

Jean-Guy Hudon, Parliamentary Secretary to the Secretary of State for External Affairs replied:

...the Hondurans have formally requested that the Contra forces leave their territory. We are concerned about the raids made in Honduras by the Sandinistan soldiers in pursuit of Contras because this can only exacerbate existing tensions....⁸

Mr. Heap also asked about the Prime Minister's alleged refusal to meet with the Vice-President of Nicaragua. Mr. Mulroney replied:

The Government of Canada, through the Secretary of State for External Affairs, has constantly been available to meet with leaders from all walks of political life. We, of course, remain available to do so with courtesy with anyone who is interested in visiting us.⁹

In December, Liberal member Sheila Copps inquired about the attendance of the Secretary of State at a conference which featured Mario Calero, chief US fundraiser for the contras. The Secretary of State, David Crombie replied that he did not attend the conference.¹⁰

In a statement during an Adjournment Debate, NDP member Dan Heap addressed the issue of peace in Central America and particularly Canadian involvement in El Salvador. He asked the Government to publicly tell the US that Canada does not support its actions in Central America and to end its aid programme to El Salvador. Michel Champagne, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Agriculture, replied:

...Canada does not favour a military solution to the internal conflict. We promote a dialogue

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Commons Debates, 6 Nov. 1986, p. 1145. See also: Commons Debates, 7 Nov. 1986, p. 1177.

¹⁰ Commons Debates, 17 Dec. 1986, p. 2200; 18 Dec. 1986, p. 2259.