

EMBAJADA DE NICARAGUA
1627 NEW HAMPSHIRE AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20009

April 29, 1985

The Honorable
Dave McCurdy
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative McCurdy:

In reply to your letter of April 23rd to President Ortega, I would like to inform you of the events surrounding the delivery of a donation of food and supplies by Mr. Larry Jones, President of FEED THE CHILDREN to Nicaragua.

Of the six containers sent by FEED THE CHILDREN, three were donated to the Augusto Cesar Sandino Foundation (FACS) for relief purposes to be distributed to the numerous persons displaced by the war. FACS is a non-governmental agency which coordinates non-governmental international assistance programs. The remaining three containers will be turned over to the Evangelical Committee for Development and Assistance Programs (CEPAD) to be distributed to evangelical pastors.

In regards to the request to hold an open air religious celebration, it should be noted that a formal request was submitted on April 18th by CEPAD to the Public Registrar of Associations requesting authorization to use the Cranshaw Stadium to transmit live on the radio an evangelical program titled "Fiesta de Amor" on April 19, 20 and 21st. Authorization of the request was granted by the Public Registrar of Associations on the same day the request was made. Notwithstanding, the Cranshaw Stadium has never had either lights or a platform. The installation or rental of these services corresponded directly to those Churches sponsoring the religious festival.

The religious festival was held, however, on April 18, 19 and 20th in the Centroamericana Church, despite the affirmative response granted by my Government to the request for the Cranshaw Stadium made by CEPAD on Mr. Jone's behalf.

While it is true that Mr. Jones was received by President Ortega, no request was made by Mr. Jones at that time. I may further add that religious campaigns are held on a month-to-month basis in Nicaragua and each year preachers from different denominations visit Nicaragua. Last year, for example, Rev. Motessi was invited by the Assembly of God.

I can assure you that my Government fully understands the importance and appreciates those efforts carried out by American citizens in the fulfillment of their religious values to alleviate the suffering of Nicaraguans being victimized by an illegal and immoral war. If you should like more specific information concerning how the donated goods sent by Mr. Jones were distributed, may I suggest that you write directly to CEPAD and FACS at the following addresses:

Fundacion Augusto Cesar Sandino
de Telcor (Villa Panama)
1 cuadra al lago y 1 cuadra arriba
Managua, Nicaragua

Tel: 96556
Telex: 2361

Comite Evangelico Pro-Ayuda y Desarrollo
Puente Leon 2 1/2 cuadra abajo
Managua, Nicaragua

Tel: 66102

If I may be of any assistance to you in the future, please do not hesitate to contact me at my office.

Sincerely,



CARLOS TUNNERMANN B.
Ambassador