

we were working hard for His benefit. He provided rides every night that it was necessary. We rarely had to walk more than 15 minutes and we were never in danger."

-Elder Brian Stone-

"Tuesday evening, September 12, 1978, the Zone Leaders called our house and informed me (Elder Gawrys) that I was on a quick transfer to Honduras and that I was to be in Managua with bags packed and ready to go by 9:00 AM the next morning. We tried all possible Public Transportation, but there was none to Managua. It appeared that we were stuck and that we would have to wait out the battle which would inevitably take place in the evening. In our last ditch attempt, we went up to our room and knelt in silent prayer to ask the Lord if it be His will, to supply us some form of transportation to Managua in the morning. As we finished and walked out onto the street again, a small white pick-up truck stopped in front of our house."

-Elder James Gawrys-

CHINANDEGA

"It is a real war! I have been re-convinced of that several times since the action started Saturday night. We are pinned in (closed in) the chapel apparently till it is over. The landlady, Dora, sends food over to us during the halts of action. Today we have had breakfast and lunch. Food sure tastes good when you know there might not be more (for awhile)... Monday about 1:00PM the neighbor kid who salvaged my projector flagged us down with a note. Elder Skidmore went and got it. You can imagine our surprise as we read a hand written note from President Joseph Muren that said, 'Your passports and visas to Honduras are waiting in Managua with Elders Lundell, Justesen, Shelley, and Clawson. Go there immediately.' We ran straight back to the other Elder's house and told them. They were just as excited... The story behind the note we got is this. President Muren went to Tegucigalpa, Honduras to get the Elders out. After he had done all he could, he took a plane back to San José. On the plane, he met a farmer who lived between León and Chinandega. He was going there to get his wife and daughter out of Chinandega where they were trapped in the war. He said he knew us and where the church was. Well, he found us. Thank you."

-Elder Zane Schaeffer-

"About 45 minutes later, there was a pounding on the door. No one else would open the door so I went and opened it and there to greet me was about 20 guerillas wanting in. So, without any further argument, I let them in. Some old man that looked like he hadn't shaved or bathed for a week and with a mouth half full of teeth seemed to be in command. He started yelling at me asking why we hadn't opened the doors and stuff so I proceeded to explain our neutral position and it didn't help too much. He started arguing that we were eating their food and stuff. He was holding the gun so I didn't press it any further. Then he started asking if we had any guns or anything there. I told him we were missionaries of Jesus Christ and all we had was the Bible. He didn't like that either and he pulls out a colt diamondback 38 revolver and asked, 'Why did Christ come to the earth?' Then he said, 'To redeem us, right?' I quickly agreed. Then he went on to tell me that the pistol he was holding was Jesus Christ and that it came to redeem this people from Somoza. Then he asked if we had food. All we had was what was on the table. We hadn't eaten it because we wanted to wait because we weren't sure if we would get anything later on in the day. Well they quickly ate everything. So we haven't eaten since yesterday at noon. He then told us to go and buy food. He also asked if we had money and I quickly said, 'No' with \$30.00 in my back pocket. He believed me and dropped it at that. Then I asked if we could leave and go to another place. He told me that three of us stay and the other go to look for food and if he didn't come back he would shoot the others. I didn't quite understand him when he said it so I asked him to repeat it. This time he said two would go for food and two would stay. So then I started to repeat it to make sure I got it right. Then he said as he pointed the gun at me that he would kill me if someone didn't come with food. I don't know why but after he said that I felt more calm than I had since they entered. And everyone else was shaking in their shoes."

-Elder Andrew Skidmore-

"Tuesday I was awakened by the sound of someone in my room. Turning to see which of my beloved companions it was, I was startled to see a young latin with a mask and an effective looking pistol pointed more or