



Security Council

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ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISHLETTER DATED 15 APRIL 1982 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF NICARAGUA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT
OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to inform you of the latest incidents directed against our country, which indicate clearly that despite our efforts to find political solutions, a course of confrontation and violence, which we are seeking to avoid, is still being pursued.

Our Government is greatly concerned, for while steps are being taken towards the initiation of a dialogue, acts of aggression are occurring with increasing frequency. In this connexion, we feel obliged to give you a detailed account of the acts of aggression which occurred between 14 March and 12 April:

- 14 March - A counter-revolutionary commando destroys the bridge over the Rio Negro.
- 15 March - Two aeroplanes of the Honduran Air Force fly over the frontier posts of San Antonio, Las Palmas and Los Robles.
- 16 March - An unidentified aeroplane flies over the town of León.
- 17 March - A group of 85 counter-revolutionaries clashes with soldiers of the Sandinist People's Army near the Seven Bank channel.
- 18 March - A helicopter flies over the La Joya sector and enters Honduran territory.
- 20 March - A silver twin-engined aeroplane flies over the frontier posts of Santa María and Las Brisas and returns to Honduran territory.
- 21 March - The Nicaraguan Coast Guard vessel El Tayacán is attacked by Honduran aeroplanes.
- 22 March - A red twin-engined aeroplane flies over the Somotillo sector and returns to Honduran territory.

- 23 March - The Frontier Guard post at San Francisco is attacked; the attackers flee to Honduras.
- 24 March - The Somotillo frontier post is harrassed from Honduran territory and six counter-revolutionaries are killed.
- Soldiers of the Honduran army attack a Frontier Guard patrol in Nicaraguan territory 15 kilometres north-east of the legal frontier crossing point at El Guasaule.
- 25 March - The Honduran army harrasses the El Espino frontier post from Honduran territory for 30 minutes.
- 27 March - An unidentified aeroplane flies over Ocotal.
- 30 March - A jet-type aircraft flies over Cape Gracias a Dios, coming from Honduras and returning to that country.
- 31 March - A white C-47 aeroplane flies over the Río Tapacalí sector at a height of 5,000 feet and returns to Honduras.
- An unidentified aeroplane flies over Montelimar.
- 2 April - An unidentified aeroplane flies over the Managua Free Zone at a high altitude.
- 3 April - A band attacks the Mata de Plátano frontier post and returns to Honduras.
- 4 April - Thirty Honduran soldiers penetrate into the La Ceiba district and abduct 22 peasants, including 7 women and 9 children.
- 7 April - One hundred counter-revolutionaries coming from Honduran territory attack the Las Pampas and Zacatera frontier posts in the Jalapa sector, leaving one of our frontier guards dead and two others wounded.
- The Peñas Blancas frontier post is attacked from Costa Rican territory.
- 12 April - Bands of counter-revolutionaries attack the Cerro Jesús frontier post in the Jalapa sector. Twenty men in uniform attack the El Cuadro frontier post.
- A United States Navy destroyer, the USS Coontz, enters our national territorial waters with guided rockets, and continues to violate our territorial sea for several days. This act prompted our country to dispatch a letter of protest, a copy of which is attached.

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We are prepared to undertake talks with the United States regarding any concern it has or may have with respect to Nicaragua, and we likewise hope that the United States is prepared to do the same with respect to our anxieties and concerns, which derive, inter alia, from the acts of aggression and threats to which we have been subjected since the victory of the Sandinist Revolution. We hope that the outcome of these talks, and the search for negotiated political solutions of a global nature, will lay the foundations needed to bring peace to our region and avoid the danger of greater conflicts, which will ensue if a confrontation course continues to be pursued.

We believe that if this were done our peoples could devote their efforts to solving the serious socio-economic and exploitation problems confronting them and that this is where, in the first instance, we should seek the explanations for the violent situations in the region.

Lastly, we wish to inform you that our Government has appealed to the United States Government, once and for all to set the date and name the negotiating team that will participate in the talks, which we believe should be held in Mexico within the framework of the proposals made by President López Portillo.

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

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

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Annex

Copy of letter dated 15 April 1982 from His Excellency
Mr. Victor Tinoco Fonseca, Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Nicaragua, addressed to His Excellency
Mr. Alexander M. Haig, Secretary of State of the United
States of America

I wish to bring to your attention an act of provocation committed against Nicaragua by the Government of the United States of America, the gravity of which cannot be denied, considering the implications and effects that this type of situation has had in other parts of the world.

I am referring to the presence in the territorial and jurisdictional waters of Nicaragua in the Caribbean Sea of United States warships, including the destroyer USS Coontz, which, in flagrant violation of the national sovereignty of Nicaragua and condemnable breach of the most basic principles governing relations between States, entered Nicaraguan maritime territory on 12 April 1982 and remained there until today, in areas near the Corn Islands, the Bluff and other parts of our Atlantic coast, an act which we legitimately regard as a further step forward in the interventionist military preparations currently being carried out by the United States Government.

Furthermore, these acts of force are in clear contradiction with the publicly-expressed wish of the United States Government to contribute to a reduction of tensions in the region, thus demonstrating that the latter Government still has not rejected the idea of military adventures directed against Nicaragua.

In condemning this new act of force against a sovereign country, an act which is in keeping with the aggressive policy of the United States towards Nicaragua, as substantiated in the Security Council of the United Nations, which in one of its documents condemned recourse to the threat or use of force, we demand the immediate withdrawal of the United States warships, including the destroyer USS Coontz, from our national waters, and protest most strongly against this new and unjustifiable infringement of our national sovereignty and dignity.
