

GENERAL

COI-8

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JOE

MRS. ELIZABETH WALTON
P. O. BOX 615
HILO, HAWAII 96720

June 20, 1964

Dear Mrs. Roberts:

Thank you so very much for your letter in reply to my letter about the South American situation. *(Mr Bundy's ofc - Bob Sayre: drafted)*

It may amaze you - but I have a great concern with regard to everything that bears upon our beloved Country.

My ancestors on both sides fought in the "War of the Revolution" and one of them was a young naval officer appointed to stand guard over President Lincoln's casket in the Rotunda of the Capitol.

I am bringing my two teen-age grandsons to Washington this summer, and for a tour of historical sites in Virginia and Pennsylvania. I want them to see and appreciate the great beauty, the history and magnificence of our Country.

Senator Fong has arranged some splendid things for us, and - which pleases me most - Mr. Nash Castro of the White House Historical Association has arranged a special tour of the White House for us. The only thing that could make this all more wonderful would be to meet President Johnson - but I would not ask it, because I know what an extremely busy man he is.

I have, in the past, written him twice (but presume he never saw them), letters assuring him that I am one Republican who is not only going to vote for him, but who will actively work for him.

I have never yet voted for a Democrat for President, but I feel Mr. Johnson's great sincerity and I feel he has so far, at least, done a splendid job for our people - our Country.

Again - thank you for your very excellent letter. I appreciate your courtesy.

Sincerely yours,

Elyabeth Walton

P. S. President and Mrs. Johnson may well be very proud of Miss Lynda Bird while she was on her Hawaiian tour.

for her conduct

June 8, 1964

CO 1-8
FO3-2-1

Dear Mrs. Walton: ELIZABETH

Thank you for your letter of May 29 on Latin America. It is certainly true that the problems of Latin America are staggering as Mr. Gross indicates. The area is experiencing profound social and economic changes. The political events which he describes are the surface manifestations of the se much deeper problems. The agencies of our government, and especially the Department of State, which must deal with the hard realities on a day to day basis, often find the situation frustrating. But we recognize that we are engaged in a serious struggle against poverty, disease, and ignorance that does not permit us the luxury of even occasional despair.

The resources available to Latin America to deal with these problems are indeed limited. In 1963, for example, Latin American Governments had only \$54 per capita to provide all essential government services. Our loan assistance under the Alliance for Progress added less than \$3 to this total. In contrast, expenditures by the State and Federal Governments in Hawaii were almost \$900 per capita.

But we are hopeful about Latin America. The spirit of the Alliance for Progress is taking hold.

Recent developments in Brazil, for example, are a cause for optimism. The Brazilians give every evidence of wanting to deal realistically with their problems and in that they will have our full support. There are other places like Mexico which give even greater cause for optimism.

We are pleased that Americans such as you have a real concern

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about the area. We need your help and understanding in solving the problems of that area, and in many other ways. It was most thoughtful of you to write and let us know of your interest and support.

Sincerely,

Juanita Roberts
Personal Secretary
to the President

Mrs. Elizabeth Walton
P. O. Box 615
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

MJDR: B.SAYRE: vm

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DRAFT

Dear Mrs. Walton:

Thank you for your letter of May 29 on Latin America. It is certainly true that the problems of Latin America are staggering as Mr. Gross indicates. The area is experiencing profound social and economic changes. The political events which he describes are the surface manifestations of these much deeper problems. The agencies of our government, and especially the Department of State, which must deal with the hard realities on a day to day basis, often find the situation frustrating. But we recognize that we are engaged in a serious struggle against poverty, disease, and ignorance that does not permit us the luxury of even occasional despair.

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Sincerely yours,

MSDR/Bob Saye/vm

MRS. ELIZABETH WALTON

P. O. BOX 615

HILO, HAWAII 96720

May 29, 1964

Dear Mrs. Roberts:

In the June 2 issue of LOOK magazine, there is an article by Look Senior Editor, Leonard Gross, entitled "The South Americans."

It is my sincere hope that President Johnson has read this, and if he has not done so, that you will bring it to his attention.

He is doing such a superb job as President and I feel is really, truly interested in improving things in every area, that I feel he undoubtedly will want to do what he can about South America.

I am just one of millions who are not at all pleased with the State Department's handling of South America and its problems.

Also - I am one of what I believe will be millions of Americans who are Republicans but who are going to vote for Mr. Johnson in the November election.

I write to you because I feel he would not get a letter addressed directly to him. So - if you can suggest that article, I thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Elizabeth Walton