



**Security Council**

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LETTER DATED 11 MAY 1988 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE  
PERMANENT MISSION OF NICARAGUA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED  
TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the note which His Excellency Mr. Miquel d'Escoto Brockmann, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Nicaragua, sent to His Excellency Mr. Carlos López Contreras, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Honduras, on 9 May 1988.

I should be grateful if you would have this note distributed as a document of the Security Council.

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

Annex

Letter dated 9 May 1988 from the Minister for Foreign  
Affairs of Nicaragua addressed to the Minister for  
Foreign Affairs of Honduras

For years, your enlightened Government has turned a deaf ear to the numerous protests made by the Government of Nicaragua at your policy of allowing the contras to turn Honduran territory into a springboard for aggression against our people with the support, often direct, of the Honduran armed forces.

Your Government has always chosen to deny publicly what everyone knows to be an irrefutable fact. In private, it has always said that it is unable to prevent the contras from using Honduran territory, claiming that it could not withstand the inevitable reprisals which the United States Government would take if Honduras were to show such independence. Honduras has done nothing to change its policy even since the signing of the Esquipulas II agreements.

Now that the Sapoa agreement has been signed and that the possibility of peace is, for the first time, drawing within reach, the Government of Honduras has finally decided to take action against leaders of the contras. In order that, in the words of a communiqué issued by the armed forces on 6 May, Honduras "should not become involved in the internal affairs of other nations", the Honduran authorities proceeded to arrest and expel from the country "seven leading members of the Nicaraguan resistance".

Curiously enough, the individuals arrested and imprisoned by the DNI are precisely those leaders who say that they are for peace and for compliance with the Sapoa agreement, which involves signing a definitive cease-fire agreement. Moreover, two of the arrested, Walter Carderón López (Toño) and Diógenes Hernández Membreño (Fernando), are, as a Herald article of 6 May indicates, signatories to the Sapoa agreement. In other words, Honduras has taken the reprehensible step of interfering in the internal struggle among the contras and of siding with those elements who want to pursue the war.

The Government of Nicaragua lodges a vigorous and categorical protest at this action by the Honduran Government, which is unquestionably further proof of your Government's deep commitment to the cause of terrorism, death and destruction against Nicaragua.

Lastly, we have learned of the note sent to a Honduran newspaper and signed by most of the arrested contra leaders who, according to the above-mentioned communiqué of the armed forces, have been "deported" to the United States. These Nicaraguan citizens feared for their lives, and say as much in their note. Accordingly, we request your enlightened Government to inform us precisely where, when and how these Nicaraguan "deportees" arrived in the United States. The Government of Nicaragua is naturally interested in establishing precisely what has happened to the above-mentioned contra leaders and under what circumstances they were "deported".

Copies of this note will be sent to the President of the International Court of Justice, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Secretary-General of the Organization of American States and the President of the United Nations Security Council.

Miguel D'ESCOTO BROCKMANN  
Minister for Foreign Affairs

