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

SECURITY COUNCIL Fortieth year

Letter dated 26 June 1985 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Honduras to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the communication dated 24 June from the Honduran Minister for Foreign Affairs, Dr. Edgardo Paz Barnica, on behalf of and representing the constitutional Government of the Republic presided over by Dr. Roberto Suazo Córdova, addressed to the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Contadora Group, extending to them a formal invitation to send observers to witness the Honduran electoral process, which will culminate in the elections of 24 November 1985 and will lead to the consolidation of the pluralistic and representative democratic system in our country.

I should be very grateful if you would have the communication, the text of which has already been transmitted to the Organization of America. States, circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 25, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hernán Antonio BERMUDEZ Minister Plenipotentiary Chargé d'affaires a.i.

ANNEX

Letter dated 24 June from the Honduran Minister for Foreign Affairs addressed to the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the countries of the Contadora Group

In all international forums and, in particular, during the peace initiatives sponsored by the Contadora Group, the Government of the Republic, under its President, Dr. Roberto Suazo Córdova, has maintained that democracy is a specific pre-condition for the attainment of peace in Central America. The Document of Objectives adopted by consensus within the framework of the Contadora process Provides that States shall take "measures conducive to the establishment and, where appropriate, improvement of democratic, representative and pluralistic systems that will guarantee effective popular participation in the decision-making process and ensure that the various currents of opinion have free access to fair and regular elections based on the full observance of citizens' rights".

The process of consolidating democratic institutions is in full swing in Honduras. First, the Honduran people, in April 1980, elected a Constituent National Assembly, which promulgated the Constitution that is now in force. Subsequently, in genuinely free elections held in November 1981 with the participation of over 80 per cent of the electorate, the Honduran people elected their President, the National Congress and the municipal corporations. Now, in that ongoing process, general elections are to be held on 24 November 1985 to choose the President and the members of the National Congress who will serve during the period 1986-1990. In addition, the members of the municipal corporations for the period 1986-1988 will be elected.

With a view to demonstrating, at the national and international levels, its firm commitment to conduct the elections with impartiality, permitting free access by all citizens and by all the political tendencies represented, the Government of Honduras has decided to extend to the Contadora Group, of which your Government is such a worthy member, a most cordial invitation to send observers to witness the electoral process which will culminate in the elections of 24 November. The relevant details will be sent at a later stage so as to enable your Government to designate its observers.

My Government is convinced that the self-determination of peoples is contingent on their right and on their genuine and effective freedom to have the Government of their choice, on the basis of the expression of the will of the people through the ballot-box. Accordingly, my Government is confident that the invitation will be accepted by your distinguished Government.

(<u>Signed</u>) Edgardo PAZ BARNICA Minister for Foreign Affairs