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January 17, 1969

Dear Mr. President:

As I prepare to leave office, I want not only to say good-bye but also to thank you for our personal association, which has been a source of gratification to me. Through it, both of us were able to gain a better understanding of our nations' problems and aspirations.

As the enclosed photographs of our recent lunar flight suggest, this shrinking globe is rapidly becoming a single neighborhood. Even the most distant nations now live closer to each other than villages in a single nation did only a few centuries ago. Countries are learning that they must work together for common ends if any are to survive and prosper in the new world of interdependence which science and technology are helping to create.

We have made some progress to this end in recent years. New forms of international cooperation are evident in many areas. I believe that this progress will continue, and that one day an international community will come into being which is as solidly grounded in common interest and common institutions as national communities are today.

I know that both our countries will play a part in this great venture. Despite my retirement from the Presidency, my interest in Brazil's role and my friendship for its people will remain strong and undiminished, as will my dedication to the goals which both our countries share.

Sincerely,



His Excellency
Arthur da Costa e Silva
President of the Federative Republic of Brazil
Brasilia

LBJ/SWLewis:mm

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