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LETTER DATED 25 JANUARY 1984 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF NICARAGUA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT
OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the note sent by His Excellency Mr. Miguel D'Escoto Brockmann, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Nicaragua, to His Excellency Dr. Edgardo Paz Barnica, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Honduras, on 23 January 1984.

"I am writing in reply to your letter No. 040 dated 1 January 1984, in which you refer first to the alleged planting of a mine by Nicaraguan authorities in Honduran territory in the so-called 'Trincheras' sector of El Paraíso Department, and secondly to an alleged raid by members of the Sandinist People's Army on 'El Sombrerito' sector in the administrative area of San Marcos de Colón.

"The Government of Nicaragua referred the opinions expressed in your letter to the competent military authorities, who inform that at no time were any mines planted in Honduran territory. As for the alleged raid carried out in the territory of that country by members of our army, the Government of Nicaragua asserts that the allegation is totally false, since our authorities maintain the strictest respect for Honduran sovereignty and the property of its inhabitants.

"Furthermore, my Government is surprised that you, Sir, should once again refer to the tragic death of two United States journalists in Honduran territory, seeking to ascribe responsibility to my Government. As it stated in note DAJ No. 104 of 15 July 1983, the Government of Nicaragua rejects in its entirety note No. 311 DA of 30 June 1983, and continues to await the truth about the circumstances in which the journalists were murdered, which has yet to be learned.

"In totally rejecting your assertions and the protest set out in your note, the Government of Nicaragua is of the view that, if incidents such as those described by you have taken place, it would seem more likely that they were the criminal acts of the mercenary gangs which are based in Honduran territory with the open complicity of the army of that country."

I request that this note be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Javier CHAMORRO MORA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Nicaragua to the United Nations
