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CABLEGRAM DATED 20 JUNE 1954 FROM THE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL RELATIONS
OF GUATEMALA ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

FURTHER TO MY MESSAGE OF JUNE 19 IN WHICH I INFORMED YOU OF THE AGGRESSION AND INVASION NOW PROCEEDING AGAINST THE TERRITORY OF GUATEMALA IN VIOLATION OF THE PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW, OF PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE AND OF THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER, DESPITE THE FACT THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO PROVOCATION OR HOSTILE ACT ON THE PART OF THIS GOVERNMENT AGAINST ANY GOVERNMENT, I HAVE THE HONOUR TO BRING TO YOUR NOTICE AND THROUGH YOUR GOOD OFFICES TO THE NOTICE OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL THE FOLLOWING FACTS OF THE UTMOST GRAVITY: I - ON 18 JUNE: (A) DURING THE NIGHT THE PASSENGER TRAIN FROM GUATEMALA TO PUERTO BARRIOS WAS MACHINE-GUNNED AND COMPELLED TO STOP. THE ATTACKERS WHO HAD PREVIOUSLY DYNAMITED THE GUALAN BRIDGE PROCEEDED ON THIS TRAIN TO THE TOWNSHIP OF ENTRE RIOS, WHERE THEY TORE UP RAILS, DESTROYED NATIONAL AND RAILWAY (IRCA) TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH LINES AND FORCED THE ENGINE-DRIVER TO QUENCH THE LOCOMOTIVE'S FIRES. AT DAYBREAK THE REBELS WITHDREW TO THE TERRITORY OF THE REPUBLIC OF HONDURAS. (B) AT 23.50 HOURS A P-47 AIRCRAFT OF UNIDENTIFIED NATIONALITY ATTACKED THIS CAPITAL AND SHORTLY THEREAFTER DROPPED ARMS BY PARACHUTE IN PARTS OF THE TOWNS NUEVO VILLAS, VILLA CAVALES AND PALENCIA. (C) IN THE SAME NIGHT TWO AIRCRAFT FLEW OVER THE WEST OF THE REPUBLIC DROPPING SUBVERSIVE PROPAGANDA. II - ON 19 JUNE: (A) AT 8 HOURS AN UNIDENTIFIED AIRCRAFT ATTACKED THE CAPITAL CITY AND THREE OTHER AIRCRAFT DROPPED ARMS IN THE VILLAGES OF LOS MIXCOS AND POTRERO GRANDE, DISTRICT OF PALENCIA. THE AIRCRAFT WHICH ATTACKED THE CAPITAL MADE A SIMILAR ATTACK AGAINST THE MILITARY ZONE OF ZACAPA AND THEN MACHINE-GUNNED THE GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL (INSTITUTO NORMAL DE SENORITAS) IN THE TOWN OF CHIQUIMULA. DURING THE ATTACK ON THE CAPITAL THE AIRCRAFT MACHINE-GUNNED THE CIVILIAN POPULATION, CAUSING WOUNDS TO SEVERAL PERSONS AND KILLING A LITTLE GIRL OF TWO YEARS. (B) AT 11 HOURS ANOTHER UNIDENTIFIED AIRCRAFT DROPPED BOMBS ON THE

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PUERTO BARRIOS GASOLINE STORES. (C) AT 12 HOURS MERCENARY INVASION FORCES OCCUPIED THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIPULAS AND AT 15 HOURS THE TOWNSHIP OF JOCOTAN, BOTH IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHIQUIMULA. (D) AT 17.45 HOURS TWO AIRCRAFT ATTACKED THE MILITARY ZONE OF JUTIAPA. (E) AT 18.05 HOURS THESE SAME AIRCRAFT WITH TWO OTHERS REPEATED THE ATTACK ON THAT MILITARY ZONE. (F) AT 23.30 HOURS TWO AIRCRAFT WITH SEARCHLIGHTS FLEW OVER THE MILITARY BASE OF EL PETEN. (G) AT 23.40 HOURS MERCENARY INVASION FORCES OCCUPIED THE TOWNSHIPS OF MORALES AND BANANERA TAKING THE TELEGRAPH OPERATORS PRISONER. THE FATE OF THE CIVILIAN POPULATION IS UNKNOWN. (H) THESE INVADING FORCES DYNAMITED THE RAILWAY BRIDGE OF SAN FRANCISCO IN THE DISTRICT OF MORALES. (I) SEVERAL UNIDENTIFIED AIRCRAFT DROPPED ARMS AT DIFFERENT TIMES IN VARIOUS PLACES. IT IS IMPORTANT TO STRESS THAT ALL THESE ARMS WERE PICKED UP BY THE CIVILIAN POPULATION AND SPONTANEOUSLY DELIVERED UP TO THE NEAREST AUTHORITIES. III - ON 20 JUNE: (A) AT 8.35 HOURS AN UNIDENTIFIED AIRCRAFT BOMBED AND DAMAGED THE CRISTINA BRIDGE OF THE NORTHERN RAILWAY NEAR QUIRIGUA. IN THE SAME AREA THE MERCENARY INVASION FORCES TORE UP RAILS ON THE SAME RAILWAY (IRCA). (B) AT 8.55 HOURS THE SAME AIRCRAFT MACHINE-GUNNED THE TOWNSHIP OF SAN JUAN LA ERMITA IN THE SAME DISTRICT. (C) AT 11.30 HOURS UNIDENTIFIED AIRCRAFT BOMBED AND MACHINE-GUNNED THE MILITARY ZONE OF COBAN ALTA VERAPAZ. I HAVE THE HONOUR TO INFORM YOU ALSO THAT MY GOVERNMENT HAS OFFICIAL KNOWLEDGE THAT ONE OF THE AIRCRAFT THAT ATTACKED THIS CAPITAL CRASHED NEAR PUERTO MADERO, CHIAPAS, MEXICO, NEAR THE TOWN OF TAPACHULA, THAT THE TWO PILOTS ARE OF UNITED STATES NATIONALITY AND THAT ONE OF THEM IS INJURED. MY GOVERNMENT HAS OFFICIALLY REQUESTED THE GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO TO INTERN THE AIRMEN AND TO SEIZE THE AIRCRAFT. I LIKEWISE CONSIDER IT IMPORTANT TO INFORM THE SECURITY COUNCIL THAT ALL THESE AIRCRAFT ARE BASED ON AIRPORTS IN THE REPUBLIC OF HONDURAS AND THAT THE HONDURAN PRESS ITSELF HAS REPORTED DEPARTURES AIRCRAFT WITH TROOPS AND ARMS FOR THE FRONTIER OF GUATEMALA FROM THE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT OF TONCONTIN IN TEGUCIGALPA. LASTLY, AND IN REFUTATION OF THE FALSE REPORTS PUBLISHED ABROAD, I HAVE TO INFORM THE COUNCIL THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO UPRISING WHATEVER IN ANY PART OF THE REPUBLIC, AND THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO DISORDER IN THE CAPITAL OR IN THE PROVINCES. THE PEOPLE, INDIGNANT AT THE VIOLATION OF THE NATIONAL TERRITORY AND AT THE CRIMINAL ATTACKS LAUNCHED BY THE INVADERS, HAVE

TURNED TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OFFERING THEIR CO-OPERATION AND THEIR LIVES TO DEFEND THE HOMELAND. THE GOVERNMENT OF GUATEMALA OFFICIALLY NOTIFIES THE SECURITY COUNCIL, UNDER ARTICLE 51 OF THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER, THAT THE ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC HAS LIMITED ITSELF TO FIRING AT THE PIRATE AIRCRAFT, BUT THAT IN THE EXERCISE OF THE RIGHT OF SELF-DEFENCE IT WILL PROCEED IMMEDIATELY TO REPEL BY FORCE OF ARMS THE AGGRESSIVE FOREIGN INVASION. I HAVE THE HONOUR TO BE, ETC.

(Signed) GUILLERMO TORIELLO
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

