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

Letter dated 17 May 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 transmit herewith the text of the note sent on 16 May 1985 to the Foreign Ministers of the countries members of the Contadora Group by the Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nicaragua, His Excellency Víctor Hugo Tinoco.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the note to be circulated as a document of the thirty-ninth session of the General Assembly under agenda item 25.

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

* Previously circulated as document S/17201.

Annex

Text of the note sent on 16 May 1985 to the Foreign Ministers
of the countries members of the Contadora Group by the Acting
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nicaragua, His Excellency
V́ctor Hugo Tinoco

I have the honour to write to express the serious concerns of the Government of Nicaragua with regard to the critical situation which exists in the border area between Honduras and Nicaragua and to bring to your attention the following considerations and proposals:

The activities of mercenary groups in the border area between Honduras and Nicaragua and, in particular, the use of Honduran territory by such mercenary forces have for some days now been creating a delicate situation affecting relations between the two countries.

Recently, following military operations carried out by the Nicaraguan armed forces, mercenary groups which had penetrated into the territory of Nicaragua have been fleeing towards Honduras, provoking armed encounters in the border area. The mercenary forces have been using Honduran territory as a sanctuary, for logistic support and as a base for new attacks from Honduran territory and incursions into Nicaraguan territory. This situation is damaging to the bilateral relations between Honduras and Nicaragua.

With the aim of promoting a solution to the problem posed by the presence of these mercenary forces in the border area and in the spirit of peace and friendship which marks the efforts of Contadora, Nicaragua formally requests that the Contadora Group set up a special commission to consider the situation in the area and submissions by the Governments of Honduras and Nicaragua in order to bring about an amicable solution of the problem which has been created by the activities of the mercenary forces.

The special commission would carry out on-site inspections in the aforementioned border areas, specifically in the area between Trojes and Las Vegas in Honduran territory, and would consider ways of implementing the proposal made recently by Nicaragua to the Government of Honduras calling for, inter alia, joint operations of the armed forces of both countries to reduce and disarm the mercenary forces. Nicaragua, for its part, undertakes to facilitate the return to Nicaragua of the members of those forces who wish to avail themselves of the Amnesty Act in force. The repatriation of those availing themselves of the amnesty would be carried out with the co-operation of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Red Cross.

Furthermore, I should like to inform you that the request contained in this note was officially delivered yesterday, 15 May, to His Excellency Mr. Jorge Abadia Arias, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Panama, by the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, Víctor Hugo Tinoco, representative of Nicaragua in the peace negotiations sponsored by the Contadora Group.

Víctor Hugo TINOCO
Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs
of Nicaragua
