

Security Council

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LETTER DATED 21 APRIL 1983 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 the note of protest dated 20 April 1983 addressed to His Excellency Dr. Edgardo Paz Barnica, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Honduras, by His Excellency Mr. Miguel d'Escoto Brockmann, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Nicaragua.

"Sir,

I am writing to inform you that at 6.30 a.m. today, in a further violation of our national sovereignty, three coast guard vessels flying the Honduran flag entered Nicaraguan territorial waters in the Gulf of Fonseca and attacked two patrol boats of the Sandinist Navy which were routinely patrolling the Farallones sector. The Nicaraguan patrol boats responded to this unjustifiable aggression by repelling the attack.

Later, at 9.10 a.m. the Honduran coast guard vessels returned, this time accompanied by a <u>Super Mystère</u> aircraft of the Honduran Air Force, and conducted a number of provocative manoeuvres. Still later, at 3.50 p.m., other Honduran vessels conducted further manoeuvres, to which the Nicaraguan vessels did not respond in order to prevent the incident from going any further.

The Government of Nicaragua cannot allow to go unheeded the series of attacks and acts of provocation which coast guard vessels and aircraft of the Honduran Navy and Air Force have been carrying out against Nicaraguan vessels. To such incidents must be added the attacks launched on our territory by the Honduran Army and by Somoza mercenaries operating from Honduras, acts which seem to follow a premeditated plan of provocations against Nicaragua designed to trigger incidents which would serve as a pretext for a larger-scale confrontation.

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> In once again registering my Government's vigorous and formal protest at this latest attack on Nicaragua, I reiterate our appeal for moderation and prudence so that an unfortunate confrontation between our countries might be avoided."

I should be grateful if you would have this note distributed as a document of the Security Council.

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

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