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Description Of United Nations Missions In Central America

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[Appearing below are descriptions of UN missions in Central America. Basic data from 09/10/89 report by United Nations Information Transfer Exchange (UNITEX Network, Hoboken, NJ).] United Nations Observer Group in Central America (ONUCA) The creation of ONUCA stems from the request made by the five Central American governments on March 31, 1989, and reiterated, after Honduras lifted its reservation, in Tela (Honduras), on Aug. 7, 1989. The UN Secretary General must submit a proposal to the Security Council for the establishment of ONUCA. Its mission implies termination of aid to irregular forces and insurrectionist movements; and, the non-use of territory to attack other states. A preliminary reconnaissance mission composed of military and civilian personnel arrived in Central America Sept. 3, and will report to the Secretary General on ONUCA personnel and equipment requirements. On the basis of this report, the Secretary General will make a formal proposal to the Security Council. United Nations Observers for the Verification of Elections in Nicaragua (ONUVEN) ONUVEN was created as a result of the March 3, 1989 request by the Nicaraguan government. On the basis of the Declaration of Costa del Sol (Feb. 14, 1989), the Nicaraguan Foreign Minister requested the Secretary General to establish a group of international observers in order to verify the electoral process in Nicaragua. ONUVEN officially opened its offices in Managua and commenced activities on Aug. 25, 1989. The Secretary General has appointed Elliot Richardson as his Personal Representative for the verification of the electoral process in Nicaragua. Chief of the Mission, Iqbal Riza, has been appointed Deputy Personal Representative.

International Support and Verification Commission (CIAV) As envisioned in Chapter I, Annex I, under the Machinery item of the Tela Agreement, the Secretaries General of the United Nations and the Organization of American States decided to establish the CIAV for the purposes of the "voluntary demobilization, repatriation or relocation in Nicaragua or third parties of the members of the Nicaraguan Resistance and their families, as well as assistance in the demobilization of all those involved in armed actions in the countries of the region when they voluntarily seek it." CIAV functions and activities were scheduled to begin Sept. 6, 1989. On Sept. 5, 1989, the Secretaries General of the UN and the OAS announced that as a first step of CIAV activities, they would send a mission to Honduras and Nicaragua in order to establish contacts for execution of its responsibilities under the Joint Plan. On Sept. 1, 1989, the Secretary General appointed Alvaro de Soto as his Personal Representative for the Central American peace process.

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