



communiqué

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CANADA CONDEMNS CONTRA ATTACK ON AID PROJECT

The Right Honourable Joe Clark, Secretary of State for External Affairs, has condemned the recent attack by contra forces on an aid project supported by a Canadian non-governmental organization, Farmers for Peace, in Nicaragua. Mr. Clark said that "This incident is the tragic outcome of the attempt to obtain a military solution in Nicaragua". Mr. Clark has consistently opposed outside support for insurgent forces in Nicaragua.

In view of this and other incidents, Mr. Clark has asked Canadian aid workers to adhere to the Government of Nicaragua's restrictions against entering identified conflict zones and to exercise extreme caution in areas where the potential for conflict exists.

Mr. Clark reaffirmed the Canadian Government's support for the important work being carried out by Canadian non-governmental aid workers in Nicaragua, a country which is suffering not only from internal conflict, but also from extreme economic hardship. In the past five years, Canada has given over \$40 million in total direct aid to Nicaragua in order to help meet some of that country's needs. Fully one quarter of this assistance has been channelled through Canadian non-governmental organizations.