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LETTER DATED 5 JANUARY 1983 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 transmit to you a note sent to His Excellency  
George P. Schultz, Secretary of State of the United States of America, by  
His Excellency Miguel D'Escoto Brockmann, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the  
Republic of Nicaragua, on 4 January 1983.

"Managua, 4 January 1983

His Excellency  
Mr. George P. Schultz  
Secretary of State of the  
United States of America  
Washington, D. C.

Sir,

I have the honour to address myself to you to denounce the critical situation  
in the frontier area with the sister Republic of Honduras caused by the  
incessant attacks and crimes perpetrated by Somozist counter-revolutionary  
units against the Nicaraguan population and territory, a situation which is  
made possible only by the economic, military, logistic and propaganda  
assistance provided by the United States Government to these bands as part of  
that Government's undeclared war against Nicaragua.

On 28 December 1982, at 12.20 hours, a counter-revolutionary band of  
undetermined size penetrated into Nicaraguan territory and attacked the  
"Agronica" estate situated 28 kilometres north-west of Ocotal, in the  
department of Nueva Segovia, with the aim of abducting Nicaraguan peasants  
engaged in harvesting coffee; that criminal action failed because of the firm  
response of the Nicaraguan troops, although 9 peasants were abducted and taken  
to Honduran territory.

The next day, 29 December, at 16.30 hours, a twin-engined aircraft of unknown registration travelling from Honduras entered Nicaraguan air space in the Las Manos sector, flew over the villages of Santa Clara and San Fernando, in Nueva Segovia, and immediately returned to Honduras.

On 31 December the following acts of aggression were perpetrated against Nicaragua:

1. At 05.45 hours, Somozist counter-revolutionaries penetrated to El Naranjo, situated 16 kilometres north-west of Ocotal and 2 kilometres from the border, and attacked Nicaraguan forces in the sector; Nicaraguan citizens José Esteban Peralta and Ignacio Esquivel perished in the action.
2. At 08.50 hours, counter-revolutionary forces invaded Nicaraguan territory at the El Roble hill, situated 8.5 kilometres north-west of El Espino, and made a series of grenade attacks against the Nicaraguan troops stationed there.
3. At 13.20 hours, Somozist bands from Honduras penetrated Nicaraguan territory by the El Cipres hill, 17 kilometres north-west of Ocotal, and attacked Nicaraguan forces with 107 mm mortars. The number of attackers was estimated at over 100 men.
4. At 19.00 hours, an unknown aircraft entered Nicaraguan air space from Honduras, flying over the Dipilto sector.

All the above-mentioned attacks were made in the department of Nueva Segovia.

5. At 22.00 hours, counter-revolutionary elements attacked the town of La Sabana, situated 16 kilometres south-west of Somoto, in the department of Madriz, using a variety of weapons and 60 mm mortars.

The next day, 1 January 1983, further attacks were made on Nicaraguan territory, which are described below:

1. At 00.01 hours, a band of Somozist counter-revolutionaries consisting of about 50 armed units invaded the Nicaraguan territory in the sector known as Siuce and attacked the "San Rafael" estate situated 12 kilometres to the north of Jalapa in Nueva Segovia; they abducted 62 people, mostly children, and, resorting to threats and extreme violence, took them to Honduran territory.
2. Between 00.09 and 11.30 hours, 3 unknown aircraft from Honduras entered Nicaraguan air space, flew over the areas around Somotillo, Villanueva, El Sauce and Volcán Casita, and then returned to their point of departure.
3. At 12.00 hours, Somozist counter-revolutionaries attacked our positions in the La Victoria sector, 9.5 kilometres north-west of La Sabana, in the department of Madriz.
4. At 13.00 hours, there was heavy fighting in the El Cipres hill which ended in a disorganized flight to Honduran territory by the Somozist counter-revolutionaries; a considerable quantity of weapons was captured, almost all of United States manufacture.

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5. At a time which it has not yet been possible to establish, Somozist elements attacked Nicaraguan positions 3 kilometres south-west of La Sabana.

Today, 4 January, at 15.15 hours, a counter-revolutionary band consisting of about 150 armed men made an attack from Honduran territory on the Nicaraguan positions at Loma La Zopilota, situated 2 kilometres south-west of San Pedro del Norte; the attack lasted for over 30 minutes; M-50 machine guns and FAL rifles were used, and more than 15 FAL grenades were exploded. At about 15.25 hours, elements from the same band proceeded to evacuate the Honduran civilian population, mainly in the area opposite Santo Tomás del Nance. At 16.45 hours, an attack was made against El Ranchón, situated 500 metres from La Zopilota. At present the counter-revolutionaries are spread all along the border, in all cases in Honduran territory.

The Government of Nicaragua, considering that its many efforts to resolve this situation with the Government of Honduras through dialogue have been fruitless, and also considering the Honduran Government's systematic denial of the facts it has denounced in innumerable protest notes, and taking it into account that all these problems are problems that Nicaragua has with the United States from Honduran territory, since that Government has made Honduras a base for armed and terrorist operations against Nicaragua, formally and in the strongest terms protests to the Government of the United States about all these criminal actions which are contrary to the most elementary norms of international law which should regulate relations among States.

In these circumstances, Nicaragua appeals to the United States Government to take a sober and considered view of the consequences of this interventionist policy for peace and security not only in Nicaragua but throughout the Central American region; true to our mission of peace, we ask that the United States Government abandon its aggressive policy towards Nicaragua, that all the abducted Nicaraguans be freed and returned to their native land - and we hold the United States Government responsible for their safety and physical and moral integrity - and that the United States Government accept the open and unconditional dialogue that we have insistently proposed and it has always rejected.

I take this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Miguel D'Escoto Brockmann  
Minister for Foreign Affairs"

I request you to have this note distributed as a Security Council document.

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

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