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INTRODUCTION OF FELIPE HERRERA AT

original

OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL LUNCHEON

FEBRUARY 22, 1971, WASHINGTON, D. C.

^{Felipe}
PRESIDENT HERRERA, MR. GRANT, ^{President Mrs Kathryn Christopherson} ~~LADIES~~ AND

GENTLEMEN. ^L FOR SOME ONE RETURNING TO WASHINGTON

AFTER AN ABSENCE OF TWO YEARS, IT IS A GREAT

PLEASURE FOR ME TO SEE SO MANY FRIENDS GATHERED

HERE TO BID FAREWELL TO FELIPE HERRERA. ^L I AM

PARTICULARLY PLEASED THAT WE ARE MEETING AT THE

OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL. I'VE BEEN HEARING

A LOT ABOUT IT. UNDER THE STRONG LEADERSHIP OF

JIM GRANT, THE ODC HAS ALREADY BECOME AN IMPORTANT

CENTER FOR FOREIGN POLICY EDUCATION AND DISCUSSION

IN WASHINGTON.

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L MR. GRANT, I KNOW YOU MUST FEEL SOMETIMES LIKE
THAT MAN WHO HAD TO PUSH A ROCK UP THE HILL
THROUGHOUT ETERNITY, ONLY TO HAVE IT ROLL BACK
DOWN. L BUT I WANT TO ASSURE YOU THAT NOW THERE ARE
GOING TO BE SOME OTHERS OF US RIGHT THERE WITH
YOU, PUSHING ALL THE WAY TO THE TOP.

L PRESIDENT HERRERA, YOUR SUPPORT -- WITH THAT
OF THE IDB -- HAS BEEN AN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN
ALSO MAKING THE ODC A CENTER FOR PEOPLE IN
WASHINGTON WITH A KEEN INTEREST IN U.S.-LATIN
AMERICAN RELATIONS. L AND FROM MY COLLEAGUES IN THE
SENATE, I HAVE HEARD A GREAT DEAL ABOUT ONE PROJECT
IN THIS AREA IN WHICH THE ODC HAS BEEN INVOLVED --
THE ATLANTIC CONFERENCE LAST NOVEMBER, WHICH BROUGHT
TOGETHER A DISTINGUISHED GROUP OF LATIN AMERICANS,
EUROPEANS AND NORTH AMERICANS.

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I HOPE THAT WE'LL FIND OURSELVES TOGETHER
AT THE NEXT ATLANTIC CONFERENCE, AND HELP TO MAKE
THAT A REGULAR FORUM FOR TALKING ABOUT MATTERS OF
CONCERN TO ALL OF US IN THE ATLANTIC WORLD.

L Our Friends
~~LADIES AND GENTLEMEN~~, FELIPE HERRERA IS JUST
FINISHING ELEVEN YEARS AS THE HEAD OF ONE OF THE
OUTSTANDING DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTIONS IN THE WORLD,
THE INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK. *L* FOR THOSE OF
US WHO HAVE OBSERVED THE OPERATION OF THIS BANK
DURING THE PAST DECADE THERE IS NO DOUBT WHERE THE
CREDIT LIES -- WITH THE MAN WHOM WE HONOR HERE
TODAY. *L* AGAINST MORE SKEPTICISM THAN MANY WOULD
CARE TO REMEMBER, HE LAUNCHED THIS NEW INSTITUTION
IN 1960 AND IMMEDIATELY BEGAN TO INVOLVE THE BANK
IN PROJECTS WHICH CONVENTIONAL BANKERS AND

DEVELOPMENT EXPERTS REGARDED AS UNSOUND OR
HERETICAL. ^h WAY BACK IN 1960, IT WAS REQUIRED
BEHAVIOR FOR BANKERS TO INVEST ONLY IN "BANKABLE
PROJECTS" WITH A GUARANTEED RETURN, BUT FELIPE
HERRERA PLUNGED ANYWAY INTO THE RISKY BUT ESSENTIAL
FIELDS OF AGRICULTURE AND EDUCATION -- AND THAT
WAS A WHOLE DECADE BEFORE MORE CAUTIONS
INSTITUTIONS WERE PREPARED TO RISK THE UNCERTAINTIES
OF EFFORTS IN THESE AREAS. ^L WITH HIS WILLINGNESS
TO INVEST IN SOCIAL PROJECTS, THE IDB PROVIDED
LEADERSHIP FOR THE HEMISPHERE IN ADDRESSING NOT
ONLY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND RAPID GROWTH, BUT
ALSO THE FAIRER DISTRIBUTION OF ECONOMIC AND
SOCIAL BENEFITS WITHIN EACH COUNTRY.

THE BANK'S PROGRAMS, WHOSE FORMATIVE YEARS
PARALLELED THE START OF THE ALLIANCE FOR PROGRESS,
REFLECTED PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S APT COMMENT: "IF
WE CANNOT HELP THE MANY WHO ARE POOR, WE CANNOT
SAVE THE FEW WHO ARE RICH."

FELIPE HERRERA WAS AMONG THE FIRST STATESMEN
OF THIS HEMISPHERE TO RECOGNIZE THE NEED FOR
PROMOTING THE ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL INTEGRATION
OF LATIN AMERICA. THE BANK HAS CONSISTENTLY
FOSTERED THIS THROUGH ITS LENDING POLICIES, AS IT
DID IN SUPPORTING THE TRAINING OF PEOPLE AT FOREIGN
POLICY INSTITUTES, IN SUPPORTING INDUSTRIES WHICH
CUT ACROSS NATIONAL BOUNDARY LINES, AND IN
SUPPORTING TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION
NETWORKS THAT ARE ESSENTIAL TO LINK TOGETHER THE
COUNTRIES OF LATIN AMERICA @

FELIPE HERRERA TOOK THE LEAD IN SUPPORTING
CENTERS OF RESEARCH AND STUDY IN THE DEVELOPED
WORLD, SUCH AS THE ODC, THE ATLANTIC INSTITUTE IN
PARIS, AND SUCH INSTITUTES AS THE LATIN AMERICAN
SCHOOL OF POLITICAL SCIENCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
IN SANTIAGO. h ONCE AGAIN HE PROJECTED THE BANK INTO
A BROADER ROLE BEYOND THE NARROW CONFINES OF
ECONOMICS. h HERE AGAIN HE MADE A SIGNAL CONTRIBUTION
IN SUPPORTING PEOPLE IN THE UNITED STATES, CANADA
AND EUROPE WHO SEEK TO EDUCATE PUBLIC OPINION ABOUT
THE PROBLEMS OF LATIN AMERICA.

h FELIPE HERRERA HAS LONG BELIEVED THAT LATIN
AMERICA MUST BE CONSIDERED A PART OF THE WESTERN
WORLD, A CONTINENT WHOSE DESTINY IS INEXTRICABLY
LINKED TO THAT OF NORTH AMERICA AND EUROPE.

UNDER HIS LEADERSHIP THE BANK HAS FLOATED SEVERAL LOANS IN EUROPEAN CAPITAL MARKETS AND DEVELOPED TRADE PROMOTING PROGRAMS WITH THE COMMON MARKET, AS WELL AS NORTH AMERICA.

IN THIS WAY HE SHARES THE VIEW TO WHICH I HAVE LONG SUBSCRIBED -- THAT LATIN AMERICA IS NOT A LAND UNTO ITSELF, NOR IS ITS DESTINY EXCLUSIVELY LINKED TO THE "THIRD WORLD". LIT IS A GREAT AND GROWING CONTINENT WITH FIRM ROOTS IN WESTERN SOCIETY AND CULTURE.

L A DECADE IS OVER SINCE THE FOUNDING OF THE INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK. LIT WAS TO BE A TIME OF FOUNDATION BUILDING, BUT NO ONE EXPECTED THAT THE ROOF WOULD BE IN PLACE. NOW THROUGH THE ENERGIES OF ITS PRESIDENT THE BANK CAN LOOK FORWARD TO MANY FRUITFUL YEARS AHEAD.

Latin Aid Boosted by IADB

By Marilyn Berger

Washington Post Staff Writer

The Inter-American Development Bank, in a year-end review, reported that it had approved \$644 million in loans for Latin America's economic and social development during 1970, an increase of \$13 million over the previous record year.

Disbursements totalled \$428 million in 1970 compared with \$392 million in 1969. The outgoing president of the bank, Felipe Herrera of Chile, also noted that repayments totalled \$107 million, compared with \$81 million in 1969 and borrowings of \$187 million, up \$10 million over the previous year.

Herrera, who has headed the bank since his election in 1960, resigned to return to Santiago where he plans to teach at the University of Chile. His third term was to expire in 1974. Last November the Board of Governors elected former Mexican finance minister Antonio Ortiz Mena to the presidency of the bank.

Over the past 10 years the bank has contributed a little over \$4 billion in development loans, Herrera reported. This input, he said, resulted in \$12 billion worth of development projects when added to contributions from the Latin American countries themselves.

Herrera said that during the

last year the bank had taken steps to expand its activities. Resolutions were approved to increase the total resources of the bank by \$3.5 billion. The resolutions also provide for an increase in both hard and soft loans.

During 1970, the bank, Herrera noted, began administering a \$2 million Norwegian loan to Latin America as well as funds being provided by Argentina for the development of three of its neighboring countries—Bolivia, Paraguay and Uruguay. Canada was reported to have increased its resources being channelled toward Latin America from \$50 million to \$60 million.

Herrera said that in recent



FELIPE HERRERA

years the bank has emphasized agricultural, transportation and electric power development. Much of the lending, he said, is designed to contribute to national, regional and continental integration of Latin America. 431

THERE IS THE HOPE OF ALL OF US HERE THAT THE BANK WILL CONTINUE IN THE PACE-MAKING TRADITION OF FELIPE HERRERA. INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS THE INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK ARE THE KEY TO THE WHOLE QUESTION OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND WORLD PEACE. WE LOOK TO THEM AND GIVE THEM OUR UNCEASING SUPPORT FOR THE ENORMOUS TASK WHICH LIES BEFORE US.

AS FELIPE HERRERA RETURNS TO CHILE TO ASSUME A PROFESSORSHIP IN THE UNIVERSITY, HIS MANY FRIENDS HERE LOOK FORWARD TO THE ROLE HE WILL PLAY IN THE PUBLIC LIFE OF HIS OWN COUNTRY. TODAY, IN ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD, THERE IS A GREAT DEAL OF INTEREST IN CHILE. MANY PEOPLE HERE ARE BOTH HOPEFUL AND CONCERNED ABOUT WHAT MAY HAPPEN IN THAT BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY.

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BUT ALL OF US ARE A LITTLE MORE HOPEFUL, A LITTLE
LESS SKEPTICAL ABOUT CHILE'S FUTURE AND ITS
RELATIONS WITH THE WESTERN WORLD BECAUSE THE
MAN WE HONOR HERE TODAY WILL BE BACK HOME,
PROVIDING LEADERSHIP FOR HIS PEOPLE, FOR HIS
COUNTRY AND FOR THE HEMISPHERE.

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