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LETTER DATED 18 OCTOBER 1983 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF HONDURAS TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT
OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to bring to your attention the text of the note sent by the Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of Honduras to the Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nicaragua, in which my Government once again rejects the unfounded charges made by the Nicaraguan régime concerning the alleged involvement of the Honduran Air Force in the activities of counter-revolutionaries fighting in that neighbouring country. The text of the note reads as follows:

"Note No. 476 DA, Tegucigalpa, DC, 11 October 1983. Her Excellency Mrs. Nora Astorga, Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs, Managua, Nicaragua,

"I wish to refer to your message DAJ-No. 161, transmitted by telex to this Ministry on 6 October 1983, in which you reiterate the charges made against the Government of Honduras in telex message DAJ-No. 157 of the same date. The Government of Honduras considers itself obliged once again vigorously to reject the charge that the alleged twin-engine aircraft shot down on 3 October 1983 in Nicaraguan territory took off from an air base in Honduran territory. It also rejects your rash and slanderous allegations that Honduran Air Force installations are being used for instructing and training so-called "Somozan pilots" and repairing and maintaining aircraft delivered to them by the CIA, as well as the charge that Honduran officers are implicated in "counter-revolutionary" activities directed against your country. The Government of Honduras considers it regrettable that, as the internal conflict besetting the people of Nicaragua becomes more acute, your Government, in an attempt to undermine the peace-making initiative taken by the Contadora Group, is persisting in its attempt to internationalize the conflict and is exacerbating the Central American crisis by resorting to threats and acts of aggression. Despite the systematic and aggressive campaign orchestrated against it by your Government, the Government of Honduras continues to hope that the Government of Nicaragua will redirect its foreign policy so as to emphasize peaceful and harmonious relations with its neighbours, instead of trying to blame those neighbours for that internal conflict and to involve them in that conflict which must be settled by the Nicaraguans themselves.

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"Accept, Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

"(Signed) Arnulfo Pineda Lopez, Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs."

The above transcript has been communicated to the Organization of American States, and I would request you to arrange for it to be circulated as a Security Council document.

(Signed) H. Roberto HERRERA CACERES
Ambassador,
Permanent Representative
