

governments concerned but we must also rely on the effective mobilization of international opinion in concert with other nations to remind governments of their international commitments and responsibilities to their own citizens.

One area of the hemisphere -- Central America -- is currently suffering from deplorable violence and abuse of human rights, both driven by a political and military crisis. The fundamental problems of Central America are the result of a long history of political, economic and social repression. Stability cannot be restored until the forces for change have been accommodated, until social and economic progress remove the explosive pressures of popular frustration. Interference by outside ideologies and political forces holds great danger for this process. Already such interference is aggravating the crisis and increasing the risk of escalating military confrontations.

How can the process of escalation be reversed? How can restraint be encouraged? And how can conditions be created in which military assistance from outside -- from all sides -- is stopped and replaced by a new influx of economic support?

In his April 27 address to Congress, President Reagan offered U.S. support for any agreement among Central American countries for the withdrawal of all foreign troops and military advisors. He supported the inclusion of opposition groups in the political process of all Central American countries. He also