

less in my direction. He made a quick search of the room and asked if we had any guns, all the while the pistol waving haphazardly toward me. I answered, 'No' and he proceeded to the next room... These last few days have been rather uneventful, the only exciting thing being several air-raids by planes, jets, and helicopters carrying heavy machine guns and rockets! The first time we heard the plane shooting, we all headed for a fairly large mango tree. We had decided that it would be our best protection in these air raids. There were four kids, five adults, one baby, and four missionaries all playing ring around the 30 inch diameter mango tree. Everybody covered when we heard the machine gun fire until we figured out that the bullets travel faster than sound and after we heard it, it was about five seconds too late to duck... Earlier, we'd read our patriarchal blessings to find out if we were going to make it through this. It was a great source of comfort." -Elder Steven Perkins-

"We had one testimony-building experience today that is certainly worth mentioning, as it demonstrates very well how our Father in Heaven has been very obviously watching over us. Before leaving yesterday evening, the two planes mentioned in the last entry did let go with a few rockets. At one point, one of them dove right toward us. It looked to me from his angle of approach that if he had fired rockets or a machine gun, our goose would have been cooked - probably well done. But he didn't shoot. He made one more dive at a different angle, again without firing, and then the two of them took off. We didn't think anymore about it until a short time ago, when the landlord, Noe, came in and related the following to us. 'I was first talking to the guy across the street and he has a radio tuned in to listen to the pilots during yesterday's attack. One of them made an attack dive, but the rocket failed to fire. So, he asked the other guy what to do and was told to try it again, this time pushing the red button below the console. He did, but it still wouldn't fire. So they went to Managua to get it fixed.' I don't think that it's a coincidence that the firing circuit went out just as it was supposed to launch an attack in our direction. In fact, I know that it was no coincidence, and it was truly and simply the invisible hand of Divine Intervention lowered in our behalf. Our Heavenly Father protected us. Nothing more, nothing less." -Elder Marc McLemore-

"The Sandanistas are really here and three of them buzzed right by the fence by the side of the house where we're staying. They each had guns held high and they were herding people ahead of them. We stayed at the house till about 9:00AM and I got to where I couldn't take it anymore so we prayed out and braved it to the chapel. No problem. I just happened to look out the window and low and behold there were trucks and trucks of guardia. For the first time, all of this became personally real to me. We had to walk back to our house and I felt like we were being watched from all sides. The most comforting assurance was 'Don't worry, you are representatives of the Lord Jesus Christ and you'll be protected.' We finally returned back to the chapel safe and sound. I couldn't help but know the Lord was watching us. The experience was more like a confirmation to me, that in very deed the Lord has complete control over all and the affairs of man that are occurring down here are being overseen by Him." -Sister Mary Rimshaw-

"I think we were in more danger than I actually realized or ever will realize. We did not encounter any problems getting to Managua Wednesday, and a room was opened to us to spend the night. To see the Elders work to get passport work done, plane tickets, etc., was neat. They worked together and if obstacles came up they soon had the solution. To me, it seemed as if everything went smoothly and that the Lord's blessings were with us because it would have been so easy for the passport people to take their time, or the airport to close, or a hundred other things. But, we were able to leave Nicaragua in one piece. I feel that the Lord did want us out of Nicaragua to allow them to fight their battle. This situation makes me think of the Lamanites with all their wars. It has also given me an insight as to what the last days will possibly eventually be like and how I want to be sure of being a worthy Saint so I won't be in the same situation as many of the people in Nicaragua." -Sister Janice Pipbert-