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Items 21, 72, 84, 132 and 133
of the preliminary list*

THE SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA:

THREATS TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND
SECURITY AND PEACE INITIATIVES

REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING
OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC
CO-OPERATION

DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF
GOOD-NEIGHBOURLINESS BETWEEN
STATES

PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES
BETWEEN STATES

SECURITY COUNCIL

Fortieth year

Letter dated 20 June 1985 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the
Permanent Mission of Panama to the United Nations addressed to
the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of the bulletin dated
19 June 1985 issued by the Vice-Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Contadora
Group at the conclusion of the meeting held in Panama City on 18 and 19 June 1985.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as
a document of the General Assembly, under items 21, 72, 84, 132 and 133 of the
preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Leonardo KAM
Ambassador

Deputy Permanent Representative
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Mission of Panama

* A/40/50/Rev.1.

ANNEX

Bulletin dated 19 June 1985 issued by the Vice-Ministers for
Foreign Affairs of the Contadora Group at the conclusion of
the meeting held in Panama City on 18 and 19 June 1985

On 10 June 1985, the Governments of Colombia, Mexico, Panama and Venezuela, which comprise the Contadora Group, called a meeting of plenipotentiary representatives of the Group and of the Central American countries, to be held in Panama City on 18 and 19 June 1985.

The convocation notice stated that, in accordance with the agreements reached at the meeting of plenipotentiaries held on 14, 15 and 16 May 1985, the Contadora Group had transmitted to the Central American representatives a proposal concerning the commitments in the various areas which have been under consideration in the context of the negotiations, as well as the items relating to the final provisions and additional protocols awaiting consensus.

Similarly, the aforementioned notice stated that under the agenda participants would take up consideration of the basic criteria for the definitive adoption of the commitments in respect of security.

At the first meeting, the Nicaraguan delegation, in its general statement, said that it was necessary for the Contadora Group to take concrete action to deal with and solve specific problems, in order to prevent a widespread warlike conflict in Central America and the failure of the Contadora peace mission. This urgent action includes the revision of the agenda and methods of work of the meetings of plenipotentiaries, which have so far been held in Panama City, with a view to channelling those efforts towards the concrete problems that are aggravating the regional crisis. Subsequently, the representative of Nicaragua transmitted the following text to the representatives of the Contadora Group:

"In recent weeks there has been a dangerous escalation of United States aggression against Nicaragua.

This intensification of aggression is reflected primarily in the approval by the United States Congress of a further million-dollar appropriation for the war against Nicaragua. This development deals a bad blow to the peace efforts of the Contadora Group, leading to deeper mistrust among Central Americans and between Nicaragua and the United States, and forcing Nicaragua to devote more energy to the search for military resources for its defence.

Given these circumstances, which are aggravating the situation and diminishing the prospects for peace, there is an urgent need for the Contadora Group to concentrate first and foremost on containing the escalation of aggression against Nicaragua and against peace in the region.

In that spirit, reiterating Nicaragua's unconditional support for the Contadora Group and its support for the Contadora Peace Act of 7 September 1984, we propose that the meeting of plenipotentiaries should begin to grapple with and solve those specific problems that affect peace, as a means of creating the conditions that would enable us all to concentrate on the discussion of formulas for future understanding and peace in the region."

Intense consultations were held individually and collectively with the representative of Nicaragua and the representatives of the other Central American Governments. The plenipotentiary representatives of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras expressed their desire and willingness to participate in the meeting under the terms of the convocation notice and reaffirmed their support for the process of diplomatic negotiation as launched by the Contadora Group.

In the light of this situation, it was felt that the expected objectives were unlikely to be achieved, and the representatives of the Contadora Group decided to bring the position of the Nicaraguan Government to the attention of their respective Governments for their consideration.

The Contadora Group reiterates its unshakeable determination to persevere in the search for formulas for reconciliation that would open the door of understanding, with a view to tackling the crisis in Latin America and continuing the dialogue and communication which are indispensable for the signing of the Contadora Act on Peace and Co-operation in Central America and for the restoration of the climate of détente and security to which the countries of the region aspire.
