

UNITED  
NATIONS

## General Assembly Security Council

Distr.  
GENERALA/40/670  
S/17485

20 September 1985

ENGLISH

ORIGINAL: SPANISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
Fortieth session  
Agenda item 21THE SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA:  
THREATS TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE  
AND SECURITY AND PEACE  
INITIATIVESSECURITY COUNCIL  
Fortieth yearLetter dated 19 September 1985 from the Permanent  
Representative of Honduras to the United Nations  
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you two notes dated 19 September 1985 which the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Honduras, Dr. Edgardo Paz Barnica, has sent in reply to a message and a protest note from the Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nicaragua, Mr. Victor Hugo Tinoco.

I should be very grateful if you would have this letter and its annexes, which have already been transmitted to the Organization of American States, circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 21, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) H. Roberto HERRERA CACERES  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

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ANNEX I

Note dated 19 September 1985 from the Minister for Foreign  
Affairs of Honduras addressed to the Acting Minister for  
Foreign Affairs of Nicaragua

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of the message sent by you yesterday, in which you alerted the Honduran authorities to the presence of a contingent of 70 armed men, presumably anti-Sandinists, in the sector of la Chamuscada, 10 kilometres north-east of Somotillo.

I am today forwarding the information in question to the relevant military authorities so that appropriate action might be taken.

At the same time, I cannot ignore and I cannot fail to reject the malicious and distorted version of the incidents of 13 September which you have given, in a deliberate attempt to relate them in some way to the information which you have now provided, ostensibly in good faith.

Edgardo PAZ BARNICA  
Minister for Foreign Affairs

ANNEX II

Note dated 19 September 1985 from the Minister for Foreign  
Affairs of Honduras addressed to the Acting Minister for  
Foreign Affairs of Nicaragua

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of the second note which you sent me yesterday to inform me that earlier in the day "a mercenary force attempted to infiltrate into Nicaragua through the Honduran sector of Cerro la Chamuscada, situated 30 kilometres north-east of Somotillo."

You went on to say that your Government noted with concern that the Honduran authorities had failed to adopt the urgent measures called for on that same day, 18 September, in note DAJ-142, in which the Government of Honduras had been alerted to the presence of 70 armed men in the aforementioned sector of la Chamuscada.

A short while ago, this Ministry replied to the first note which you sent yesterday, less than 24 hours after it had been received, and informed you that the relevant military authorities had been notified so that appropriate action might be taken.

A cursory glance at the chronology of events is more than enough to convince anyone that what we have here is an incident artificially contrived by the Government of Nicaragua for the sole purpose of scoring another propaganda victory. You claim that the attack in question was carried out between 8.40 a.m. and 10 a.m. on 18 September. Yet, on that same day, you had already sent a note alerting the Government of Honduras, only to express your concern later that it had failed, in a few seconds, to take appropriate action. It is just as if a torpedo has been fired at a vessel and, once it is on its way, the captain of the vessel is alerted and then is blamed for not preventing the torpedo from striking its target.

Instead of indulging in those dangerous displays of dialectical fireworks, which never fail to leave their toll of victims, the Government of Nicaragua, if it really wants peace, should start by respecting the territorial rights of its neighbours and fulfilling in good faith the commitments already established through the Contadora process. In the mean time, my Government will continue to reject unfounded protests of that type.

Edgardo PAZ BARNICA  
Minister for Foreign Affairs

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