



Security Council

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LETTER DATED 1 NOVEMBER 1983 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF HONDURAS TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government I have the honour to bring to your notice the text of letter No. 522 DA, sent on 30 October by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Honduras to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nicaragua, vigorously protesting against another aggressive act and violation of our territory carried out on 28 October by two Nicaraguan vessels sailing in Honduran territorial waters. The Honduran Mission to the Organization of American States brought the text of this letter to the attention of the States members of that Organization. It reads as follows:

"Letter No. 522 DA. Tegucigalpa, 30 October 1983. To Mrs. Nora Astorga, Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs, Managua, Nicaragua: Madam, I wish to inform you that, at 8 p.m. on 28 October last, two unidentified vessels were detected in Honduran territorial waters, heading for Punta Condega in the Gulf of Fonseca, latitude 13°06' 30" N and longitude 87°29' 00" W. Two Honduran patrol boats in the area were immediately ordered to intercept them, and contact was made 15 minutes later when the vessels were identified as two Nicaraguan patrol boats of the new type recently acquired. The Nicaraguan boats opened fire on the Honduran vessels and there was an exchange of fire for some twenty minutes, after which the foreign boats retreated in the direction of their base at Puerto Corinto. This incident is a further act of aggression against Honduras by the Government of Nicaragua and is the reason why my Government is making its formal and emphatic protest, while reaffirming its determination to exercise its right of self-defence whenever necessary. Accept, Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration. (Signed) Edgardo Paz Barnica, Minister for Foreign Affairs."

I request you to have the above text circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Roberto Flores BERMUDEZ
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.