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LETTER DATED 23 SEPTEMBER 1982 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF NICARAGUA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF
THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of a note addressed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nicaragua, His Excellency Miguel D'Escoto Brockmann, to His Excellency Mr. Rodolfo Rosales Abella, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Honduras, concerning the latest frontier incident, which occurred on 22 September 1982:

"I address myself to Your Excellency for the purpose of reporting a further provocation aimed at Nicaragua by members of the armed forces of Honduras, which occurred today.

According to our information, a unit of the Honduran Army, approximately 15 strong, attacked with assorted rifle and machine-gun fire the La Ceiba observation post, 4.5 kilometres west of Somotillo, in the Department of Chinandega. No response to the attack, which continued for some 20 minutes, was made by our Frontier Guard troops, who are under strict instructions not to react to provocations of this kind unless the circumstances and the sacred duty to defend the integrity of our national territory require them to do so.

We reiterate once again our appeal for prudence, and demand that the distinguished Government of the sister Republic of Honduras should assert its authority and, in fulfilment of the obligations that derive from international law, take the relevant measures to put an end to challenges of this kind, which considerably aggravate the critical situation in Central America.

In these circumstances, we again regret that Honduras has declined to accept Nicaragua's repeated invitations to engage in a dialogue, pleading an overload of work and systematically minimizing the importance of bilateral affairs, as was done on the occasion of my recent visit to Honduras and in repeated statements by your distinguished Government. In the meantime, as I pointed out in previous notes, persistent harassment and an attitude of constant provocation towards Nicaragua continues. This attitude is, of course, at variance with Honduras's supposed interest in finding formulae for peace in the region, because no other construction can be placed on this systematic refusal to take up the bilateral problems between our countries.

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Despite that, Nicaragua stresses the urgent need to begin a dialogue that may lead to the solution of the problems existing between Honduras and Nicaragua, a solution which would contribute to the achievement of that peace and tranquillity we all desire for the region."

I shall be grateful if you will have this note circulated as a Security Council document.

(Signed) Javier CHAMORRO MORA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Nicaragua
to the United Nations
