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LETTER DATED 26 SEPTEMBER 1983 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF NICARAGUA ON THE SECURITY COUNCIL ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I am writing in order to transcribe for you the text of a note dated 26 September 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 Minister of the Republic of Nicaragua.

"Sir.

I am writing in order to inform you of the following:

At 4.30 a.m. yesterday, a unit of about 150 Somozist mercenaries, openly supported by members of the Honduran army whose number has not been ascertained, launched an attack with mortars and artillery on the Espino customs post, in the department of Madriz.

At 5.30 a.m. today, the attack on the Espino post was renewed by the Somozist mercenaries and the Honduran soldiers supporting them, using 120-millimetre mortars and artillery fire. As a result of these criminal acts of aggression, the customs installations were destroyed. This evening the Honduran army moved a small tank to this place. The attack on the Espino post is still continuing at this time.

In addition, also today, another force of Somozist mercenaries coming from Honduran territory attacked the village of Santa María, 23 kilometres north-west of Ocotal, in Nueva Segovia. When the attack was repelled, the mercenary force again took refuge in Honduran territory.

In view of the seriousness of these events, and particularly of the cowardly and unjustified attack on the Espino customs post, the Government of Nicaragua demands that the Honduran Government and military authorities order the immediate cessation of this new act of aggression against the national territory, which demonstrates once again the alliance between Somozist mercenaries and the Honduran army, which has now reached a point at which attacks are organized and executed in perfect co-ordination and in broad daylight.

At the same time, I convey to you my Government's most formal and forceful protest at these acts of aggression against Nicaragua, which alone are enough to discredit the so-called desire for peace of the Government of Honduras.

I take this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurances of my consideration and esteem.

(Signed) Nora ASTORGA Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs"

I should be grateful if Your Excellency could submit this note as an official document of the Security Council.

(<u>Signed</u>) Victor Hugo TINOCO FONSECA

Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs

Representative of Nicaragua on the Security Council