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THE SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA: THREATS TO INTERNATIONAL
PEACE AND SECURITY AND PEACE INITIATIVESLetter dated 4 October 1988 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs
of Honduras addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to the proposal which I made today in the United Nations General Assembly on behalf of the **Government** of Honduras.

For the **reasons** and **arguments** I set forth in **my statement**, I should like to invite you, in consultation with the **interested** parties, to **arrange** for the **establishment** of an International Peace Force, **consisting** of elements from Canada, the Federal Republic of Germany and Spain, which would be stationed on the border between Honduras and El Salvador and Honduras and Nicaragua. This force would guarantee, by **means** of inspections and coercive action where **necessary**, that Honduran border territories would not be used by insurgents **from those** countries,

The International Peace Force would have to place the **said** combatants in Salvadorian and Nicaraguan territory far **from the** Honduran borders. **Their** relocation *in* third countries, *when* appropriate, would have to **be** carried out **from** **places** in **Costa Rica** and **Guatemala**, since the Governments of those countries have declared themselves to **be** neutral and **they** are consequently in a better position than any other Central American country to **assume** this crucial and **important** role.

In carrying out this **initiative**, the Secretariat, by means of appropriate **international** mechanisms would also make the necessary **provision** to prevent new flows of refugees to Honduras and to quickly repatriate or relocate in third countries those already in Honduran territory.

Concomitant to the above-mentioned activities, the Government of Nicaragua would **have** to desist, *once and for all*, *from* the international legal **action** it has brought **against** Honduras, which has been interfering, **and** continues to interfere, with the normalisation process in Central America.

In the view of the Government of Honduras, it would be advantageous if you could convene whatever parties may be necessary in order to deal with other interferences which continue to keep the Central American crisis from being resolved. For example, it might be worth considering holding negotiations between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America, on the one hand, and, on the other, between the five Central American countries and the United States of America and between the latter and Nicaragua, should the parties deem that appropriate, as I suggested last November in the General Assembly of the Organization of American States.

This overall approach would enable us to tackle properly the security concerns of all parties, such as, for example, the balance of forces in the region, which issues have not as yet been dealt with effectively.

Creation of the International Peace Force which Honduras is proposing and the necessary complementary measures would reinforce the impetus toward peace provided by the Esquipulas II agreement which, at present, seems precarious.

I should be grateful if you would see to it that this note and the enclosed annexes are circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 22,

(Signed) Carlos LOPEZ CONTRERAS
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Honduras

ANNEX I

Agreement between the Nicaraguan Government and the Nicaraguan resistance

(free translation)

THE CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF NICARAGUA AND THE NICARAGUAN RESISTANCE, MEETING IN SAPOA MARCH 21-23, 1988, WITH THE AIM OF CONTRIBUTING TO RECONCILIATION WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE ESQUIPULAS II AGREEMENT AND IN THE PRESENCE OF WITNESSES, CARDINAL MIGUEL OBANDO Y BRAVO, PRESIDENT OF THE EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE OF NICARAGUA, AND AMBASSADOR JOAO BAENA SOARES, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE OAS, HAVE ARRIVED AT THE FOLLOWING AGREEMENT :

- 1) CESSATION OF OFFENSIVE MILITARY OPERATIONS IN THE ENTIRE NATIONAL TERRITORY FOR A PERIOD OF SIXTY DAYS BEGINNING APRIL 1 OF THIS YEAR, DURING WHICH THERE WILL OCCUR A NEGOTIATING PROCESS FOR DEFINITIVE CEASEFIRE WHOSE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION WILL OCCUR JOINTLY WITH THE OTHER COMMITMENTS CONTEMPLATED IN ESQUIPULAS II. BOTH PARTIES AGREE TO MEET AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL IN MANAGUA ON APRIL 6 TO CONTINUE THE NEGOTIATIONS ON A DEFINITIVE CEASEFIRE.
- 2) DURING THE FIRST 15 DAYS, THE FORCES OF THE RESISTANCE WILL LOCATE THEMSELVES IN ZONES WHOSE LOCATION, SIZE, AND MODUS OPERANDI WILL BE MUTUALLY AGREED TO BY A SPECIAL COMMISSION IN A MEETING IN SAPOA TO BEGIN MONDAY, MARCH 28.
- 3) THE GOVERNMENT OF NICARAGUA WILL DECREE A GENERAL AMNESTY FOR THOSE TRIED AND SENTENCED FOR VIOLATION OF THE LAW OF MAINTENANCE OF ORDER AND PUBLIC SECURITY, AND FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE ARMY OF THE PREVIOUS REGIME FOR CRIMES COMMITTED BEFORE JULY 19, 1979. IN THE CASE OF THE FIRST GROUP, AMNESTY WILL BE GRADUAL, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE RELIGIOUS SENTIMENTS OF THE NICARAGUAN PEOPLE ON THE OCCASION OF HOLY WEEK, AND WILL BEGIN WITH THE LIBERATION OF THE FIRST 100 PRISONERS ON PALM SUNDAY. SUBSEQUENTLY, UPON VERIFICATION OF THE ENTRY OF THE NICARAGUAN RESISTANCE FORCES IN THE ZONES MUTUALLY AGREED UPON, THERE WILL BE FREED 50 PERCENT OF THE PRISONERS. THE REMAINING 50 PERCENT WILL BE FREED ON A DATE AFTER SIGNATURE OF THE CEASEFIRE AND WILL BE AGREED UPON IN THE MEETING OF APRIL 6 IN MANAGUA.

IN THE CASE **OF** THE PRISONER³ REFERRED TO IN THE **SECOND** CATEGORY **OF** THE FIRST PARAGRAPH UNDER THIS NUMBER, THEIR LIBERATION WILL BEGIN WITH THE SIGNATURE **OF** THE DEFINITIVE CEASE-FIRE **UNDER** GUIDELINES (PREVIO DICTAMEN) **OF THE INTER-AMERICAN** HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION **OF THE OAS.**

THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE **OAS** WILL BE THE GUARANTOR AND TRUSTEE (**DEPOSITARIO**) **OF** THE IMPLEMENTATION **OF THE AMNESTY.**

- 4) WITH THE OBJECTIVE **OF** GUARANTEEING **FOOD AND BASIC SUPPLIES** FOR THE IRREGULAR FORCES, THEY WILL ARRANGE FOR AND **ACCEPT** EXCLUSIVELY HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE, **CONSISTENT WITH ARTICLE 5 OF** THE ESQUIPULAS II AGREEMENT, WHICH **WILL BE** PROVIDED BY NEUTRAL ORGANIZATIONS.
- 5) THE GOVERNMENT **OF NICARAGUA** WILL GUARENTEE **UNRESTRICTED** FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION **AS** CONTEMPLATED IN THE ESQUIPULAS II **AGREEMENT.**
- 6) ONCE THE FORCES **OF THE** NICARAGUAN RESISTANCE ARE CONCENTRATED IN THE ZONES MUTUALLY AGREED TO, (THE RESISTANCE) CAN SEND **TO THE NATIONAL DIALOGUE AS MANY DELEGATE³ AS** THE POLITICAL **ORGANIZATIONS** THAT **MAKE** IT UP, UP TO **A** MAXIMUN OF EIGHT. IN THE NATIONAL DIALOGUE THERE WILL BE CONSIDERED, AMONG OTHER TOPICS, THAT OF MILITARY SERVICE,
- 7) IT IS GUARANTEED TO ALL **PERSONS** WHO, FOR POLITICAL MOTIVES OR **ANY OTHER REASON**, HAVE LEFT THE COUNTRY, THE ABILITY TO RETURN TO NICARAGUA AND BE INTEGRATED INTO THE POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL **PROCESSES** WITHOUT ANY TYPE OF CONDITION OTHER THAN THOSE ESTABLISHED IN THE LAWS OF THE REPUBLIC. THEY WILL NOT BE JUDGED, PUNISHED, OR PERSECUTED, FOR ACTIVITIES **OF A** POLITICAL/MILITARY NATURE THAT THEY MAY HAVE UNDERTAKEN.
- 8) THE GOVERNMENT **OF NICARAGUA** CONFIRMS THAT THOSE PERSONS WHO HAVE BEEN REINTEGRATED INTO **A PEACEFUL LIFE CAN PARTICIPATE WITH** EQUAL CONDITIONS AND GUARANTEES IN THE ELECTIONS FOR THE CENTRAL AMERICAN PARLIAMENT, **AND** THE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

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ON THE DATES THAT **ARE** ESTABLISHED FOR THESE, AS WELL **AS** IN THE NATIONAL GENERAL ELECTIONS **ON** THE **DATE** ESTABLISHED BY THE CONSTITUTION.

TO **PUT** INTO EFFECT THE VERIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH THIS AGREEMENT, **THE** VERIFICATION COMMISSION WILL BE ESTABLISHED, COMPOSED OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE OF NICARAGUA, HIS EMINENCE CARDINAL MIGUEL OBANDO Y BRAVO, AND THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES, HIS EXCELLENCY JOAO BAENA **SOARES**.

THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND THE SERVICES NECESSARY FOR THIS COMMISSION, THAT WOULD PERMIT AND EXPEDITE COMPLIANCE, FOLLOW-UP, AND VERIFICATION OF THIS AGREEMENT, WILL BE REQUESTED AND ENTRUSTED TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE **OAS**.

ADDENDUM :

BOTH SIDES **AGREE** TO EXTEND TO APRIL 1 THIS YEAR THE CESSATION OF OFFENSIVE MILITARY OPERATIONS PREVIOUSLY AGREED TO BY **BOTH** PARTIES ON MARCH 21, **1988**.

SIGNED IN **SAPOA, RIVAS, NICARAGUA, ON MARCH 23, 1988**.

ON BEHALF OF **NICARAGUA**:

ON BEHALF **OF** THE NICARAGUAN
RESISTANCE :

GENERAL OF THE ARMY
HUMBERTO ORTEGA SAAVEDRA
MINISTER OF DEFENSE

DR. ADOLFO CALERO PORTOCARREHG
DIRECTOR

HANS JUERGENWISCHNEWSKI
ADVISED

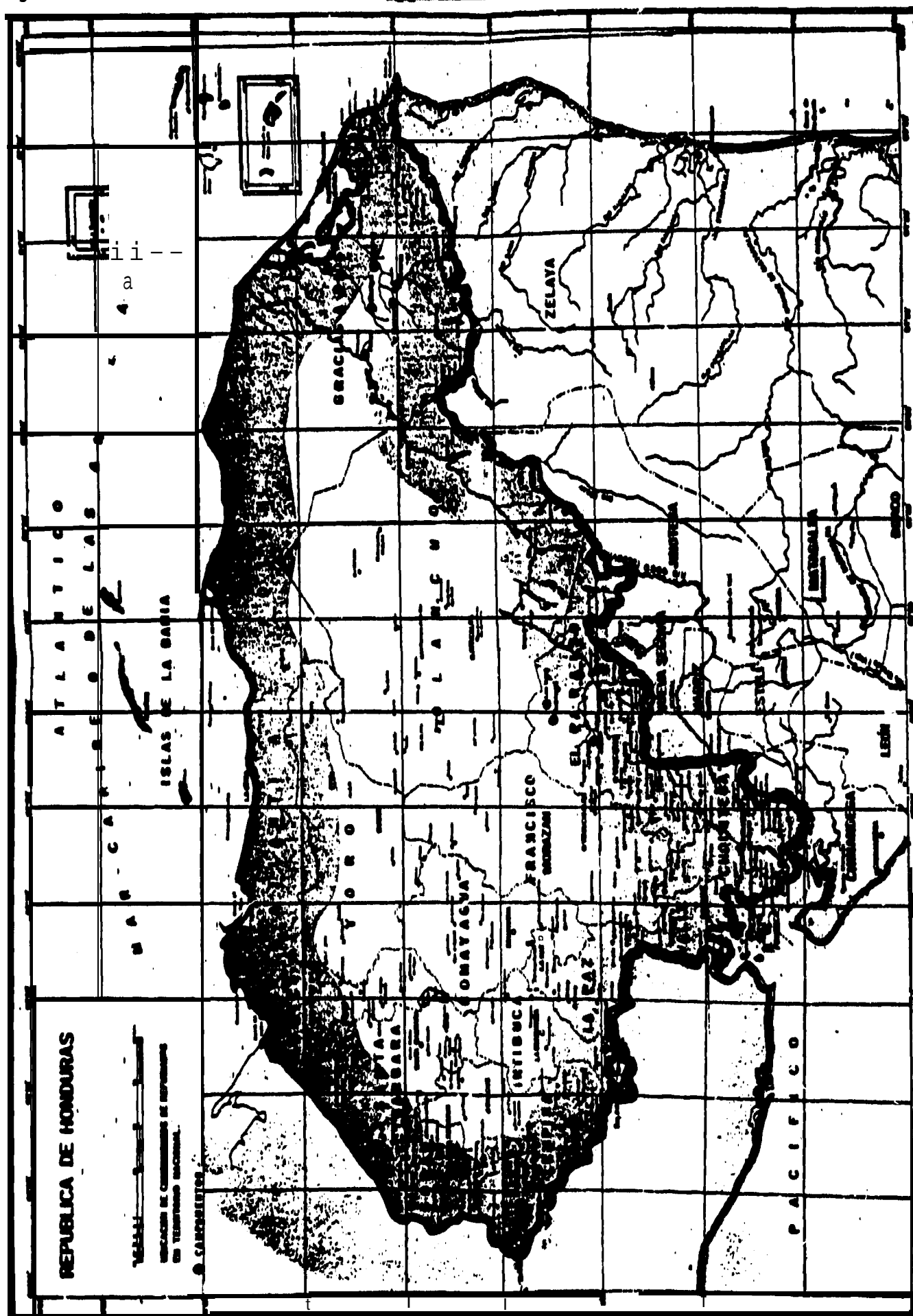
ING. ALFREDO **CESAR** AGUIRRE
DIRECTOR

PAUL REICHLER
ADVISED

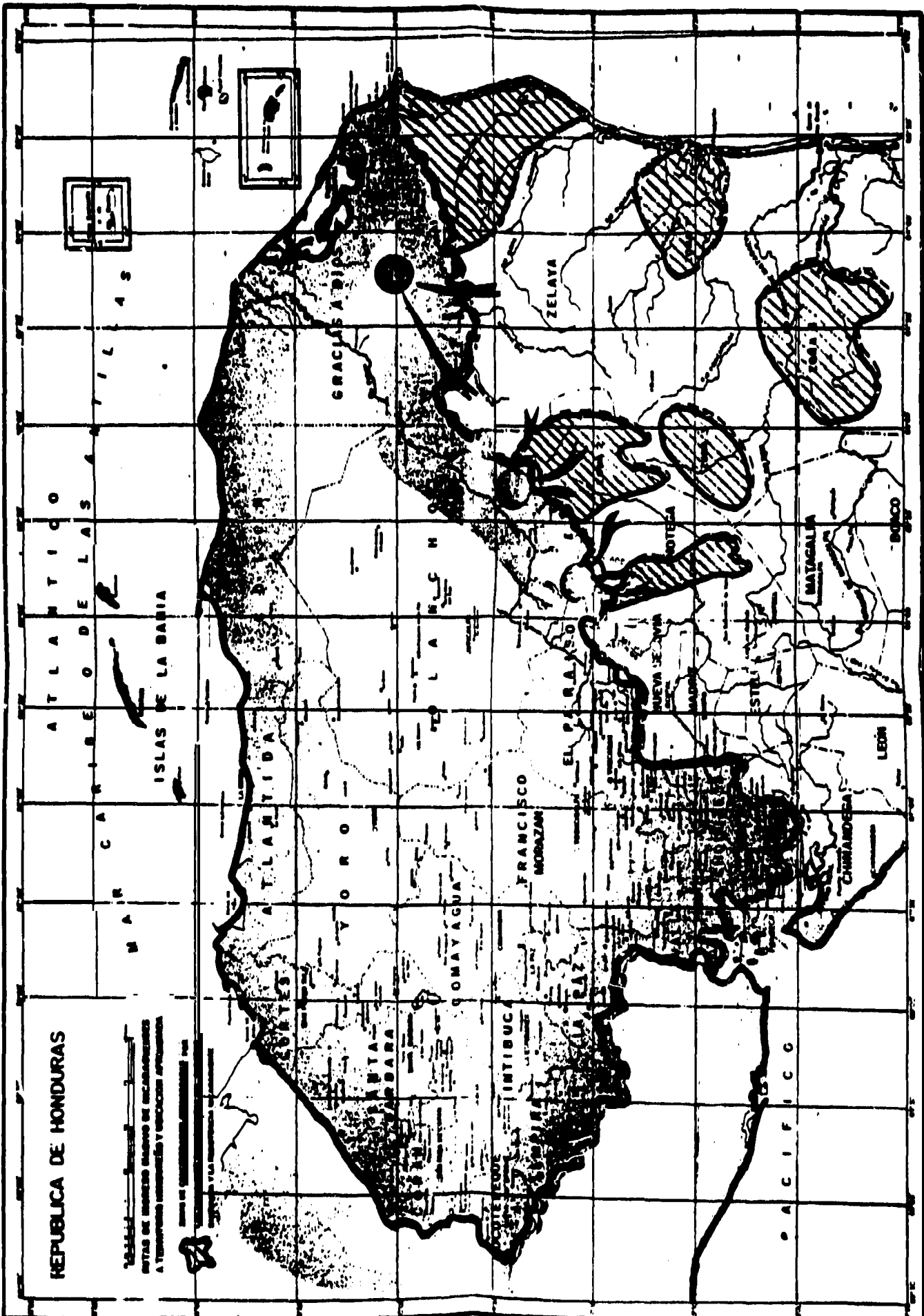
DR. ARISTIDES SANCHEZ HERDOCIA
DIRECTOR

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Appendix I



Appendix II



ANNEX II
HONDURAN FOREIGN POLICY

SPEECH BY THE
SECRETARY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF HONDURAS
CARLOS LOPEZ CONTRERAS

SEVENTEENTH ORDINARY PERIOD OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES

WASHINGTON, D. C.

NOVEMBER 12, 1987

Mr. Chairman,
Mr. **Foreign** Secretaries,
Mr. Secretary **General**,
Mr. **Assistant** Secretary **General**,
Mr. **Delegates**:

After listening with attention to the **distinguished speakers before me**, I have been **able** to verify **the** consensus **existing** in **some of the topics that** have been dealt with. But in none has **that consensus** been more evident **than** in the unanimous **manifestation of satisfaction** on the **election of** the Foreign **Minister of** Costa Rica as Chairman of this General Assembly.

The **Government** of Honduras, **under** President **José** Arcona, widely **identified with ideas** of peace, liberty and democracy that **also** inspire the Government of Costa Rica, joins others in **congratulating Minister Madrigal Nieto** with the conviction that **his** experience, **shrewdness**, perseverance and **diplomatic finesse** more than **guarantee fruitful** and **positive achievements for this General Assembly**.

Mr. Chairman:

It is most **unfortunate** to **admit that** our **Organization**, in **spite of the efforts of** Secretary General **Baena Soares**, **continues suffering** an **almost** paralyzing crisis, **both economically and financially**. Such **phenomenon**, in itself **reason of concern**, would **entail** alarming **characteristics** as reflected **lack of interest of the member states** in the **Organization** and in what it **stands for**. It would be like abandoning the **dreams of** our heroes, seeing the **United America of Bolívar** and **Vallé** turn into a group of thirty separate **countries**, perhaps **joined** in small **nuclei** in search of their own individual **fates**.

The economic-financial problems would become an effect and not the cause of the present crisis, which manifests itself in different ways: the timorous manner with which the Organization has faced the different regional problems and the reluctance to start using the mechanisms that would turn the Organization more operative as provided in the Cartagena Protocol which as of this date has only been ratified by fourteen countries and may run the same luck of the 1976 Protocol of Reforms to the International Treaty for Reciprocal Association. The absence of political will to amend the Pact of Bogotá or to approve a new American Treaty of Pacific Solutions is similarly significant.

We thus find ourselves in an Organization on the brink of bankruptcy, whose basic Instruments are disarticulated and uncoordinated.

In spite of all this, it is convenient to admit that in the past year, thanks to the initiative of Secretary General, Ambassador João Clemente Pereira Soarer, together with the Secretary General of the United Nations, Ambassador Javier Pérez de Cuellar, both organizations finally participated, in an active manner, on the search of solutions to one of the crises in the Continent: The Central American situation.

With respect to this inter-organizational cooperation, I have the pleasure to inform you that on last October 28th, the United Nations General Assembly approved by consensus the draft of a resolution presented by the Honduran Delegation with the cooperation of all the OAS Member States, except one. Such resolution is an invitation by the Secretary General of the United Nations to:

- Procure additional cooperation and coordination between both organizations and their specialized organs;
- Submit in 1988 a report on the application of said resolution, maintaining the inclusion of the subject in the forty-third period of the General Assembly.

Mr, Chairman:

Several **historic** circumstances, external **factors** and the same **political** crisis **affecting Central America** are attempting against the well-being and future development of the area, **Facing** such **situation** and fully conscious of the close links joining peace, democracy and development, **It is** evident that Central America deserves **more assistance** In its **efforts** of recovering **with** the aid of **friendly countries** and institutions of international **technical** and **financial** cooperation, The **Government** of Honduras **acknowledges** the Secretariat **General's** compliance with mandates aimed at ensuring an effective treatment to **particular** problems in the Central American area as a whole and in Honduras in particular.

In **this sense**, I wish **to** emphasize the compliance with the Resolution of the Fourteenth **General** Assembly, seeking for better **attention** to the **needs** of development of Central **America**. In **the last** months, the **Secretariat General**, with the **support** of the **Inter-American Development Bank** and the Pan-American Health **Organization**, **has** backed national efforts to carry out an **international meeting** of donors, in order to channel resources aimed at tending to the social needs of the poorest sectors In all the countries in **the** area.

My country is **participating** with interest In the Program of Social Investments for **Development** of **the** Central American **Isthmus**, which **constitutes** the **basis for** that meeting. On **this** occasion, Honduras **wishes to highlight the** valuable support **being received** from the Secretariat General in **this** field.

Mr. Chairman:

Respect to **human rights** **is** the foundation on which the **democratic state of law** must stand. **True democracy cannot exist without respect** to human **rights**. Democracy **and** human rights are both values of the same equation.

The Government of Honduras, a result of the people's will expressed in free and honest elections, is based on full respect to human rights, acknowledging in the human person —whose dignity is unviolable— the supreme end of society and the state.

For this reason, Honduras appears among the first countries to ratify the 1969 American Convention of Human Rights and to accept the jurisdiction of the Inter-American Court, without any reservations nor conditions.

During the last decades, our Continent has bled as a result of indiscriminate violence brought by terrorist actions, internal confrontations bordering with civil wars and the logical mass violations of human rights,

Central America has been suffering from endemic subversive movements as far as thirty years ago and since 1978 to date, the area has faced domestic armed struggles causing over one hundred thousand dead, wounded and missing persons, thousands of prisoners and political exiles, as well as considerable material damages. Honduras, however, thanks to its consolidated democratic process has managed to withdraw itself from those conflicts. Instead of generating refugees, it has received more than two hundred thousand Central American refugees who have found shelter in the climate of peace and liberty prevailing in Honduras in spite of the enormous economic difficulties we are facing at present.

Notwithstanding that Honduras works in peace devoting its major efforts toward the strengthening of democracy, aimed at its people's integral development, at safeguarding human rights of hundreds of thousands Central American refugees to whom it provides safe shelter, while attempting through all kinds of means to bring the area back to normal conditions, our country finds itself in a quite paradoxical situation.

It is the first nation to be accused by the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights before the Court for alleged violations that supposedly took place in previous regimes.

However, the Government of Honduras, far from feeling humiliated or insulted by such accusation, believes that it should be used as an example to several sectors trying to condemn us, whose action, if they are in fact defending human rights, should be oriented instead towards having their Governments submit themselves to the jurisdiction of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, in the same broad manner shown by Honduras.

It suffices to say that once again the Government of Honduras is proceeding with characteristic correction and serenity, honoring its legal obligation by appearing before the International Court to present its defense allegations.

On the question of human rights, good intentions are not enough; concrete and urgent action is required. I, therefore, urge the other members of this Organization to follow the example set by Honduras --if they have failed to do so-- and proceed to accept the unconditional jurisdiction of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights. Such acceptance would become the best proof that true respect of human rights is far more than a stereotyped and convenient posture.

Led by the firm spirit inspiring us and true to honor the compliance with the "Procedure for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace in Central America", in the middle of last October the first massive repatriation of the area took place in the Honduran-Salvadoran border, with 4,311 Salvadoran citizens returning to their country. Similarly, in the Oriental region of Honduras, the voluntary repatriation program has allowed the return of 2,504 Nicaraguans. It is our hope that this program will be increased until every Central American is able to live in his own nation, free from violence and repression.

Mr. Chairman:

It is convenient to clarify that the so-called Central American crisis has its own characteristics, consisting of prolonged isolated civil wars which have originated tensions between nations without producing any armed international conflicts, apart from some armed incidents at the borders.

As has been repeatedly said, this crisis became more serious when it found itself amid the East-West confrontation, with its sequel of domestic struggle in some countries and the interminable currents of refugees.

The Contadora Group was born as a result of this dramatic situation. The Group offers its disinterested mediating efforts, accepted with hope and satisfaction by the Central American Governments. This is so because, as brilliantly expressed by the great Peruvian jurist, José Luis Bustamante y Rivero, "among institutions of law, there are some which excel for discretion and this is the case of mediation. It evolves quietly, without boasting or exaggerating signs. It moves in the shade. It does not cast a shadow on anybody ... and in the dimness of its sobriety, its influence is felt as an advice and not as a mandate ..."

It is then this mediating effort the one that will help us continue negotiations still pending in the fields of security and verification and control in the draft of the Contadora Act.

Domestic conflicts, as I mentioned before, have originated massive emigrations of refugees, whose repatriation is imperative, in a clear response to compliance with national reconciliation commitments.

This is one of the fundamental commitments found within the sphere of Contadora's mediating role because it implies dialogue, ceasefire, amnesty, tolerance, refugee repatriation and human rights to arrive at democratization and return to normal conditions.

Arms accumulation is another factor of disturbance and insecurity in Central America. Consequently, Honduras has insisted in the termination of arms build-up, as well as on limitation, reduction and control of armaments and troops. In this context, the Contadora Group has been reiteratedly provided with its first instance mediating job, which must not be frustrated due to uncompromising attitudes, as it already occurred in the past, since that role is a key solution to control extraregional military presence in the area.

On February 1987, when the President of Costa Rica, Mr. Oscar Arias, honored now, to our satisfaction, with the Nobel Price for Peace, proposed a new peace initiative, my Government considered it a constructive option for maintaining peace in Central America within the context of political negotiation.

On July 31, 1987, at the initiative of Honduras, the Foreign Ministers of Central America and the Contadora Group met again after a year, this time in Tegucigalpa, aiming to continue with their efforts to bring the region back to normal. The agenda comprised the Arias Plan, the suggestions made by the Governments and the document entitled "Honduran Proposals with regard to the Peace Initiatives for Central America", oriented toward the harmonious merging of the political objectives of domestic reconciliation included in such plan with the Honduran recommendations for reactivating the Contadora Group's mediation in the field of security.

This meeting proved to be a landmark in the pacifying process, which culminated with the subscription in Guatemala, by the Central American Presidents of the document "Procedure for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace in Central America" on August 7, 1987.

As provided for in the Guatemala agreement, five important meetings have been held to date: The first one took place in San Salvador, where the Executive Commission was established; the second was held in Caracas where the International Commission on Verification and Follow-up was formed; the third meeting, in Managua, established the framework for both Commissions; the fourth, in San José, permitted the Executive Commission to set the scope of the simultaneity principle regarding the compliance with agreed commitments and finally, the fifth meeting, in the headquarters of our Organization, where the International Commission on Verification and Follow-up took notice of the steps taken by the Governments for complying with such commitments.

The Executive Commission, in its character of delegate organ of the Central American Presidents, has described the principles, the di-

rectives and the orientations to guide the tasks of the International Commission on Verification and Follow-up, in its role of facilitating organ for compliance with their respective commitments by the Governments.

Consequently, the Executive Commission will see to it that the International Commission on Verification and Follow-up is assisted and supported with the necessary means to fulfill its function.

Mr. Chairman:

Central America, through the Executive Commission, has under its command and control the process of return to normality, both in the cases of countries with civil wars, as in the ones concerning bilateral and multilateral tensions derived from such conflicts.

In order to guarantee the success of the pacifying and distension process, it is fundamental that irregular forces fully accept the Agreement of Guatemala, proceeding to act accordingly. This includes those forces in El Salvador, as well as the ones in Nicaragua and Guatemala. Once such public acceptance is achieved on the part of the irregular forces, the Governments of El Salvador, Nicaragua and Guatemala must undertake all the necessary actions "to reach an agreement and bring about an effective cease-fire, in accordance with the Constitution".

In conformity with the agreements of Esquipulas II, it is essential that all the Central American countries impede the use of their territory for acts of aggression against other states, both from the material point of view and from the one pertaining to moral and propaganda support. This obligation must also be fulfilled by the Member States of the International Commission on Verification and Follow-up and in those countries interested in the success of our efforts to bring the area back to normal.

When the public opinion of the people of the area is made, we trust that it will be accepted and complied with by all

the nations engaged in this type of activity, including those who repeatedly deny it, in spite of the evidence in contrary

Honduras is a good faith participant in the procedure of Guatemala, founded on reciprocal trust, under the premises that all governments will comply with the corresponding commitments, as agreed,

The Central American fatherland demands that such principles of good faith and reciprocal trust on which the Agreement of Guatemala has sustained be strengthened through the elimination of international legal actions which represent an unjustifiable challenge to such principles.

An essential part of the "Esquipulas II" document is the appeal to cease hostilities and it is because of this that the Governments of those States, when irregular or insurgent groups are currently active, have committed themselves to undertake all necessary steps to bring about a cease-fire and national reconciliation, pursuant to the Constitution.

In effect, if hostilities cease in those countries suffering from a civil war, the national reconciliation process shall have begun; refugees will go back to their native land and tensions produced by those seeking a sanctuary in the bordering lines will end between neighboring countries. Consequently, the work of the International Commission on Verification and Follow-up will be made easier and the same thing will apply to compliance with commitments on the part of other governments undergoing tensions generated by domestic conflicts.

Mr. Chairman:

As I stated before, the main characteristic of today's situation in Central America is that it is the result of prolonged civil wars which generate tensions between governments. It is then necessary to put an end to these civil wars because they threaten security and peace in the area. This is why it is so important for national reconciliation processes to devote their best efforts to their achievement.

In this sense and even though Honduras is not included in those cases 'where deep divisions have taken place within society', the President of the country, exercising his constitutional powers, resolved to establish a National Commission Of Reconciliation in order to offset some ill-intentioned opinions, pretending to argue that the failure to establish said Commission stood for non-compliance of the procedure agreed in "Esquipulas II".

In the same manner, my Government is honored to comply with the "commitment to prevent the use of its own territory by persons, organizations or groups seeking to destabilize the Governments of Central American countries and to refuse to provide them with or allow them to receive military and logistical support". We have faith that this obligation will also be complied with by the other Governments and, in order to guarantee much compliance, Honduras is willing to request the presence of an international security commission in the countries' bordering lines, especially the ones pertaining to El Salvador and Nicaragua, to ensure that such lines are not crossed over by subversive elements, from one side to the other and viceversa.

Mr. Chairman:

The Central American Presidents upon subscription of the "Procedure of Guatemala", agreed to establish a ninety-day term for the execution of those commitments involving a series of actions at the same moment of those other one single action commitments. This balanced system of compliance with the agreements would ensure the simultaneity in much compliance.

Accordingly, the verification and follow-up of the commitments accepted under the "Procedure of Guatemala" necessarily imply parallel actions as to the moment in which such commitments must begin to cast their effects. The principle of harmonious interaction and the complementarity in the fulfillment of the commitments themselves with the corresponding verification and follow-up is evident on the basis of the Agreement adopted by the Executive Commission during its III Meeting.

The Government of Honduras considers that verification must provide equal treatment to commitment 8 of both political and security nature. The mechanisms established by the International Commission on Verification and Follow-up throughout the area will give a better opportunity to fortify trust among the countries in the area.

Ever since the "Esquipulas II" document was subscribed, as well as during the subsequent meetings, Honduras has insisted, as provided for in item 7 of the Agreement, that the Central American Governments, with the mediating participation of Contadora, proceed with negotiations on pending matters in the fields of security, verification and control in the draft of the Contradora Act for Peace and Cooperation in Central America.

However, it was not until the third meeting of the Executive Commission in San José, Costa Rica, on October 27-28, 1987, that the agreement to proceed with negotiations on limiting military armaments and troops within the following forty-five days was adopted,

Once again, before this General Assembly, I urge the other Central American countries and the Contadora mediating Group to conclude the negotiation of their essential aspects of regional security.

Mr, Chairman:

It is necessary to recover the spirit of harmony and understanding, by means of concrete actions leading to normalization and distension in Central America.

With the realism that should preside our acts, it is advisable to recognize that the International Commission on Verification and Follow-up, during its meeting at this House last Saturday, in effect verified - in the light of the Governments' public reports and statements on conditionality, that the five fundamental commitments set forth in item 11 in the Guatemala Agreement did not become effective publicly and simultaneously, as agreed by the Central American Presidents.

The Government of Honduras is in the best disposition to impede the failure of our peace efforts, without excluding an urgent call for a new Central American Presidential summit, aimed at evaluating and readjusting the Peace Plan, wherever necessary, since aside from the Executive Commission, there is no other organ to evaluate or interpret such plan.

The Government of Honduras considers as a decisive contribution to strengthen trust and regional peace, the implementation of the following actions by the Government of Nicaragua:

- First: Withdrawal of offensive military troops and equipment from the border line with Honduras;
- Second: Cessation of violations to Honduran air, land and maritime space;
- Third: Cessation of bombings and planting of antipersonal mining devices in Honduran territory and kidnappings of Honduran citizens;
- Fourth: Cessation of political-military intervention in the other Central American States;
- Fifth: Restoration of full jurisdiction of the mediating effort of the Contadora Group; and,
- Sixth: Dialogue with the Nicaraguan armed opposition for national reconciliation purposes and the issuance of a broad and unconditional amnesty.

On the other hand, in a harmonious interaction with the aforementioned, the Government of El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua could undertake the following joint action@:

- First: To request the establishment of an International Security Commission in the border of Honduras-El Salvador and Honduras-Nicaragua, responsible for:

- a) **Monitoring and denouncing aggressions against nationals and against the Honduran territory;**
- b) **Denouncing and Impeding the entrance of armed Irregular forces from El Salvador and Nicaragua Into Honduras;**
- c) **Disarming and confining internationally inspected camps irregulars from El Salvador and Nicaragua seeking sanctuary In Honduran territory; and,**
- d) **Impeding irregulars or refugees the use of frontier lines for military purposes.**

Second: To urge for the establishment of **civil mechanisms** of an **international** character, **to** allow for:

- a) **The organization of admission centers and camp8 for confining disarmed Irregulars form El Salvador and Nicaragua;**
- b) **The admission of disarmed Irregulars, providing them with humanitarian assistance;**
- c) **The repatriation of relocation to third countries within a 3-month period of Irregulars having laid down their arms In Honduran territory; and,**
- d) **The facilitation of repatriation programs of Nicaraguan and Salvadorean refugees.**

With regard to **security matters**, the **Government** of Honduras announces its decision to consider a timetable for the withdrawal of temporary U.S. **military** personnel from its territory, provided that **the Government** of Nicaragua, in a **simultaneous** and verifiable manner, **sets a timetable** for the withdrawal of **military** force8 of **Soviet bloc countries in Nicaragua** and maximum **limits** or **applicable reductions** on **military** armament8 and troop8 are agreed upon by both **countries**.

Likewise, If there is a **relaxing of tensions** betwson the Governments of the **United State9 of America and Nicaragua**, and If both **parties agree to negotiations**, the **Government** of Honduras would be very **pleased for those negotiations** lo take place in **its territory**, **thus, as** Of now, **Honduras extends its most cordial invitation**.

Mr. Chairman:

Honduras **has** not been a cause of the **crisis** that saddens Central **America**. On the contrary, **the country suffers from its consequences**. It is time now to say **ENOUGH!** Enough to **violence**, enough lo **oppression**, **ENOUGH especially to indecision** to confront **basic problems** due lo demagogic of **circumstantial reasons**.

Our **Organization was** created to **achieve orderly peace and justice** In the Continent, on **the basis** of the **effective exercise** of representative democracy.

Such **beautiful** concepts dld not orfginato from the **inspiration of a dreamer** nor are **they a simple lyrical and utopic vision**. Quite the **contrary**, they are **carved indelibly** In the deepest comer of the **soul** of the man of **the Americas**.

The American Continent after two hundred years continua8 in its struggle to **become** tho true fend of hope and freedom. Much **blood** has been shed and **will** continue to **be shed** lo reach and **consolidate** such **goals**. Everything **seems** to Indkate that we are to **win** the battle. **This is evidenced** by the present **crushing** majority of **democracies** In our **vast** continent, expected to **become universal**.

What **the Latin Amerkan people** demand **is for us** to **show without shame** nor hesitation the **virile boldness** of our ancestors In defending their **conquests**.

Only If we **naill** down forever, in **the highest** peak of **tt e** American Continent the **banner** of **justice** and **liberty** shall we be **able** to **justify** the **existence** of our **Organization** and the **reason** of **being** of our own nations.
