

for finding a solution in Central America.

E. Stewart Well, I wonder what role you envisage for Canada? I would like to ask Mr. MacEachen what role he sees for Canada in that area of the world?

For. Secy: What we have asked governments that we highly respect, and that we deem important in world affairs, and that is, of course, the case of Canada, we have asked and obtained by the way, support for our diplomatic efforts. The Canadian Government has been very specific in this respect. We also regard as important the diplomatic influence these governments may be able to exert in order to convince all parties concerned that the path undertaken by the Contadora Group is the right one and perhaps the only one that may be able to achieve a peaceful solution to these problems.

SSEA In reply to your question directed to me, I reiterate Canadian support for the efforts of the Contadora Group. We have indicated that support in the past, we believe that the regional effort as exemplified in the Contadora Group is the best possible approach, and we are committed to its support. And of course we are deeply committed to a peaceful resolution of the problems in Central America.

E. Stewart: Number 1 - I am interested in what diplomatic influence and on whom you would like Canada to exercise it, of course. Also, again, was there any discussion of a Canadian peace-keeping, or observation, force of any kind?

For. Secy: Well, on the first part of your question: there are a number of governments who are directly involved in the conflict. It is very obvious that the five Central American countries are the ones who have the largest participation and the largest responsibility for sorting the whole crisis. By that I mean, not only the political or the military problems, but also other problems that are there, such as, economic and social ones, that by the way are included in the document of objectives. So, they are the ones mainly responsible for solving their own issues, and the Contadora Group has been very clear on this. There is also a participation on the part of the Contadora Group and of course on that account, we have undertaken certain responsibilities of a political nature, basically. There are other countries outside the region that have an influence on events in Central America. They may have