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

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fortieth year

Letter dated 5 September 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 a note verbale sent on 2 September 1985 by Her Excellency Nora Astorqa, Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs, to His Excellency Mr. Carlos José Gutiérrez, Minister for Foreign Affairs and worship of Costa Rica.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the note to be circulated as a document of the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session, under item 25, and of the Security Council.

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

ANNEX

Note verbale dated 2 September 1985 from the Acting Minister for
Foreign Affairs of Nicaragua addressed to the Minister for
Foreign Affairs and worship of Costa Rica

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your note of 30 August, in which you state that "on 27 August, at approximately 2130 hours, members of the Sandinist People's Army launched an attack, using rifle and mortar fire, on the Costa Rican Civil Guard post in the town of Boca de San Carlos in Costa Rican territory".

In that connection, the Government of Nicaragua wishes to express its surprise and concern at the gratuitous attempts to ascribe to Nicaragua acts in which it has had absolutely no part. As regards the assertions which you have made, it is rather the Government of Nicaragua which should be emphasizing the difference which exists between words and deeds. In that connection, it is a complete contradiction for the Costa Rican authorities themselves, specifically the commander of Costa Rica's Civil Guard, Captain Carlos Pacheco, to have stated that they did not know the source of the incident described in the Minister's note.

As you will appreciate, it is impossible for the Government of Nicaragua to accept responsibility for events the source of which the Costa Rican authorities themselves expressly state they do not know. Moreover, the Government of Nicaragua can affirm that the Sandinist People's Army has not at any time directed attacks against Costa Rican territory.

On the contrary, it is rather the Government of Nicaragua which should draw attention to the serious and repeated attacks which have been carried out from Costa Rican territory on 21, 22, 25, 26 and 29 August, three of which involved attacks on the border post situated at Boca de San Carlos, on the San Juan River, in Nicaraguan territory. Furthermore, I must point out that these events square with complaints made by various Costa Rican citizens living in the border area, who have expressed their growing insecurity as a result of the presence and activities of groups of irregular forces in Costa Rican territory.

The Government of Nicaragua reaffirms that this is not the time for sterile polemics but rather for making a sincere effort to find lasting and effective ways to restore the climate of peace and stability in the border area which is desired by the fraternal peoples of Costa Rica and Nicaragua. Towards that end, Nicaragua reaffirms its readiness to establish a neutral security zone in order to prevent the estrangement which foreign interests are seeking to create between us through artificial conflicts which, on grounds of geography and history, are contrary to the aspirations of our peoples for peace, harmony and friendship.

Nora ASTORGA
Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs