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THE SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA;
THREATS TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE
AND SECURITY AND PEACE INITIATIVES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-fourth year

Letter dated 20 April 1989 from the Permanent Representative
of Nicaragua to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you a note and an annex from His Excellency Mr. Victor Hugo Tinoco, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Nicaragua.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 34 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Alejandro SERRANO CALDERA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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ANNEX

Letter dated 19 April 1989 from the Deputy Minister for Foreign
Affairs of Nicaragua addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to the agreement reached by the Central American Presidents at Costa del Sol, El Salvador, regarding the drawing up, "within a period not exceeding 90 days, [of] a joint plan for the ... demobilization, repatriation or relocation ... of members of the Nicaraguan resistance and their families".

In this context, I take the opportunity to attach herewith the proposed "Plan for the repatriation and relocation of members of the Nicaragua resistance in Honduras" (see appendix), submitted by the Government of Nicaragua to the representatives of the other Central American Governments at the recent meeting of the commission drawing up the joint plan for the demobilization, voluntary repatriation and, as appropriate, relocation of members of the Nicaraguan resistance and their families, held on 13 and 14 April at Guatemala City, Guatemala, as agreed during the eighth meeting of the Executive Commission established under the Esquipulas agreements.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its appendix circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 34 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Victor Hugo TINOCO
Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs

APPENDIX

Plan for the repatriation and relocation of members of the
Nicaraguan resistance in Honduras

As proposed by the Republic of Nicaragua and on the initiative of the Republic of Honduras, the five Central American countries endorse the present plan for the voluntary repatriation and relocation of members of the irregular forces in Honduras, with a view to promoting peace within the framework of Esquipulas II, faithfully implementing the agreement reached on 13 and 14 February 1989 in the Department of La Paz, Republic of El Salvador, and following the procedure set out below:

(1) The objective of this agreement is the voluntary repatriation to Nicaragua, or the relocation in third countries, of members of the Nicaraguan resistance now in Honduras.

(2) With a view to guaranteeing implementation of this plan, an International Support and Verification Commission shall be established, the members being the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary General of the Organization of American States (OAS). Support services for this International Commission shall be provided by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Geneva, which shall be formally invited by the Governments of Honduras and Nicaragua.

Situations not envisaged under this plan shall be dealt with by the International Support and Verification Commission, in consultation with the Governments of Honduras and Nicaragua.

(3) This plan shall be implemented within three months from the date of its signature.

(4) The International Support and Verification Commission shall be established five days after the signing of the agreement. Once the Commission has been set up, the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary General of OAS shall begin to take steps to obtain the financial resources needed to implement the plan.

To ensure care in the camps (see art. 5), repatriation, relocation, reception at places of destination and initial installation of repatriated persons, the International Support and Verification Commission shall seek the assistance of UNHCR and ICRC.

(5) One week after its establishment, the International Support and Verification Commission shall carry out an on-site inspection of the camps of the Nicaraguan irregular forces in the frontier region between the two countries, to determine how many members of the resistance there are and what resources they have. The Commission shall also inform those eligible for

repatriation of the scope of specific programmes. From that point onwards, ICRC shall be responsible for providing food, medical care, clothing and other basic necessities in the camps of the irregular forces, and UNHCR in the refugee camps housing their families. The International Support and Verification Commission, assisted by UNHCR and ICM, shall arrange for third countries to receive those Nicaraguans who have laid down their arms but do not wish to return to Nicaragua.

(6) Forty-five days after its establishment, the International Support and Verification Commission shall receive the weapons and other military equipment of members of the irregular forces. Such military equipment shall be handed over to the Government of Honduras or, if the latter prefers, shall remain in the safe-keeping of the International Support and Verification Commission which shall decide what to do with them. The Government of Honduras shall, in the presence of the International Support and Verification Commission, dismantle the camps left by the irregular forces once repatriation and relocation is complete.

(7) Once it has received the weapons, the International Support and Verification Commission shall give a record thereof to all Nicaraguans availing themselves of this repatriation and relocation plan. This done, the International Support and Verification Commission, in co-operation with the Governments of Nicaragua and Honduras and with the support of ICRC and UNHCR, shall put into effect the programme for the voluntary repatriation of those who wish to return to Nicaragua.

The entry points shall be the Las Manos, El Espino, Teotecacinte and Leymus frontier posts. At these posts, the Government of Nicaragua, in the presence of representatives of the International Support and Verification Commission, shall provide repatriated Nicaraguans with the necessary documents to guarantee the full exercise of their rights as citizens. Transportation shall be provided and organized by ICRC, in co-ordination with the Governments of Honduras and Nicaragua and under the supervision of the International Support and Verification Commission.

At the same time, those Nicaraguans who chose not to return to Nicaragua shall begin to be sent to host third countries. The Government of Nicaragua shall arrange for passports to be issued to those who request them at any of its consulates.

(8) Wherever possible, Nicaraguans who have laid down their arms shall be taken directly to their place of final settlement.

Land, implements and inputs commensurate with the possibilities of the Government of Nicaragua and the funds obtained for that purpose by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Secretary General of OAS, UNHCR and ICRC shall be provided to those who wish to engage in agricultural and livestock production.

UNHCR shall handle the repatriation programmes in the departments of Las Segovias, Madris and Esteli (region I). ICRC shall focus on regions V and VI and the North Atlantic autonomous region.

(9) This plan shall be deemed complete once weapons have been handed over, Nicaraguans have been voluntarily repatriated and settled in Nicaragua, Nicaraguans who chose not to return to Nicaragua have been sent to third countries and the installations of the former irregular forces have been dismantled.

(10) Once implementation of the plan is complete, the International Support and Verification Commission shall issue a report to that effect.

The report shall be sent to the five Presidents of the Central American countries, the Executive Commission sent up under the Esquipulas II agreements and the National Reconciliation Commissions of Honduras and Nicaragua.

(11) Once the report certifying implementation of the plan has been issued, the International Support and Verification Commission shall be deemed to have completed its functions and shall hand over the files on repatriated and relocated persons to the National Reconciliation Commission of Nicaragua for it to follow up later as part of its functions.

In witness whereof, we sign this plan.

For the Republic of Honduras:
(Signed)
José Azcona Hoyo

For the Republic of Nicaragua:
(Signed)
Daniel Ortega Saavedra

For the Republic of Costa Rica:
(Signed)
Oscar Arias Sánchez

For the Republic of El Salvador:
(Signed)
Napoleón Duarte

For the Republic of Guatemala:
(Signed)
Vinicio Cerezo Arévalo
