15344) which the Government of the Republic of Honduras addressed to the President of the Council and in which it levelled unfounded accusations and expressed erroneous views about my country.

As we stated in our note of 28 July 1982 (S/15319), in recent months, there has been a serious recrudescence of the armed activities of counterrevolutionary bands against my country, which operate out of Honduran territory with the overt support of the Honduran authorities. In order to counter the accusations cast by the Government of Honduras against my Government, it is sufficient to point out that those who died as a result of the acts of aggression carried out from Honduras by former guards of the Somoza régime were Nicaraguan citizens - frontier guards and innocent farmers - not Hondurans. Moreover, the complicity of sectors of the Honduran army in the above-mentioned criminal actions is sufficiently demonstrated by the public statements made by General Gustavo Alvarez, Joint Chief of Staff of Honduras, on 7 August, at the conclusion of the joint Honduran-United States military manoeuvres, when he declared that the Government of Honduras would not make an effort to close the frontier to the right-wing bands seeking to overthrow the Government of Nicaragua.

This situation is a grave threat to the peace and security of the region and accordingly it is imperative to exert the necessary efforts aimed at reducing frontier tension. To that end, it has been the policy of my Government to respond to all such provocations by repeatedly inviting the Honduran Government to partake in a direct dialogue between our highest civil and military authorities, in the context of a strategy for peace throughout the region.

Despite the fact that Nicaragua has repeatedly proposed to the Honduran Government that joint patrols should be set up along the common frontier, without receiving any reply, we regard as positive the peace initiatives of the Government of Dr. Suazo Córdova, particularly its readiness, as expressed in the note of 30 July 1982 (S/15331) addressed to you by the Permanent Representative of

S/15365
English
Page 2

Honduras, to establish international mechanisms for the supervision and monitoring of the frontier areas. On this point, I consider it appropriate to place on record my country's readiness to set up such machinery for multilateral supervision, to be carried out by United Nations observer forces, which would verify the situation prevailing in the area adjoining the frontier with Honduras.

We have no doubt that implementation of the above proposal, to which the Honduran Government claims to agree, would constitute an important step in the process of bringing peace to the area and would make a decisive contribution to a relaxation of tension between our two countries. We are informing the Republic of Honduras directly of this and we are, furthermore, ready to discuss with that country at the highest level the peace proposals put forward by its Government.

I should be grateful if you would have this note circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Jorge CANDA MORALES
Ambassador
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.
