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ON PAGE A-9

NEW YORK TIMES  
29 AUGUST 1982

# SANDINIST LEADER SEES WAR ON WAY

## Nicaraguan Predicts Fighting With Honduras Will Erupt Because of U.S. Policy

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Special to The New York Times

MANAGUA, Nicaragua, Aug. 28 — A leading figure in the Nicaraguan junta says that a war between Honduras and Nicaragua appears to be inevitable because of the Reagan Administration's policy of trying to destabilize the Sandinist Government.

Daniel Ortega Saavedra, the junta's coordinator, stressed in an interview Friday that Nicaragua wants negotiations with the United States. But he said that his Government had not detected any change in the United States "policy of aggression" since George P. Shultz replaced Alexander M. Haig Jr. as Secretary of State.

Mr. Ortega was reacting to a speech by Thomas O. Enders, Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs, on Aug. 20 that seemed to be less confrontational in tone than past statements. After the speech, one American official said it reflected in part Mr. Shultz's preference for less "confrontational rhetoric."

Mr. Enders had called for limits on the introduction of more weapons to Central America and the elimination of foreign military advisers in the region.

Mr. Ortega said Nicaragua was willing to discuss both of those points.

However, Mr. Ortega said that while the United States had talked in public about a desire to negotiate, "the concrete facts are that it is fortifying the armed aggression against Nicaragua."

He said the United States was contributing to a military buildup in Honduras, which is the largest recipient of United States military aid in Latin America, after El Salvador. He also repeated charges, which have been supported by international relief workers and church organizations, that the United States and Honduras have been aiding anti-Sandinist forces operating from bases in Honduras.

"We are expecting an air attack and an attack by land," Mr. Ortega said. "To the extent that there exists in the United States Government the desire to provoke this war, it is becoming practically impossible to avoid it."

He added that the threat of a war had created conditions that made it impossible for the Sandinists to relax press censorship, develop a mixed economy and allow for more political activity.

### Reaction to Enders Speech

"Press freedom and a mixed economy need a minimum of stability in order to develop," he said.

"To the extent that the United States is closing the noose around us, we have to tighten the screws."

As of now, he said, the Government is planning to conduct elections in 1985, "if the United States allows us."

In his speech, Mr. Enders talked about the desirability of negotiations with the Sandinists.

But Mr. Ortega said the speech was a "justification for aggressive actions against Nicaragua."

Mr. Enders was critical of the Sandinist Government. He charged that the country was being run by "a hard core of Marxist-Leninists," who are "building the largest military establishment in Central America."

Mr. Enders also said that Nicaragua was "turning into a new dictatorship," and that like the regime of General Anastasio Somoza Debayle, which the Sandinists toppled in July 1979, it "is making war on its own people."

### 'Spectacular Message'

Calling the Enders speech a "spectacular message," Mr. Ortega said that it was designed to create in the public opinion of North America and internationally "the favorable conditions for an aggressive action against Nicaragua which will come very soon."

"It is a matter of trying to create the impression that the Sandinist regime is totalitarian," he said. "Then it is logical" that Nicaragua will be invaded, and the Honduran Air Force, the most potent in Central America, "will feel obligated to bomb military objectives because they are said to be a threat."

And when Nicaragua responds, Mr. Ortega said, the United States will say that "it has the right to send troops to support its friends."

Mr. Ortega said he had "intelligence information" about a plan to start the war by having anti-Sandinist guerrillas dress in uniforms of the Nicaraguan Army and attack the guerrilla bases inside Honduras.

Mr. Ortega, a Marxist who was imprisoned for seven years during the Somoza regime, stressed that his Government wanted to negotiate with the United States.

One of Nicaragua's major demands is that the negotiations be carried out at least at the level of foreign ministers, and that a third country, for example Mexico, participate.

### American Demand

The key American demand is that the Nicaraguans cease their support for the Salvadoran rebels.

Mr. Enders said that the military headquarters for the Salvadoran guerrillas was in Nicaragua.

Mr. Ortega called this charge an "invention."

"We have asked the North American Government to give us the information" where this command center is supposedly located, he said, adding that it had declined to do so.

Mr. Ortega also denied that the Sandinist Government is shipping arms to the Salvadoran rebels.

He added that some arms for the Salvadoran rebels were probably passing through Nicaragua.

"It is certain," he said, "that we cannot dedicate our intelligence effort and security forces to pursuing those who are trafficking in arms when we have to defend ourselves against those who are attacking us from Honduras and the North American aggression."