



communiqué

N°: 94
No.:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JULY 29, 1983

CENTRAL AMERICA - PEACE INITIATIVES

The Honourable Allan J. MacEachen, Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs, expressed today Canada's continued support and encouragement of the efforts by the Governments of Colombia, Mexico, Panama, and Venezuela (referred to as the Contadora Group) to bring about peaceful solutions in Central America. Canada particularly welcomed the joint declaration issued by the Presidents of these four countries at the conclusion of their meeting in Cancun, Mexico on July 17, 1983.

In this Declaration the four Presidents proposed that the nations of Central America should make commitments to:

- (a) end the current state of belligerence
- (b) freeze the number of offensive weapons at existing levels
- (c) begin negotiations of agreements to limit and reduce the current inventories of armaments and develop mechanisms for adequate supervision
- (d) proscribe the installation of foreign military bases on their territories
- (e) provide advance notification of troop movements near international frontiers when the size of such movements surpasses previously agreed limits
- (f) provide for joint frontier patrols or international supervision of frontiers by groups of observers selected by mutual agreement of the interested parties
- (g) establish mixed security commissions to prevent or to resolve frontier incidents

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