

CONFIDENTIAL

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Friday - April 12, 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Latin American Ceremony *copy*

We can schedule the Latin American ceremony for Friday morning, April 19 or Monday morning, April 22, and still carry through with the scenario for endorsement of the Task Force proposal by the Inter-American Development Bank Board of Governors.

After Monday, April 22, it would be too late and it would be better to have you launch the Task Force idea with a message to the Bank meeting which Secretary Fowler would read.

The ceremony would be held in the East Room where we could have appropriate installation and lighting of the maps to illustrate the physical integration possibilities in Latin America.

We contemplate inviting:

- the Latin American White House and OAS Ambassadors;
- the heads of the inter-American organizations (Mora, Sanz, Herrera);
- Senators and Congressmen interested in Latin America;
- Scholars and foundation people working on Latin American economic development;
- representatives of business and industry interested in Latin American development; and
- key officials in State, Treasury, Commerce, and Transportation.

Jim Jones tells me that you may be going to the Ranch after the Honolulu trip and might not be back in time for a Monday morning ceremony.

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Your options are:

- (1) to launch the Task Force proposal yourself
at a ceremony on

Friday morning, April 19 _____

or

Monday morning, April 22 _____.

or

- (2) to send a message to the Bank Meeting which
Secretary Fowler could read _____.

If you will indicate your preference for one of the three options, we
will make preparations accordingly.

W. W. Rostow

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

5a

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

April 11, 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR WALT ROSTOW

SUBJECT: Ceremony on Latin America

Walt -

I have been thinking about alternatives to a ceremony.

I suggest we have the Task Force idea incorporated in a special message to the IDB Board of Governors Meeting which Secretary Fowler could read during his plenary speech. (April 22-27)

As outgoing Chairman of the Board, Fowler speaks first. With some advance consultation with President Lleras, we could still get Lleras to give the Task Force initiative a big push in his speech which will follow Fowler's. Thus, our scenario would be preserved. The impact of the President's statement in Latin America will probably be as great originating in Bogota as it would be from up here.

I think this is a neat way to get the idea launched without tying the President to a ceremony (which he obviously does not want) but preserving his imprimatur.

Attached is a memo to the President.

WGB
WGBowdler

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12356, Sec. 3.4

NEJ 94-272

By ig, NARA, Date 11-15-94

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

ACTION

Thursday - April 11, 1968 1:45 p.m.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Latin American Ceremony

I know you are reluctant to have a Latin American ceremony next week. The launching of the idea of a Task Force on Latin American Physical Integration is a good one and I would not like to see the opportunity lost.

We can still achieve the objective by incorporating the Task Force proposal in a statement from you to the Board of Governors of the Inter-American Development Bank which Secretary Fowler could include in his plenary address.

If this meets with your approval, I recommend a statement along the lines of the attached draft.

*W. Rostow*Approve ☐Disapprove ☐Call me ☐

*P.S. With Honolulu
off, you may
wish to take on
the original idea
yourself - Tab A.*

W

Attachment

Recommended statement by Secretary Fowler on your behalf to Board of Governors of IADB

Special Message

to

the Board of Governors of the Inter-American Development Bank

(to be given by Treasury Secretary Fowler for President)

At Punta del Este my fellow Presidents and I called for a bold plan to overcome the natural barriers to Latin American physical unity. Your countries have too long been isolated from each other -- divided by high mountain ranges, deep rain forests and forbidding deserts.

Locked behind these barriers are vast resources which can help fulfill the American promise of opportunity and prosperity for all your peoples.

The new frontiers of the South American heartland beckon those imaginative enough, daring enough, determined enough to penetrate. A start has already been made by some governments. The Inter-American Committee for the Alliance for Progress and the Inter-American Development Bank have done initial planning. I ask whether the time has not come to prepare a blue-print for systematically carrying forward this gigantic enterprise -- an

enterprise capable of binding a continent with roads and river systems, power grids and pipelines, transport and telecommunications.

To this end, I suggest to my fellow Presidents and those who direct our Alliance for Progress institutions the establishment of a high-level task force, under the leadership of a distinguished Latin American, to prepare a five-year plan for speeding up the physical integration of our hemisphere. The United States will lend its fullest cooperation.

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Tab A
5c~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ACTION

Wednesday - April 10, 1968 -- 11:35 a.m.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Ceremony on Latin America

Rec'd
11/22

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12356, Sec. 3.4

NJ 94-171

By ijp, NARA, Date 3-26-96

We can build an impressive Latin American ceremony next week around your launching the idea of a blue ribbon Inter-American Task Force on Physical Integration. The Johnsonian dimension to the Alliance for Progress is integration. The Task Force concept reinforces that dimension.

As I explained in the scenario I sent you last week, it is important to have the launching before the Inter-American Bank's Board of Governors meets next on April 22 in Bogota, Colombia. Following your statement, we can get:

- Colombian President Lleras to give the idea a big boost when he addresses the Bank Governors.
- The Governors to put the Bank behind it.
- CIAP to give its blessing when it convenes on April 29.
- The Inter-American Economic and Social Council to set up the Task Force in June.
- Further identification by you with the Task Force between June and January 20.

Furthermore, the ceremony can be dressed up if Mike Manatos can get the Senate to pass the pending bill authorizing \$411 million of callable capital for the Inter-American Bank and approve Ed Clark's nomination to the Bank. Then you could sign the ratification instrument to the OAS Charter amendments and the Bank bill and introduce Ed Clark to the Latin American community.

Your statement could focus on the dramatic possibilities for physical integration and what has been accomplished in the inter-American field

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

-2-

during your administration. We can arrange a series of large maps for you to illustrate how Latin America can be unified with roads, power lines, transport and communications. The first draft of a statement is at Tab A.

In your note to Mike Manatos you indicated willingness to proceed with a ceremony. I suggest we plan for next Wednesday (April 17).

Approve ceremony
for April 17 _____

Prefer another time _____

Call me _____.

DeVier Pierson tells me you have asked him to arrange an appointment with IDB President Felipe Herrera. You could combine the visit with the ceremony, taking him and Ed Clark to one side after it is over.

Combine Herrera
visit with ceremony _____

Prefer separate
appointment _____

Call me _____.

W. W. Rostow

Attachment

Tab A - Draft Statement for Ceremony on April 17.

cc - Mike Manatos
DeVier Pierson
Jim Jones

DRAFT
WGB:mm
(4-10-68)

5d

PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT
for
LATIN AMERICAN CEREMONY

Secretary General Mora, Dr. Herrera, Dr. Sanz, Distinguished
Ambassadors, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am always pleased to welcome friends and neighbors from our
hemisphere to this house. Whatever may be our preoccupations
elsewhere in the world, I maintain paramount interest in the
well-being of our own neighborhood.

This morning I add two more links to the chain of United States
cooperation with the Governments of Latin America:

- ratification of the protocol of amendments to the Charter
of the Organization of American States; and
- signature of a bill adding \$411 million to the resources of
the Inter-American Bank.

Both signify the United States commitment to a vigorous inter-
American system and a vital Alliance for Progress.

The advance of our regional organization -- like all human activity -- has run in stages. The cycle of innovation and consolidation repeats itself, in response to changing needs and circumstances.

These cycles have run in 20-year periods. I recall how hard Latin America pressed the principle of non-intervention at the Inter-American Conference in 1928. Acceptance of the principle by President Roosevelt paved the way for spectacular advances in the juridical and security fields, culminating in the Rio Treaty and Bogota Charter in 1948.

During the past two decades the focus has been on the economic and social. Here the gains -- from Operation Pan America to the Alliance for Progress -- have been equally dramatic:

- an Inter-American Development Bank now lending at an annual rate of over one-half billion dollars.
- a Central American Common Market which increased intra-regional trade by over 400%.
- a free trade association among the South American States

and Mexico that has boosted their exports by _____ million dollars.

-- an Alliance for Progress which in seven years has invested _____ billion dollars in domestic and foreign resources in the development of Latin America.

In 1968 we are on the threshold of a dynamic new phase with new leadership, new instruments and new priorities.

Next month Dr. Galo Plaza of Ecuador assumes the Secretary Generalship of the OAS succeeding our trusted and good friend Dr. Mora. In his long tenure, Dr. Mora has overseen the consolidation of the gains of the past and the innovations which will guide the hemisphere's efforts for the next period. Dr. Plaza enters at a time of unequalled challenge -- and opportunity.

The structure of the OAS has been streamlined to make it more responsive to the needs of the Governments.

The Alliance for Progress has been extended beyond its original

time frame, in frank recognition that the task is not for a decade but for a generation.

The Action Program of Punta del Este fixed the priorities for what we must do to create a better life in freedom for the billion human beings who will inhabit our hemisphere by the year 2000.

That program rests on three pillars: higher agricultural production, better education, closer integration. I am encouraged by the beginnings:

- a 6% increase in food production in 1967 was twice the rate of new mouths to be fed;
- the hemisphere's top scientists and educators have agreed on how best to harness science and technology to education and development;
- the integration movement has been spurred by new energies with fresh approaches.

At Punta del Este my fellow Presidents and I called for a bold plan to overcome the natural barriers to Latin American physical unity.

Your countries have too long been isolated from each other -- divided by high mountain ranges, deep rain forests and forbidding deserts. (Review maps showing topography and concentration of people in coastal areas and vast unpopulated areas in the interior.)

Locked behind these barriers are vast resources which can help fulfill the American promise of opportunity and prosperity for all your peoples. (Review map showing concentration of national resources.)

The new frontiers of the South American heartland beckon those imaginative enough, daring enough, determined enough to penetrate. A start has already been made by some governments.

The Inter-American Committee for the Alliance for Progress and the Inter-American Development Bank have done initial planning. I ask whether the time has not come to prepare a blueprint for systematically carrying forward this gigantic enterprise -- an enterprise capable of binding a continent with roads and river systems, power grids and pipelines, transport and tele-communications. (Review map showing integration projects now underway against map showing the potential for new projects.)

To this end, I suggest to my fellow Presidents and those who direct our Alliance for Progress institutions the establishment

of a high level task force, under the leadership of a distinguished Latin American, to prepare a five-year plan for speeding up the physical integration of our hemisphere. The United States will lend its fullest cooperation.

My thirty-seven years in public life have spanned the last two cycles in the evolution of our inter-American system. Throughout those four decades I have labored to strengthen our ties and make the Americas a show-case of what men of goodwill working in freedom can accomplish.

I recall one instance in the fall of 1960, when the alliance for economic and social development was beginning to take shape. President Eisenhower wanted Congressional approval to make the first major contribution to a regional social progress trust fund. He sought my help as Senate Majority Leader. Four days from receipt of that request, Under Secretary of the Treasury Dillon pledged \$500 million to the "Committee of 21" meeting in Bogota.

But the final verdict of what I have tried to do for our hemisphere I leave to the historians. As President, I have carried forward in the tradition of two of my distinguished predecessors: the Good Neighbor Policy of Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Alliance for Progress of John F. Kennedy.

I am proud of what your countries and mine have accomplished together:

Despite some setbacks, democracy is stronger and political stability more secure. Free democratic elections in many of your countries attest to this fact, as do the gains in civil rights in the United States.

Communist subversion has been checked. You have frustrated the designs of the guerrillas and terrorists. You would have preferred to invest the scarce resources spent on internal security on development, but this is the price of freedom.

Latin American economic growth has accelerated and self-help increased. The annual average per capita growth

in GNP has risen from 1.0% in the years 1960-1963 to 2.4% from 1964-1967. At the start of the Alliance, it was expected that some 80% of the total investment would come from Latin America. You have contributed 87%.

Major gains have been made in institutional development.

Savings and loans institutions have increased 25%, credit unions by 175% and agricultural cooperatives by ____%. A new generation of technicians and managers trained in modern methods are bringing reform and higher efficiency in industry and government.

The mechanism of inter-American cooperation has been modernized and strengthened. The OAS Charter has been streamlined. The Alliance for Progress has moved from the trial-and-error organizational phase to one of sustained action through established institutions.

The United States commitment to the Alliance for Progress has been fully met and extended. In 1965 I announced that the United States would support the Alliance beyond 1970. Since July 1964, United States economic assistance to Latin

America has totalled \$3934 million -- an increase of 19% over the previous three years. Assistance from the international lending institutions reached \$2124 -- an increase of 44%.

I said after the Punta del Este Meeting that the Alliance for Progress is "a task not for sprinters but for long-distance runners". To win this relay, we must set the pace and hold to it. The Presidents last year set that pace. I will maintain it as long as it is my turn to carry the baton. I trust that my colleagues will do likewise -- as well as those chosen to carry on the race.

Bowles
ACTION *52*

Thursday - April 11, 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

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W. W. Rostow
W. W. Rostow

Approve ☐

Disapprove ☐

Call me ☐

Attachment

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to

the Board of Governors of the Inter-American Development Bank

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