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LETTER DATED 2 JULY 1979 FROM THE ACTING PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED
TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you the enclosed statement by Acting Secretary of State Christopher in explanation of the affirmative vote of the United States on the resolution concerning Nicaragua adopted by the Organization of American States' meeting of Foreign Ministers on 23 June and to request that it be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

The United States reaffirms its full support for the resolution adopted and its willingness to abide by all of its provisions. We would also encourage all States to eschew unilateral actions which might be construed as intervention in the internal affairs of a State and which might only exacerbate the tragic situation in Nicaragua.

(Signed) Donald F. McHENRY
Acting Permanent Representative

Annex

STATEMENT BY THE ACTING SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE UNITED STATES, MR. WARREN CHRISTOPHER, IN EXPLANATION OF THE AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF THE UNITED STATES ON THE RESOLUTION CONCERNING NICARAGUA ADOPTED ON 23 JUNE BY THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES' MEETING OF FOREIGN MINISTERS

The resolution adopted represents an extraordinary effort by the nations of the Western Hemisphere to deal with the unique and tragic problem of Nicaragua.

As far as I know, there is no precedent for the broadly-based and far-reaching resolution adopted today.

By this resolution, an overwhelming consensus of the nations of the Hemisphere have reached agreement on several important propositions:

(1) The conduct of the Somoza Government is the fundamental cause of the tragic situation faced by the Nicaraguan people, and it should be replaced without delay.

(2) A broadly-based democratic alternative should be promptly installed, and free elections should follow as soon as possible.

(3) The human rights of the Nicaraguan people, so long abused, shall be guaranteed.

(4) The member States are urged to take whatever steps may be feasible to facilitate an enduring and peaceful solution to the Nicaraguan problem.

(5) The member States are called upon to scrupulously respect the principle of non-intervention and to abstain from taking any action incompatible with an enduring and peaceful solution.

(6) Finally, the member nations commit their efforts to promote humanitarian assistance to the people of Nicaragua and to contribute to the recovery of the country.

The United States is pleased to join this resolution in the interest of Hemispheric solidarity. While the resolution does not have the specificity we had originally desired, it does permit constructive actions by the member countries.

Our support for the resolution is a reflection of the policy of the United States to give full respect and dignity to the views of the other member nations, and to find accommodations which enable us, avoiding unilateral actions, to act in unison.
