



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 19 April 1983 addressed to His Excellency Dr. Edgardo Paz Barnica, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Honduras, by Her Excellency Dr. Nora Astorga, Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Nicaragua.

"Sir,

I am writing to inform you that at 8 a.m. today, a band of some 14 Somoza counter-revolutionaries entered our national territory from Honduras, in the Vado Ancho sector situated 2.5 kilometres to the south of Santo Tomás del Nance in the Department of Chinandega. The Somoza criminals brutally cut the throat of the peasant Segundo Betanco and kidnapped health workers Paula Taura, Bessy Castillo and Milagros Castillo, together with five children. Health worker Paula Taura later managed to escape with four of the kidnapped children but the whereabouts of the other persons, including the child, are unknown.

This latest crime, which must be added to the innumerable crimes already perpetrated by the Somoza mercenaries, was made possible only by the complicity and assistance extended to the enemies of our people by the Honduran authorities. Despite this undeniable fact, the Government of Honduras continues to deny both the use of its territory as a base for the invasion of Nicaragua and for attacks on that country, and the participation of its armed forces in direct attacks on our territory and its support for the Somoza mercenaries.

In presenting to you my Government's formal and vigorous protest at this latest barbarous murder and the kidnapping of other citizens, I reiterate our appeal for an end to this hostile attitude towards Nicaragua and for compliance with the obligations laid down by international law.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Nora ASTORGA
Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs"

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

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