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INTER-AMERICAN AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

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The Thirteenth Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, convoked in accordance with the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance, began its sessions on July 26 in the Pan American Union to deal with the conflict between El Salvador and Honduras. Prior to the meeting the Council of the Organization of American States acted provisionally as the Organ of the Consultation.

The foreign ministers and special delegates of those countries which are parties to the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance conducted intense negotiations leading to agreements which alleviated the situation. Pursuant to the resolutions approved on July 30, El Salvador removed its troops from Honduran territory, completing the withdrawal on August 3. OAS military observers and civilian personnel on the site verified orderly compliance with this measure. The OAS officials then received the cities which had been occupied by Salvadorean troops, noted the damage and the physical condition of each city, and subsequently turned them over to Honduran authorities.

Both governments promised to respect the rights of the nationals of one state residing in the other, and the OAS established thirty civilian observation posts as a contribution to effective compliance with this guarantee. Also, a subcommittee of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights is currently in the area. Both governments have also agreed to submit their differences and claims to the procedures for pacific settlement provided for in the American Treaty on Pacific Settlement. Other measures agreed to by the Meeting of Consultation are the taking of a census, assistance from other governments and international organizations, punishment of those responsible for crimes and violations of human rights, and others. The Inter-American Emergency Aid Fund is being used to cooperate in relief and rehabilitation measures.

The Meeting of Consultation delegated responsibility for insuring compliance with the resolutions adopted to a seven-member Committee. This Committee, headed by Ambassador Guillermo Sevilla Sacasa of Nicaragua, has been continuously represented in the area and has been

in constant contact with both governments. As a result of the Committee's activity, important progress has already been made in pacifying the region, principally with regard to exchange of prisoners, resumption of overland traffic, freeing of Hondurans interned in El Salvador and Salvadorians interned in Honduras, preparations for the census, and measures to put an end to hostile press and radio campaigns. The Committee has agreed to keep military and civilian observers in the area for some time.

JAMAICA JOINS THE OAS

With the deposit of its instrument of ratification of the Charter the Organization of American States, Jamaica formally entered the OAS. The number of member states is now twenty four.

CONFERENCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

The Council of the Organization of American States has set a new date for an Inter-American Conference on Human Rights, originally scheduled for September. In conformity with the Council's decision, the Conference will be held in San Jose, Costa Rica from November 7 to 22, 1969. The Conference will debate a draft inter-American convention on human rights currently under study by the OAS member governments.

MEETING OF CECLA

The Special Committee on Latin American Coordination met at the expert and ministerial level in Viña del Mar, Chile, from May 10 to 17. An important document, known as the "Consensus of Viña del Mar", was approved. It contains the position of the Latin American countries with regard to the problems of developing the region and the policies which they expect on the part of developed countries, particularly the United States. The document refers to the nature and content of Inter-American and international cooperation as well as proposals for operative measures. Among the latter are such topics as trade, transportation, finance, investment, social development technical cooperation, and scientific and technological development.

Two meetings, one of a special committee of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council to be held in Washington in October, and the other, of IA/ECOSOC at the ministerial level to be held in Caracas during December, will continue analyzing the problems of regional development in order to put into practice those principles contained in the "Consensus of Viña del Mar."

ICC and IA-ECOSOC CONCLUDE ANNUAL MEETINGS

The Inter-American Cultural Council and the Inter-American Economic and Social Council held their annual meetings at the expert and ministerial level, last June in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad. Both meetings were preceded by preparatory sessions of their respective permanent Committees, the Executive Committee of the Inter-American Cultural Council (CECIC) and the Inter-American Committee on the Alliance for Progress (CIAP). The councils examined the progress of their respective programs and established policies and guidelines for the future.

The councils also approved the 1969-70 budgets of the Special Fund of the Inter-American Cultural Council and of the Special Development Assistance Fund. Dr. Carlos Sanz de Santamaria was reelected as Chairman of the Inter-American Committee on the Alliance for Progress.

INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

The U. S. National Group in the Permanent Court of Arbitration has nominated Hardy C. Dillard of the United States, Constantin Stavropoulos of Greece, Eduardo Jimenez de Arechaga of Uruguay and Thanat Khoman of Thailand for election to judgeships in the International Court of Justice. Five new members of the Court will be elected by the United Nations during the current session of the General Assembly.

Other national groups have nominated other candidates among whom are: Herbert W. Briggs and Philip C. Jessup of the United States and Adroaldo Mesquita Da Costa of Brazil. Judge Jessup has announced that he is not a candidate for reelection.

LATIN AMERICAN PARLIAMENT

The Latin American Parliament held its Fourth Regular Assembly from August 4 through 7 in Bogota, Colombia. The meeting was attended by numerous congressmen from the member countries, observers from international organizations, and others. Dr. Ramiro Andrade, President of the Colombian House of Representatives, was appointed chairman of the Regular Assembly. The Assembly was preceded by a joint preparatory meeting of the Permanent Committee on Integration Policy and the Permanent Committee on Economic and Social Integration, held in Managua from May 15 to 17, 1969.

The Fourth Regular Assembly approved resolutions regarding civil rights, a condemnation of the Hickenlooper Amendment and the sugar

laws, a draft uniform law on negotiable instruments, and numerous other matters related to the political, economic, social, and cultural aspects of the Latin American integration process.

LAW OF TREATIES

The U. S. Conference on the Law of Treaties had adopted 32 more articles of a draft convention on the Law of Treaties and a Declaration on the Prohibition of the Threat or Use of Military, Economic or Political Coercion in Concluding a Treaty.

TREATY FOR PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

The Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America, known as the Treaty of Tlatelolco, entered into force with the ratification by Barbados. Twelve states have ratified the treaty: Mexico, El Salvador, the Dominican Republic, Uruguay, Honduras, Nicaragua, Ecuador, Bolivia, Peru, Paraguay, Barbados, and Haiti. A preliminary meeting was held in Mexico in June, for the purpose of establishing the agency which will administer the treaty. Interested parties met in Mexico again in September and named two commissions to make recommendations (1) in the political and legal areas and (2) on technical, administrative and budgetary matters.

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

A final draft of a proposed Patent Cooperation Treaty is now ready for submission to a conference of the member states of the Paris Union scheduled for Spring 1970. The proposed treaty has two main objectives: (1) to avoid wasted efforts where patents are sought for one invention in different countries, and (2) to assist in the grant of strong patents in those countries lacking facilities for proper search and examination. Strong patents are defined as those likely to withstand challenges in the courts. This development within the Paris Union is timely in view of similar interest on the subject of patents in Latin America.

BRITISH HONDURAS INDEPENDENCE

The British Honduras Minister of Internal Affairs has stated that his government will seek independence officially from Britain by the end of the year.

British Honduras, the last British territory on the American continent was granted internal self government in 1964.

BORDER DISPUTE SETTLED

A long standing border dispute between Bolivia and Paraguay was settled in July 1969 through the ruling of Argentine General Gonzalo Gomez; at issue was the location of Chovoreca hill. General Gomez was named arbitrator by the governments of Argentina, Brazil, Peru, Chile, Uruguay and the United States which mediated the conflict.

PENAL AND PRISON CONGRESS

The V Iberoamerican-Philippine Penal and Prison Congress met in Coruña, Spain in early September with representation from Spain, Venezuela, Bolivia, Ecuador, Portugal and the Philippines. The main aim of the Congress was to reach a consensus prior to the Fourth United Nations Congress on the subject of prevention of crime and treatment of criminals which is scheduled to take place in Japan in August 1970.

ALLIANCE FOR PROGRESS

The subcommittee on Inter-American Affairs of the House of Representatives of the United States (Dante S. Fascell, Chairman) has reviewed the performance of the Alliance for Progress. The following major conclusions were reached:

First, that in spite of nearly 8 years of fairly consistent and well-conceived effort, the peaceful, social and economic revolution envisioned in the Charter of Punta del Este is only beginning to take hold in Latin America;

Second, that the substantial U.S. assistance—\$8.3 billion in 7 years—channeled through the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, the United Nations development program, our bilateral aid programs and other instrumentalities, has thus far produced only modest visible development gains in Latin America; and

Third, that if the pace of progress in Latin America is to quicken in the next decade, producing results urgently desired by the people of that continent, a new strategy of development will have to be fashioned and implemented.

Specifically, the tempo of internal reform will need to be accelerated; new, more viable methods of inter-American cooperation will need to be devised; and the forms of external assistance, rather than the volume of aid, will need to change.

The subcommittee made the following specific recommendations:

1. Substantially reduce the many onerous, at times self-serving and counter-productive conditions attached to development assistance, including wholesale "tying" of aid to U.S. procurement;

2. Place increased emphasis on long-term technical assistance and support for education, agriculture, family planning, and the development of local institutions necessary to assure broader participation of the Latin American people in their developmental processes;

3. Promote the sharing and development of technology required to buttress Latin America's economic development efforts;

4. Insulate assistance aimed at long-term social, civic, and technological development from direct dependence on short-term political fluctuations;

5. Channel resources for capital infrastructure projects to the extent feasible through multinational consortia and appropriate international organizations;

6. Endeavor to establish mutually reinforcing relationships between development assistance and promotion of private investment to the end that both may better serve Latin America's basic development objectives;

7. In cooperation with American labor and industry, work out new approaches which would assist Latin America to advance the twin goals of diversification and increased trade;

8. Attempt to harmonize U.S. aid and trade policies toward Latin America so that they will not work at cross-purposes;

9. Devise imaginative new ways for engaging the broad spectrum of our society in the advancement of human progress in our hemisphere. The complexity of development tasks confronting Latin America provides both a challenge and an opportunity for our pluralistic society. We should shirk neither.

10. Undertake a thorough review of our military assistance programs in the Western Hemisphere.