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UNITED NATIONS OBSERVER GROUP IN CENTRAL AMERICA

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

- 1. As promised in my report to the Security Council of 27 April 1990 (S/21274, paras. 5 and 27), the present addendum is intended to provide the Council with an ap-to-date account of the manner in which the United Nations Observer Group in Central America (ONUCA) has carried out its functions relating to the monitoring of the cease-fire and the separation of forces in Nicaragua, as well as of the status of the demobilization process.
- 2. Pursuant to the complex of agreements concluded between the Nicaraguan parties at Managua during the night of 18-19 April 1990, five "security zones" were established on 22 April following the withdrawal of the Nicaraguan Government's forces from the areas in question during the preceding three days. Within each zone, ONUCA personnel has been deployed in a "demobilization and logistics support area" (DLSA), where it is envisaged that the hand-over of weapons and other activities connected with the demobilization of the members of the Nicaraguan resistance will be completed. The table below shows the approximate size of each "security zone", the location of the corresponding DLSA and the numbers of unarmed ONUCA observers and armed members of the Venezuelan battalion present in each zone at 1 May 1999,

			ONIJCA strength	
Security	Approximat a		United Nati	ons Venezuelan
20115	size (km ²)	DLSA	military obse	ervers battalion
1	554	El Amparo	9	103
2	692	Kubalí	9	61
3	500	San Andres de Boboke	9	135
4	609	La Piñuela-El Ayote	9	144
5	576	El Almendro	9	143

- 3. The **sones** are generally very sparsely populated and are crossed by only one or two dirt roads. With the exception of **sone** 4, which is in a valley, all are in mountainous and wooded areas. Whereas road conditions and other facilities vary widely among them, all five offer to varying degrees the infrastructure necessary to enable **ONUCA** to carry out its tasks.
- 4. The headquarters of the Venezuelan battalion has been established at Matagalpa, some 100 km north of Managua and outside the "security zones". It has a total strength of 102, The Central Command of the Nicaraguan resistance is currently located at El Destino in 2000 1.
- 5. As envisaged under the Managua agreements of 18-19 April, each "security zone" is surrounded by a "demilitarized zone" of some 20 km in width. The exact delineation of the "demilitarized zones" surrounding zones 1, 2, 3 and 4 has already been agreed upon by the parties; discussions concerning the delineation of the fifth are still in progress.
- 6. Within each of the "demilitarized sones", one or two installations of the Nicaraguan Government's forces have been designated as "exclusion zones" (zones de exclusión). These installations, from which government forces have been withdrawn, are supervised jointly by one or two members of each of the Nicaraguan parties, as well as by representatives of ONUCA and of Cardinal Obando y Bravo.
- 7. As foreseen in a separate agreement signed on 18 April 1990 with representatives of the Misquitian branch of the Nicaraguan resistance known as "Yatama", two additional zones have been established on the Atlantic coast, within which demobilization of the "Yatama" is due to start on 8 May 1990. These zones cover a total area of approximately 2,550 km². They are located in the extreme north-east between the towns of Waspam and Laguna Bismuna and along the banks of the Prinzapolka River, respectively. Adjacent to each of these zones there is also a "demilitarized zone". ONUCA will deploy there before 8 May.
- 8. As soon as the cease-fire came into effect at 12 noon on 19 April 1990, liaison arrangements, operating on a 24-hour basis, were set up by ONUCA with both the Nicaraguan Government's forces and the Nicaraguan resistance. In addition, ONUCA observer teams were dispatched to each "security zone" to investigate immediately, should the need arise, any breaches of the cease-fire, and to carry out road and helicopter patrols within the zones as a confidence-building measure. While some minor incidents have occurred since the cease-fire came into effect, neither Nicaraguan party has reported incidents which have subsequently been confirmed as violations of the cease-fire agreement.
- **9.** In accordance with the terms of the cease-fire agreement, Nicaraguan **Government forces** were withdrawn to positions outside the "demilitarized zones" during the period 19-21 April, having disarmed Nicaraguan militia units which were present in **the** zones. **As** a result of this and the accompanying concentration of the members of the Nicaraguan resistance within the "security zones", a separation **of** forces is being achieved. Few problems have occurred in connection with the establishment **of** the separation of forces, which is closely monitored by **ONUCA.** At present, **ONUCA** carries out patrols by road and air to monitor the continuing separation of forces.

- The agreements signed at Managua on 18-19 April provided that the voluntary demobilization of the members of the Nicaraguan resistance deployed inside Nicaragua would commence on 25 April and he completed at the latest by Whereas all the necessary arrangements had been made by ONUCA, in co-ordination with representatives of the Nicaraquan resistance, for demobilization to begin in zone 1 at 1500 hours on 25 April, those members of the resistance who had assembled there for this purpose declined to lay down their weapons after listening to a declaration by their commander (comandante) atating his view that the minimum conditions for demobilization had not been met, Representatives of the Government of Nicaragua and of Cardinal Obando y Bravo were also present on this occasion and addressed the members of the Nicaraguan resistance, urging them to proceed with the demobilization, Subsequently, the commander of the Nicaraguan resistance concerned requested a meeting at Managua with representatives of the Government in order to discuss the start of demobilization. At the time of writing, it was envisaged that such A meeting might he held at Managua in the coming days. Meanwhile, ONUCA remains ready to carry out its responsibilities in connection with the demobilization as soon as it gets under way.
- 11. In Honduras, the national army deployed A battalion in the Yamales calley on 27 April in order to take up posit inns along the border with Nicaragua. It is expected that demobilization of any individual members of the Nicaraguan resistance remaining in Yamalss and other locations along the border will commence in the near future,

Observations

12. It is a matter of grave concern that the demobilization of the members of the Nicaraguan resistance did not begin in the afternoon of 25 April, as stipulated in the agreements signed at Managua on 18-19 April. It has always been intended that the role of ONUCA in this process should he to help ensure the speedy return Of the members of the Nicaraguan resistance to civilian life and not to assist them in establishing armed camps for an indefinite period of time on Nicaraguan territory. This point was emphasized by my representatives to all the Nicaraguan participants in the negotiations on 18-19 April and it was on this basis, and on the strength of the agreemento signed on that occasion, that I recommended to the Security Council that ONUCA should play the part requested of it in monitoring the cease-fire and separation of forces. I believe that serious efforts must now he made by all concerned in order to get the demobilization process quickly back on track, This can only be done if the selemn commitments contained in the Managua greements are scrupulously honoured.

