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

Letter dated 16 October 1984 from the Permanent Representative  
of Nicaragua to the United Nations addressed to the  
Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a communication addressed on 15 October 1984 by Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra, Co-ordinator of the Government Junta of Reconstruction of Nicaragua, to the Presidents of the countries which are members of the Contadora Group.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for this letter and its annex to be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 25, and of the Security Council.

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

ANNEX

Communication addressed on 15 October 1984 by the Co-ordinator  
of the Government Junta of Reconstruction of Nicaragua to the  
Presidents of the countries which are members of the  
Contadora Group

I am pleased to write to you as the period set for the submission of comments on the Act draws to a close to reiterate our complete readiness "to accept in its entirety and to sign immediately, without any modification, the Revised Act of 7 September submitted by the Contadora Group" in order to give a decisive impetus to the establishment of lasting peace in the region.

In the interest of facilitating a political decision on the part of the other Central American countries and the Government of the United States in support of the immediate signing of the Revised Act and its Protocol, the Government of Nicaragua deems it appropriate to make the following observations.

The Government of Nicaragua has consistently maintained that the Revised Contadora Act is the culmination of a long process of negotiation. On that subject, the communiqué issued by the seventh joint meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Contadora countries and of the Central American countries stated that the Revised Act reflected "the views put forward by the five Central American Governments".

The Government of Nicaragua fully agrees with the view expressed by the Foreign Ministers of the Contadora Group in their letter of 7 September to the effect that "this latest version is the result of an intense process of consultations ... for facilitating a consensus that would be reflected in legal commitments undertaken by all the parties".

Valuable efforts have been made in the negotiation process to accommodate all the various interests and reconcile the different positions. The Government of Nicaragua believes that the time has come to give tangible expression to the noble efforts promoted by Contadora and to bring peace to the area.

In that connection we should like to express our concern at the recent proposal by the Government of Honduras for the convening of a meeting of Central American Foreign Ministers. Nicaragua is of the view that the Revised Contadora Act is the culmination of an intense process of consultations and consequently should not be subject to further negotiations for the purpose of submitting substantive amendments or modifications. In any case, the minor improvements which the Contadora Act might need do not warrant a meeting of Central American Foreign Ministers. Furthermore, Nicaragua believes that a meeting of Central American Foreign Ministers, without the participation of the Contadora Group, would adversely affect the Group's peace efforts and undermine the positive work which it has been carrying out in its pursuit of formulas for understanding and conciliation.

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Given the obstacles which have been created by some Central American Governments to the immediate signing of the Revised Act, Nicaragua considers that the Contadora Group should redouble its efforts in order to obtain from the Governments in question a commitment to peace and secure acceptance of the Act at the earliest possible date. In that connection, the initiative falls to the Contadora Group to convene a high-level meeting of the Central American and Contadora countries if possible at Head of State level, with the aim of promoting the willingness and the political decisions necessary for the unequivocal and genuine acceptance of the Act, which will lead to its signing and pave the way for peace in Central America. Mr. President, my friend, at a time when Nicaragua is faced with a recrudescence of the war of aggression and preparations are being made for larger-scale operations aimed at destroying the Sandinist People's Revolution, we continue to stand ready to make every effort to promote a negotiated settlement to the problems besetting the region, while reaffirming our commitment to the defence of Nicaragua's right to self-determination, sovereignty and independence.

Fraternally yours,

(Signed) Daniel Ortega Saavedra  
Co-ordinator of the Government Junta  
of Reconstruction of Nicaragua

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