



General Assembly Security Council

Distr.  
GENERAL

A/39/863

S/16939

5 February 1985

ENGLISH

ORIGINAL: SPANISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Thirty-ninth session

THE SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA:

TREATIES TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND

SECURITY AND PEACE INITIATIVES

SECURITY COUNCIL

Fortieth year

Letter dated 5 February 1985 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the  
Permanent Mission of Nicaragua to the United Nations addressed to  
the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your knowledge the text of the note addressed to His Excellency Mr. George Shultz, Secretary of State of the United States, by His Excellency Miguel D'Escoto Brockmann, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nicaragua, and dated 30 January 1985:

Sir,

I am writing to you with reference to the large-scale joint military manoeuvres named "Big Pine III", which are being carried out from 11 February to 3 May of this year by the armed forces of the United States and the army of Honduras, with the participation of forces specialized in counter-insurgency, armoured and anti-tank units and combat engineering battalions.

According to public information, the military manoeuvres will take place in three stages. The first stage will include the movement of the "exercise" joint task force, with its logistical material, to the different areas of operation, which include the southern, western and north-central zones of Honduras. During the second stage, a task force of combat engineers will move to fill the dirt tracks of San Lorenzo and Cocayagua, as well as the anti-tank defence posts situated in the Choluteca valley. Lastly, the counter-insurgency training stage will take place in Yoro province, to the north of Tegucigalpa.

It is a cause for special concern to the Government of Nicaragua that, in these manoeuvres, in which more than 4,500 United States soldiers will participate, for the first time United States tanks of the type M-68 A-3 and M113 armoured vehicles will be used, which would be moved to within a few kilometres of the frontier between Nicaragua and Honduras.

These manoeuvres are proof of a foreign military presence in the region of tremendous magnitude and presage an increase in conflicts and tensions in the area, as well as an increase in the pressures on and the illegal armed aggression against Nicaragua directed and financed by the Government of the United States.

It should be pointed out that these manoeuvres have been used for supplying and providing logistical and military support to the mercenary forces of the Central Intelligence Agency, who are daily carrying out terrorist attacks against the Nicaraguan civilian population and the production infrastructure of the country.

Similarly, I must stress that these manoeuvres are being carried out at the precise moment when the United States Government has systematically blocked the existing machinery for dialogue by suspending indefinitely the bilateral talks at Manzanillo and pressuring Central American Governments to keep up the "effective blockade" of the Contadora peace negotiations.

These coincidental facts seem to indicate that your Government has decided to disregard peaceful channels for the settlement of disputes, openly urging a position of force, as was demonstrated by the refusal of the United States Government to continue participating in the proceedings initiated by Nicaragua before the International Court of Justice and by the request to the United States Congress for new funds for continuation of the illegal war of aggression which has been imposed on us for more than four years, in open violation of international law and the order delivered by the International Court of Justice on 10 May 1984.

These militant manoeuvres also constitute a direct attack on the Contadora peace negotiations and contradict principles accepted by the Central American States in the Document of Objectives, which proscribe any kind of foreign military presence, and a frank rejection of the proposed Contadora Act of 7 September which proscribes the staging of international military manoeuvres.

In view of the facts set forth, the Government of Nicaragua registers its most formal and vigorous protest with the Government of the United States at the staging of these military manoeuvres aimed at intimidating and pressurizing Nicaragua, strengthening the interventionist military infrastructure which supports the mercenary forces in the service of the Central Intelligence Agency and continuing to maintain the "effective blockade" of support for the peace proposal submitted by the Contadora Group on 7 September 1984, a blockade of which the United States Government expresses pride in the unfortunate National Security Council document dated 30 October 1984.

The Government of Nicaragua also appeals for reflection and prudence, which would make it possible for the United States to rejoin the community of nations that respect the international legal order and honour the obligations freely undertaken in the Charter of the United Nations and many other international instruments.

The rejection by the world's major military Power of the international legal order constitutes the greatest threat to international peace and security, inasmuch as it means repudiation of all the norms of civilized coexistence among States and rejection of the means of the peaceful settlement of disputes, the rejection, in short, of the rule of law and the imposition of the rule of force.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Miguel D'ESCOTO BROCKMANN  
Minister for Foreign Affairs

I should be grateful if you would have this note circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 25, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Julio ICAZA GALLARD  
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.

-----