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LETTER DATED 5 OCTOBER 1983 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF NICARAGUA ON THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of a note sent to His Excellency Mr. Arnulfo Pineda López, Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of Honduras, by Her Excellency Dr. Nora Astorga, Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Nicaragua, dated 4 October 1983.

"Sir,

I am writing to you to inform you of the following. Yesterday, 3 October, at 9 a.m., the national anti-aircraft defence in the Los Cedros sector, 25 kilometres north of Rio Blanco, Department of Matagalpa, shot down a twin-engine military aircraft engaged in providing support and supplies to the mercenary forces which, besieged by Nicaraguan troops, were returning to their bases in Honduras; that aircraft is one of those supplied by the CIA to the Somozist mercenaries in an attempt to promote their war against the Nicaraguan people.

The downed aircraft is a Douglas DC-3C painted olive drab, which had taken off from the Aguacate airfield at Catacamas, Department of Olancho, Honduras, and was carrying about 4,000 pounds of cargo consisting of military equipment. Two mercenaries died as a result of the downing of the aircraft. Two escaped by parachute and are being pursued by the Sandinist People's Militia of the sector, while three others were taken prisoner, namely, Roberto Amador Alvarez, a former major in the Somozist guard, Reynaldo Aguilar Mendez, a former captain and Jaime Lau Ramos, a mechanic.

The foregoing constitutes further confirmation of the involvement of the Honduran Government and armed forces in the increasingly open warfare being waged by the United States Government against the Nicaraguan people. In these circumstances, while presenting its most categorical and vigorous protest, the Government of Nicaragua considers it essential that the Government of Honduras should undertake a serious review of its unconditional support for the war policy of the present United States Administration, which is leading our

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> countries and the entire Central American region into a conflict of incalculable dimensions, undermining the efforts that are being made to bring about the restoration of peace in the region.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(<u>Signed</u>) Nora Astorga, Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs

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I shall be grateful if you will circulate this note as a Security Council document.

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