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Officials Meet To Discuss Peace Plan

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must take," said Salvadoran Foreign Minister Ricardo Acevedo Peralta. "If we fail, we face international rejection and disdain and the end of our credibility in the eyes of history."

In a sign of Honduras' reluctance about the plan, Lopez Contreras said in an address to the National Assembly in Tegucigalpa yesterday that the accord is a "recommendation" and not a treaty. He argued that it is not "obligatory" for Honduras to follow it, according to radio reports in Honduras.

Honduras responded to the clauses barring the five nations from allowing guerrillas to operate from their territory against other nations by reiterating its perennial denial that the U.S.-backed Nicaraguan rebels, known as counter-revolutionaries or contras, maintain any base camps on its soil. Although most of an estimated 10,000 contra fighters are in Nicaragua, contra commanders maintain their strategic command and air resupply operations in Honduras.

The Honduran government anticipates that thousands of contras may move northward out of Nicaragua and back to their bases in Honduras this fall, according to a Honduran military officer who accompanied his nation's delegation. Honduras expects Nicaragua's Popular Sandinista Army to step up the pace of fighting to maximize its advantage before the cease-fire, he said, and the cease-fire could unleash an additional flow of contras out of Nicaragua.

Honduras has advised Nicaragua that its soldiers will not fire on contras seeking to return to its territory, the officer said.

In Managua, Vice President Sergio Ramirez issued an appeal to Latin American and other western nations for help in obtaining more oil for Nicaragua, which he said will run out of gasoline before the end of this year, according to press reports monitored here. Nicaraguan officials have said recently that the Soviet Union informed Nicaragua it would provide only 4 million barrels of oil this year, about 40 percent of its annual needs, which represents no increase over the Soviet contribution in 1986.