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LETTER DATED 6 JULY 1984 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF HONDURAS
TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you the note dated 5 July 1984 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Honduras, Dr. Edgardo Paz Barnica, addressed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nicaragua, Mr. Miguel D'Escoto Brockmann, which reads as follows:

"Tegucigalpa, D.C., 5 July 1984. His Excellency Mr. Miguel D'Escoto Brockmann, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Managua, Nicaragua. Sir, I acknowledge receipt of your note DAJ No. 102 dated 2 July, referring to the three Nicaraguan fishermen belonging to the Sandinist People's Militias, who allegedly lost their way while fishing in the Gulf of Fonseca, and to their alleged capture by Honduran authorities. According to an official report from General Navy Headquarters, on 29 June 1984 at 1.30 a.m., two floating units of the Piraña squadron on a routine patrol in Honduran territorial waters captured an outboard motor boat and its three crew members, at latitude 13 degrees 2' 15" North, longitude 87 degrees 16' 30" West, at the mouth of the River Negro. When the necessary inquiries were made, it was found that the three individuals had no identity papers but were carrying three AK-47 rifles, serial numbers 4214, 1035 and 8782, and nine magazines with 233 5.62 mm shells. In view of this, the three individuals, the arms, ammunition and the outboard motor were transferred to the Honduran launches and taken to the Amapala Naval Base and then to the 11th infantry battalion, where they are at this time. In view of the lack of papers, the three individuals identified themselves as follows: (a) Rigoberto Cruz López, 33 years old, of Salvadorian nationality; (b) Roque Garcia Lagos, 24 years old, of Nicaraguan nationality; (c) Fidel Antonio Ordóñez, 23 years old, of Honduran nationality. It appears from all of the foregoing that these detained persons are not three innocent Nicaraguan fishermen engaged in routine fishing because, if they were, they would not be carrying the weapons described and would not have tried to hide in a suspicious manner, while they were in Honduran waters. I take this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my highest consideration. (Signed) Edgardo Paz Barnica, Minister for Foreign Affairs."

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I should be grateful if you would arrange for this text, which has already been brought to the attention of the Organization of American States, to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) H. Roberto HERRERA CACERES
Ambassador,
Permanent Representative
