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CABLE DATED 27 OCTOBER 1969 FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL  
OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES ADDRESSED TO  
THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

In accordance with Article 54 of the United Nations Charter, I have the honour to transmit to you, for the information of the Security Council, the following resolutions adopted on this date by the thirteenth Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs:

"I

Peace and treaties

The thirteenth Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs,

Considering:

That in resolution III of 30 July 1969 it was decided that this meeting should be kept open, in particular for the purpose of making sure that the resolutions adopted were faithfully implemented and taking any additional measures which were considered necessary in order to restore and maintain inter-American peace and security and to settle the conflict between El Salvador and Honduras by peaceful means,

That observance and faithful implementation of existing treaties between the two countries, both bilateral and multilateral, are essential in order to guarantee peace and coexistence between the two nations,

That the disagreement between El Salvador and Honduras can be resolved by the international legal means and procedures provided for in the above-mentioned instruments, and

That, in order to promote the normalization of relations between El Salvador and Honduras, it is essential to ensure that the said means and procedures are not applied in a discriminatory manner in respect of property or interests held by nationals of one of those countries in the other country;

Decides:

1. To call upon the Governments of El Salvador and Honduras to maintain peace between the two countries by refraining from any actions which might threaten the peace and to comply with all agreements and treaties to which they are parties;
2. To request the two Governments to rescind those measures adopted during the recent conflict which hinder the free disposition of property belonging to individuals and bodies corporate of one country which is under the jurisdiction of the other country.

II

Free transit

The thirteenth Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs,

Considering:

That in a resolution adopted on 15 July 1969 by the Council, acting provisionally as the Organ of Consultation, it was agreed, 'in conformity with article 7 of the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance, to call upon the Governments of El Salvador and Honduras to suspend hostilities, to restore matters to the status quo ante bellum and to take the necessary measures to re-establish and maintain inter-American peace and security and for the solution of the conflict by peaceful means',

That in its resolution III, adopted on 30 July 1969, the Organ of Consultation decided 'to keep open the thirteenth Meeting of Consultation, in particular for the purpose of making sure that the resolutions adopted by the Organ of Consultation are faithfully implemented and taking any additional measures which it considers necessary in order to restore and maintain inter-American peace and security and to settle the conflict between El Salvador and Honduras by peaceful means',

That the closing in El Salvador and Honduras of land routes between those countries is seriously affecting the national economies and the living standards of the people not only of the two States in question but also of other Hemispheric States, in particular all those belonging to the Central American Common Market,

That the treaties on Central American integration provide for the free transit between the countries of the area, and

That it is the responsibility of the meeting of the Organ of Consultation to take pacifying action under article 7 of the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance,

Decides:

1. To recommend to the Government of El Salvador that, as a first step in restoring matters to the status quo ante bellum with respect to the use of land routes, to allow the free transit across its territory of goods of Honduran origin;

2. To recommend to the Government of Honduras that, as a first step in restoring matters to the status quo ante bellum with respect to the use of land routes, to allow the free transit across its territory of goods of Salvadorian origin.

III

Diplomatic and consular relations

The thirteenth Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs,

Considering:

That the resumption of diplomatic and consular relations will help to normalize the situation between El Salvador and Honduras,

Decides:

To invite the Governments of El Salvador and Honduras to resume consular and diplomatic relations without delay.

IV

Boundary questions

The thirteenth Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs,

Considering:

That the Ninth International Conference of American States stated in its resolution XXXVIII that 'the experience of history demonstrates that the lack of clearly demarcated boundaries is a cause of international conflicts' and that 'this situation can affect the peace of the continent and the normal development of the peoples of America',

That the Governments of El Salvador and Honduras have repeatedly stated their intention of defining the boundary line between their respective territories, and

That the Government of El Salvador has issued a statement dated 24 October 1969 in which it stated its position of principle with respect to this question and its readiness to reach a bilateral solution as soon as normal relations between the two countries are restored,

Decides:

To invite the Governments of El Salvador and Honduras, in the context of the provisions of the Charter of the Organization of American States, to approach their boundary questions in accordance with the letter and spirit of the above-mentioned resolution and the relevant provisions of the agreements entered into by both countries.

V

Central American Common Market

The thirteenth Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs,

Considering:

That in the Declaration of the Presidents of America dated 14 April 1967 the Presidents of the States members of the Central American Common Market undertook to implement the programme of action including, inter alia, the measures stated therein, and in so doing to apply the principles of a balanced development of the countries in the region,

That the social, economic and cultural conditions which led to the conflict between El Salvador and Honduras show that the time has come to revise the treaties concerning the creation and operation of the Central American Common Market with a view to improving it in the light of the experience acquired,

That any decision in the matter must be based on an agreement between the five countries constituting the Central American Common Market, and

That the Central American integration movement derives not only from a social, economic and cultural need in the countries constituting it but from multilateral resolutions and agreements in keeping with the spirit underlying the Declaration of the Presidents of America,

Decides:

1. To express its fraternal feelings to the Governments of the States comprising the Central American Common Market and to urge them to promote the cause of integration;

2. To recommend to the Governments of El Salvador and Honduras to begin talks with the other Governments of the isthmus aimed at reaching a regional consensus conducive to a revision of the present structure of the Central American Common Market designed to improve its operation with a view to raising the level of living of the inhabitants of the region.

## VI

### Claims and differences

The thirteenth Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs,

#### Considering:

That, in paragraph 4 of resolution II of 30 July 1969, the Meeting of Consultation took note of the fact that the Governments of El Salvador and Honduras had agreed to submit the claims and differences existing between them to any of the procedures of pacific settlement provided for in the American Treaty on Pacific Settlement ('Pact of Bogotá'), to which both countries are Parties, or, failing this, to submit them to the procedure of arbitration, in accordance with that Pact, and

That the Parties should first reach agreement on the choice of the procedure to which they will submit their differences,

#### Decides:

To remind the Governments of El Salvador and Honduras of the contents of paragraph 4 of resolution II of the Organ of Consultation dated 30 July 1969, concerning their agreement to submit the claims and differences existing in connexion with the conflict to the procedures of pacific settlement.

## VII

### Human rights and the family

The thirteenth Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs,

#### Considering:

That in its declaration of 30 July 1969 the Organ of Consultation establishes that the status of immigrants is governed by the laws of the countries in which they are resident but that this principle should be applied with the greatest respect for the protection of human rights, which have constantly been reaffirmed by the States members of the Organization,

Decides:

1. To recommend to the Governments of El Salvador and Honduras that, when applying their respective national laws to aliens, they should display the greatest respect for human rights and, in particular, for the rights to life, personal safety, freedom, property and the family;
2. To repeat the request previously made to the Committee of the Organ of Consultation to continue, in co-operation with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, to ensure strict observance of the resolutions on human rights adopted by the Organ of Consultation."

Accept, Sir, etc.

(Signed) GALO PLAZA  
Secretary General of the Organization  
of American States

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