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PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. 747/82

Nicoragna: Pelatrais July 7 GRAN BRETAÑA

April 13, 1983

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to forward the enclosed letter, which in view of the urgency has arrived via the Embassy telex, from His Excellency Mr. Daniel Ortega, Member of the National Directorate of the Frente Sandinista of National Liberation and Co-ordinator of the Junta of Government of National Reconstruction.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Francisco d'Escoto
Ambassador

The Right Honourable

Margaret Thatcher, MP

10 Downing Street

London SW 1

Annex:

STS 155/83



(Letter transcribed from telex by Nicaraguan Embassy in London)

Managua Nicaragua

9 April 1983

The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher, MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London SW1

Dear Prime Minister,

I am writing to inform you of the Nicaraguan Government's position with regard to the grave crisis affecting the Central American region and this country at present.

Since the victorious conclusion of the Sandinista Revolution, the Revolutionary Government has made Peace the guiding principle of its whole policy, both at home and abroad. We have put forward and supported all kinds of genuine initiatives in that direction. Recently, following the latest request by Nicaragua to the Security Council, asking it to deal with the invasion of our country by Somozan forces and with the very real threat of external aggression, we again declared ourselves in favour of dialogue with the Governments of Honduras and the United States and reiterated our support for the peace initiative launched at Contadora by Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia and Panama.

A few days ago the Government of Honduras put before the Organisation of American States a draft resolution on Central America, sponsored and promoted by the US Government, which is absolutely unacceptable to Nicaragua.

The nature of that draft text, which is biassed, incomplete and wholly unrelated to the real causes of the Central American crisis, can only favour the interventionist plans of the Reagan Administration and opens the door to a major and general conflict in the area. In this context Nicaragua still considers that bilateral dialogue in the spirit of Contadora is the appropriate course, since this would constitute a genuine attempt to find a solution to the problems with which the region has to contend.

Nicaragua thereby reaffirms its position of keeping open the doors to dialogue and negotiation. However, for any attempt to achieve a solution there are now indispensable prerequisites: unconditional withdrawal of the Somozan counter-revolutionary forces which have invaded Nicaragua, with the support and assistance of the United States, and immediate cessation of the cross-border attacks on the national territory carried out by counter-revolutionary bands and the Honduran army.

The attitude taken by the Governments of Honduras and the United States in relation to Nicaragua and other countries in the area, encouraging violence, interventionism and crime, systematically obstructs any genuine attempt to secure a reduction in tensions. This policy is leading to the rapid exhaustion of real possibilities of arriving at a negotiated solution of Central American problems. The serious duty of preventing a conflict from becoming generalised calls for an effort by all concerned, directed basically to preventing further development and intensification of the aggressive — American policy in relation to the region which, against the will of our peoples and by wholly unlawful means (?), seeks to impose a military solution that will reestablish foreign domination, preserve the outdated structures of exploitation and lead us to underdevelopment, poverty and servitude.

Yours etc.

(sgd) Daniel Ortega Saavedra
 Member of the National Directorate
 F S N L
 Coordination of the Council of Government of National Reconstruction.