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THREATS TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE
AND SECURITY AND PEACE
INITIATIVES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fortieth year

Letter dated 2 August 1985 from the Permanent Representative
of Honduras to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention the note dated 1 August 1985 (see annex) which the Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of Honduras and the Deputy Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica and El Salvador sent on 1 August to the Foreign Ministers of the Contadora Group (see A/40/499-S/17350).

The annexed note is the result of the meeting held at Tegucigalpa, Honduras, to consult on and appraise the progress of the negotiations on the maintenance of peace in Central America which are being conducted through a process of direct negotiation between the plenipotentiaries of the five Central American States, with the assistance of the Contadora Group, with a view to the final adoption of the Act on Peace and Co-operation in Central America.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for this note, the contents of which have already been brought to the attention of the Organization of American States, to be circulated as a document of the thirty-ninth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 25, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) H. Roberto HERRERA CACERES
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Letter dated 1 August 1985 from the Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of Honduras and the Deputy Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica and El Salvador addressed to the Foreign Ministers of the Contadora Group

The Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of Honduras and the Deputy Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica and El Salvador, meeting at Tegucigalpa on 1 August 1985, to appraise the negotiation process on the maintenance of peace in Central America under the auspices of the Contadora Group, and bearing in mind the communiqué issued by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Contadora Group on Contadora Island on 22 July 1985, have the honour, on behalf of their respective Governments, to address this note to you.

The Governments of Costa Rica, El Salvador and Honduras support the negotiations aimed at maintaining peace in the region and, consequently, they appreciate and welcome the efforts and dedication of the democratic Governments of Colombia, Mexico, Panama and Venezuela in the cause of peace under conditions of freedom and democracy in Central America.

Our Governments are in agreement with diplomatic efforts to enable the Central American Governments to settle their differences through dialogue and political negotiation on the maintenance of peace. We also agree to continue our efforts to ensure that the plenipotentiary meetings which are being held in Panama City can arrive at the specific agreements envisaged in the Document of Objectives of September 1983.

Our peoples and Governments agree on the fundamental importance of resuming the plenipotentiary negotiations at the point reached when, unfortunately, as a result of the unilateral decision of one of the participating States, the last meeting of 18 June was broken off. The Governments of Costa Rica, El Salvador and Honduras are prepared to resume discussions at the plenipotentiary level in Panama City at a date to be set by the Contadora Group and to embark upon a full discussion of the items accepted by all the parties for the agenda of the meeting of 18 and 19 June. It is therefore necessary to persuade the party which broke off the last meeting to attend with a willingness to negotiate and reach agreement at the next meeting of plenipotentiaries.

We have noted with satisfaction that, with the aim of strengthening the Contadora diplomatic effort, the Deputy Foreign Ministers of the Contadora countries will shortly undertake a visit to the Central American countries; while we regard this as very useful in fostering progress in the peace-making process, it is not sufficient to bring the negotiations to a conclusion, as that objective can be achieved only at the plenipotentiary level through a process of mutual concessions between all participants. It is therefore through such direct negotiations that we hope, with the assistance of the Contadora Group, to arrive at agreements on the outstanding issues on the agreed agenda for the abortive meeting of 18 and 19 June, and on all other outstanding issues. It is our view that the

Panama meetings should serve as the forum for improving the draft Contadora Act on Peace and Co-operation in Central America.

The Governments of Costa Rica, El Salvador and Honduras hold that the multilateral forum in which the plenipotentiaries of the five Central American countries have been meeting in Panama City reflects the original consensus which laid down the negotiating framework of the Contadora initiative. Consequently, this forum must be strengthened by providing for additional meetings on a continuing basis with the aim of stepping up the negotiations and bringing them to fruition at the earliest possible date.

The Governments of Costa Rica, El Salvador and Honduras request the Contadora Group to urge other States which are parties to the negotiations to make fresh efforts to accelerate and bring to a conclusion the negotiations on peace, security, democracy and development.

The Governments of Costa Rica, El Salvador and Honduras have decided to report on this meeting, held at Tegucigalpa, to the Permanent Council of the Organization of American States, through the intermediary of the Ambassador of Costa Rica to that inter-American organization. They have likewise decided to inform the United Nations Security Council on the outcome of the meeting through the intermediary of the Ambassador of Honduras to the United Nations.

Lastly, our Governments affirm their Latin American orientation, it being understood that the solutions sought represent an original reality within a perspective which reflects a genuinely democratic approach.

José Tomás ARITA VALLE
Acting Minister for Foreign
Affairs of Honduras

Ricardo Acevedo PERALTA
Deputy Minister for Foreign
Affairs of El Salvador

Gerardo TREJOS
Deputy Minister for Foreign
Affairs of Costa Rica
