

Security Council

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LETTER DATED 2 MAY 1983 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF NICARAGUA TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of a protest note addressed to His Excellency Mr. George P. Shultz, 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, dated 2 May 1983.

"Mr. Secretary:

I take this opportunity to inform Your Excellency (despite the fact that you have not dignified our previous notes with a response) that, beginning on April 30th of this year, a large contingent of Somocistas mercenaries invaded our territory through the 'Fila la Yegua' and 'Terrerias' sector, located 11 kilometers northwest of Jalapa in Nueva Segovia Department. Our heroic armed forces intercepted them and the fighting has continued since the 30th.

Providing direct support to the Somocistas, units of the Honduran army are taking part in the fighting, both from Honduran territory and within Nicaragua as well. Some of the Honduran forces are attacking Nicaraguan positions from their own territory, while others are inside Nicaraguan territory taking direct part in the battles alongside the invading forces.

The invasion force is estimated at approximately 1,200 men -700 Somocistas mercenaries in Fila La Yegua and 500 in Terrerias - plus some 1,000 mercenaries providing support from across the border in Honduras. To this force must be added the more than 1,000 Honduran troops firing on Nicaraguan positions with 81 MM mortars and long-range, heavy artillery.

In the face of this extremely grave situation, the Government of Nicaragua holds the current United States Administration as well as the Government and Army of Honduras responsible for all the Nicaraguan and Honduran deaths caused by the latest aggression against our territory. These Governments will also be responsible for the consequences flowing from the bellicose policy which your Government is pursuing against Nicaragua and from its systematic rejection of our proposal for a bilateral dialogue between our two countries that could lead to a peaceful solution to the current crisis.

In expressing the Nicaraguan Government's formal and strenuous protest over this exceedingly grave aggression, I wish to reiterate to you my Government's desire to achieve peace and our willingness to attain an agreement with your Government on the basis of the principles of non-intervention, mutual respect, sovereign equality and self-determination of peoples - basic principles to guarantee peace and security among nations.

I take this opportunity to reiterate to you the assurance of my highest esteem.

(<u>Signed</u>) Miguel D'Escoto Brockmann Foreign Minister"

I would request you to circulate this note as a Security Council document.

(<u>Signed</u>) Victor Hugo TINOCO FONSECA Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Representative of Nicaragua to the Security Council