

UNITED NATIONS

SECURITY
COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL
S/3246
24 June 1954
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

CABLEGRAM DATED 23 JUNE 1954 FROM THE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL
RELATIONS OF GUATEMALA ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

2509 I HAVE THE HONOUR TO TRANSMIT A COPY OF MESSAGE I DISPATCHED TODAY TO
H.E. THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF HONDURAS, AND TO REQUEST YOU TO TRANSMIT
ITS TEXT TO ALL STATES MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN PARTICULAR TO MEMBERS
OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL:

"I HAVE THE HONOUR TO ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF YOUR MESSAGE OF TODAY'S DATE IN
WHICH, REFERRING TO THE CONTINUED ATTACKS MADE FROM HONDURAN TERRITORY AGAINST
THIS REPUBLIC, BY LAND, SEA AND AIR, BY THE MERCENARY TROOPS PROCEEDING FROM
HONDURAS, WHICH ARE ATTACKING AND INVADING GUATEMALAN TERRITORY, YOU INFORM ME
THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT 'HAS NOT TAKEN PART IN THOSE ACTS OF VIOLATION OF THE
TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY' OF THIS REPUBLIC, AND IS ALREADY ORDERING AN INQUIRY INTO
THE USE OF THE SCHOONER 'SIESTA DE TRUJILLO', FLYING THE HONDURAN FLAG,
CAPTURED BY MY GOVERNMENT AT PUERTO BARRIOS. IN TAKING NOTE OF THE FOREGOING
STATEMENT, I MUST INFORM YOU THAT I FAIL TO UNDERSTAND HOW THE GOVERNMENT OF
HONDURAS, IN VIEW OF THE NEUTRALITY IMPLIED BY ITS STATEMENT, CAN ALLOW ITS
TERRITORY AND AIRFIELDS TO BE USED AS A BASE FOR THE AGGRESSIVE OPERATIONS AND
THE INVASION BEING CARRIED OUT BY MERCENARY TROOPS AGAINST GUATEMALA, THEREBY
SERIOUSLY THREATENING PEACE AND HARMONY BETWEEN OUR TWO SISTER NATIONS. I MUST
ALSO INFORM YOU THAT, IN MY GOVERNMENT'S OPINION, THIS TOLERANCE ON THE PART OF
THE GOVERNMENT OF HONDURAS CONSTITUTES VERY EFFECTIVE ASSISTANCE TO GUATEMALA'S
AGGRESSORS AND IS UNDOUBTEDLY OF THE KIND THE SECURITY COUNCIL ASKED MEMBER
STATES OF THE UNITED NATIONS TO ABSTAIN FROM GIVING, IN ORDER TO AVOID
BLOODSHED.

54-17983

I MUST CATEGORICALLY REJECT YOUR PROTEST, ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT OF HONDURAS, THAT A PLANE COMING FROM GUATEMALA PENETRATED INTO HONDURAN TERRITORY AND BOMBED AN AIR FIELD AT SAN PEDRO COPAN. I ASSURE YOU THAT THERE HAVE BEEN NO SORTIES BY GUATEMALAN PLANES TOWARDS THE HONDURAN BORDER AND THAT ACCORDINGLY ANY CHARGES MADE IN CONNEXION WITH THIS INCIDENT AGAINST THE GUATEMALAN GOVERNMENT OR ARMY ARE UTTERLY UNFOUNDED. YOU WILL UNDOUBTEDLY HAVE NOTED THAT THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AND ARMY HAVE BEEN EXTREMELY CAREFUL TO RESPECT SCRUPULOUSLY THE FRONTIER BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES, SO MUCH SO THAT THEY REFRAINED FROM REPELLING THE INVADING MERCENARY TROOPS IMMEDIATELY, AS WOULD HAVE BEEN RIGHT, AND ALLOWED THEM TO PENETRATE MANY KILOMETRES BEFORE SEEKING TO ENGAGE THEM, PRECISELY IN ORDER TO AVOID SUCH AN INCIDENT AS SOME INTERESTS FOREIGN TO CENTRAL AMERICA HAVE BEEN AWAITING OR PREPARING IN ORDER TO COMPLICATE THE SITUATION AND TO ACCUSE GUATEMALA OF HOSTILE ACTS AGAINST HONDURAS. IN MY TURN, I HAVE THE PAINFUL DUTY TO PRESENT TO YOUR EXCELLENCY THE FORMAL PROTEST OF MY GOVERNMENT AGAINST THE TOLERANCE AND ASSISTANCE WHICH THE DISTINGUISHED GOVERNMENT OF HONDURAS HAS EXTENDED AND IS CONTINUING TO EXTEND TO SOME GUATEMALAN ENIGMAS IN THEIR PLANS FOR PREPARING AND CARRYING OUT ACTS OF PROVOCATION, AGGRESSION AND INVASION AGAINST GUATEMALA. THESE GUATEMALAN ENIGMAS, WHO ARE GENEROUSLY EQUIPPED AND FINANCED BY WELL-KNOWN FOREIGN INTERESTS, FREELY ORGANIZED, ESTABLISHED AND MOBILIZED DETACHMENTS OF ARMED MERCENARIES ON HONDURAN TERRITORY, THEY HAVE USED AND CONTINUE TO USE HONDURAN TERRITORY AS A BASE OF OPERATIONS, AND THEY HAVE USED AND CONTINUE TO USE PORTS AND AIRFIELDS FOR THE DESPATCH OF SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT TAKING PART IN THE AGGRESSION AGAINST AND INVASION OF GUATEMALAN TERRITORY. ALL THIS HAS OCCURRED AND IS CONTINUING TO OCCUR, EVEN AFTER THE DECISION UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED BY THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL ON 21 JUNE.

FINALLY, I REPEAT THAT NOTWITHSTANDING THE ASSISTANCE GIVEN TO GUATEMALA'S AGGRESSORS, WHICH IMPLIES AT LEAST THE TOLERANCE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF HONDURAS TOWARDS THE ACTIVITIES OF THE MERCENARY TROOPS WHICH ARE ATTACKING AND INVADING THIS REPUBLIC, MY GOVERNMENT WISHES TO AVOID AT ALL COSTS ANY ACT WHICH MIGHT TRANSFORM THE PRESENT SITUATION INTO A CONFLICT BETWEEN OUR PEOPLES AND GOVERNMENTS, WITH GRAVE DETRIMENT TO THE INTERESTS OF CENTRAL AMERICA. IN

THIS SPIRIT, AND CONFIDENT IN ADVANCE THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT IS INSPIRED BY SIMILAR CONSIDERATIONS, MY GOVERNMENT IS MAKING A FRESH EFFORT TO PREVENT ANY POSSIBLE CONFLICT BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES, AND TO THIS END, REQUESTS YOUR GOVERNMENT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROMISES GIVEN BY YOUR EXCELLENCY AND IN ORDER TO CARRY INTO EFFECT THE SECURITY COUNCIL'S DECISION, TO TAKE IMMEDIATELY THE MOST EFFECTIVE MEASURES

- (A) TO PREVENT THE USE OF PORTS, AIRPORTS OR AIRFIELDS IN HONDURAN TERRITORY BY THE MERCENARY FORCES WHICH HAVE BEEN AND ARE ATTACKING AND INVADING THIS REPUBLIC;
- (B) TO CLOSE THE FRONTIER BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES TO THESE FORCES;
- (C) TO INTERN AND DISARM ALL MEMBERS OF THOSE FORCES, OF WHATEVER NATIONALITY, STILL PRESENT IN HONDURAN TERRITORY, AND
- (D) TO ROUND UP GUATEMALAN EMIGREES AND PREVENT THEM FROM ENGAGING IN ANY SUBVERSIVE ACTION AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT, PEOPLE OR TERRITORY OF GUATEMALA.

I AM CONFIDENT THAT RAPID AND EFFECTIVE ACTION OF THIS KIND BY THE GOVERNMENT OF HONDURAS WILL EFFECTIVELY CONTRIBUTE TO PREVENTING THE CRIMINALLY-PROVOKED BLOODSHED AND TO CONSOLIDATING THE GOOD RELATIONS WHICH HAVE TRADITIONALLY LINKED OUR PEOPLES AND GOVERNMENTS.

I HAVE THE HONOUR TO BE, ETC.

(SIGNED) GUILLERMO TORIELLO
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF GUATEMALA

