



communiqué

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SITUATION IN NICARAGUA

The Canadian Government has viewed with growing concern the gross and persistent violation of human rights by the Nicaraguan authorities, which it deplors. At the last General Assembly of the United Nations, Canada gave its strong support to a resolution calling on the Government of President Somoza to respect human rights in Nicaragua. Since then the situation in Nicaragua has seriously deteriorated with the result that civil war is now raging in that country bringing untold suffering and privation to its citizens.

The Canadian Government joins the Foreign Ministers of the Organization of American States in their condemnation of the inhumane conduct of the régime of President Somoza and in their call for a guarantee of the respect for human rights of all Nicaraguans without exception.

In the face of the hardship and upheaval which has been brought about by the armed conflict in Nicaragua, the Government of Canada has also responded favourably to a further request from the International Committee of the Red Cross for assistance to the victims of the situation.