

PRESIDENT DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER'S TRIP TO SOUTH AMERICA, FEBRUARY 23– MARCH 7, 1960

68. Memorandum of a Conversation, White House, Washington, December 3, 1959¹

SUBJECT

National Advisory Committee on Inter-American Affairs

PARTICIPANTS

The President

Secretary of State

Committee Members: Amb. Walter J. Donnelly, Dr. Milton S. Eisenhower, Mr. G.

Kenneth Holland, Mr. O. A. Knight, Mr. Charles A. Meyer, Mr. Dana G. Munro,

Assistant Secretary of State Rubottom

Mr. Thomas Stephens, President's Appointment Secretary

The President greeted the Members of the National Advisory Committee on Inter-American Affairs as did the Secretary who had been in consultation with the President prior to the group's arrival. The President said that he was appreciative of their willingness to serve and delighted to have the Committee begin its functions.² He felt that they could make a real contribution by drawing on their knowledge and firsthand experience in the area. The very existence of the Committee was an additional indication of the importance which the United States gives to relations with its southern neighbors.

The President said that he would be taking off on a very long journey within a few hours,³ the sole objective of which was to im-

¹ Source: Eisenhower Library, Whitman File, Eisenhower Diaries. Confidential. Drafted by Rubottom.

² President Eisenhower established the National Advisory Committee on Inter-American Affairs on November 14, 1959, following the recommendations made by Milton Eisenhower in his December 27, 1958, report upon the conclusion of his trip to Latin America. See Document 67. For text of the Department of State's announcement, see Department of State *Bulletin*, December 7, 1959, p. 823. According to a White House press release dated December 3, the purpose of the Committee was to consider U.S. current and long-range problems with Latin America and provide the Secretary of State with recommendations for solving these problems. For text of the White House announcement, see *ibid.*, December 21, 1959, p. 905.

³ President Eisenhower left Washington on the evening of December 3 on a trip to Italy, Turkey, Pakistan, Afghanistan, India, Iran, Greece, Tunisia, France, Spain, and Morocco. He returned to Washington on December 22.

press all those with whom he would be speaking, and through them others, that the United States wants peace—peace with justice and freedom. He had been distressed that so many people in the world, including some of our friends, seemed to have doubts as to our real intentions. He was prepared to spend his remaining thirteen months in office to try to remove these doubts.

Even though his trip obviously was designed to talk to leaders in those countries which are right on the perimeter of the Communist world, and intended to underline our support of free people everywhere, he was concerned that some of our Latin American friends were resentful of the fact that he had not made a trip to their countries. He recalled his meeting in Panama in 1956 with the other American Presidents,⁴ and the considerable benefit derived from that. Dr. Eisenhower said that he was sure the Members of the Committee would be delighted if the President could find the time to make a trip to Latin America during the next year.

The President said that he would like very much to do this, but there was a scheduling problem. The Secretary commented that he also hoped that the President would be able to go to Latin America, but had felt that there might be a more propitious moment for planning a trip after the President's return from his presently scheduled journey.

The President expressed his regret that there seemed to be a conflict in dates between the summit meeting in Europe⁵ and the inauguration of Brasilia, April 21. He alluded to the possibility of postponing the summit meeting to around May 1 to permit him to go to Brasilia, but the Secretary said that the summit participants had indicated their agreement to the late April date. The President then mentioned the possibility of visiting Buenos Aires to repay the call made by President Frondizi on him earlier this year,⁶ wondering whether Frondizi might be able to invite all of the Chiefs of State to his capital for a day or two of talks following which they could all go to Brasilia. This idea was not pursued.

Mr. Rubottom said that if it were not possible for the President to visit President Kubitschek prior to or during the inauguration of Brasilia, perhaps he could plan a quick trip to Brazil, Uruguay, Argentina and Chile. This could be done in six or seven days and would have symbolic impact throughout the area. The President said that he

⁴ Documentation concerning President Eisenhower's trip to the meeting of the American Presidents in Panama, July 21–22, 1956, is printed in *Foreign Relations*, 1955–1957, vol. vi, pp. 437 ff.

⁵ Reference is to the Heads of Government and Chiefs of State Meeting in Paris, May 12–21, 1960.

⁶ Regarding President Frondizi's visit to Washington, January 20–23, 1959, see Documents 166 ff.

would have no objection to such a plan provided it did not evoke an adverse reaction in those countries not visited. Obviously he would be unable to make a tour of every country in Latin America. Mr. Rubottom pointed out that the Colombian President⁷ had been invited to come to the United States in early April⁸ and expressed the opinion that a quick trip to the southern tier countries could be planned with beneficial rather than harmful effects in the other countries.

The President told the group that he would be willing to consider a short trip of six or seven days to Brazil, Uruguay, Argentina and Chile, possibly around the first of February. The Secretary indicated that he would look into this prospect and make a recommendation to the President.

The Committee Members then took leave of the President, wishing him well on his journey to begin that night.

⁷ Alberto Lleras Camargo.

⁸ Regarding President Lleras' visit to Washington, April 4-17, 1960, see Document 303.

69. Message From the Secretary of State to the President, at New Delhi¹

Washington, December 9, 1959.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: I have reviewed possible dates for six to seven day South American trip and feel that the first week in February is the most suitable. We have also canvassed possible repercussions from such a trip being confined to four countries only and are convinced that while there will be inevitable disappointment in other countries at your inability to visit them, nevertheless there would be general understanding of your confining your trip to Brazil, Argentina, Chile and Uruguay.

If you approve of this time schedule, we will begin to sound out the countries concerned as to suitability of these dates for your visit.

¹ Source: Department of State, Central Files, 711.11-EI/12-959. Secret. Transmitted to New Delhi in Tomur 13, which is the source text. Tomur 13 was drafted by Herter; cleared with Rubottom, John A. Calhoun, and G. Frederick Reinhardt, and initialed by Herter.

I sincerely hope that you have not found your present trip too severe a physical strain. The unanimous opinion here is that it has been an extraordinary success to date and of inestimable value to the United States. We are all praying for its continued success.

Best,

Chris²

² Tomur 13 bears this typed signature.

70. Memorandum of a Conversation Between the President and the Acting Secretary of State, White House, Washington, December 23, 1959¹

I spoke to the President regarding plans for his trip to South America. I pointed out that in view of the many rumors regarding this subject it would be helpful if we could get the matter definitely decided one way or the other in the relatively near future. The President said that he wanted to be sure that any visit to South America would achieve the purpose of increasing cooperation from the area and would not cause disappointment or resentment in the countries which he would not visit.

I said that we had in mind a visit to Brazil, Uruguay, Argentina and Chile, and the only country which I could imagine might feel left out would be Peru. The President said as far as his personal likes were concerned, he would hope it would be possible to omit Uruguay and include Peru. The President then inquired regarding Colombia and Paraguay. I pointed out that in the case of Colombia, the President of Colombia would be coming shortly thereafter to the United States and, in any event, the visit to Bogota would be difficult because of its high altitude. The President had not been aware of the altitude at Bogota and agreed that this would make it out of the question. Regarding Paraguay, I pointed out the problem posed by the dictatorial regime. The President recognized that this would probably make a visit inadvisable at this time, but commented that he had been struck in Asia by the growing feeling that a benevolent form of dictatorship is not a bad form of government for newly-developing countries that were not prepared for full democracy.

¹ Source: Department of State, Central Files, 711.11-EI/12-2359. Confidential. Drafted by Dillon.

The President then said that if he were to make such a trip, he would prefer that it take place sometime between the 1st and the 20th of March, and that it be limited to a week or eight days. I told the President that we would restudy the question of Peru and Uruguay, and would put together a definite proposal for an itinerary for his consideration sometime next week.

CDD

71. Memorandum From the Secretary of State to the President¹

Washington, December 29, 1959.

SUBJECT

Your Proposed Visit to South America

Following your highly successful trip to Asia and Europe, it would be desirable for you to make a brief tour of about ten days of certain South American countries. Because of its prominent role in inter-American affairs and long tradition of close friendly cooperation with the United States, Brazil should be included in such a visit. Uruguay would also be particularly suitable because of its unique record of democratic stability, its devotion to free world interests and its long tradition of friendship with the United States. Chile should also be given recognition. This country has been recognized as one of the political and cultural leaders of South America. The present administration is committed to a democratic free enterprise system and has planted itself firmly in the camp of the West. It should be noted that Chile and Brazil were the only South American countries not visited by Vice President Nixon during his tour of South America. Finally Argentina should be included on your itinerary because of its traditional prominence in hemisphere affairs and to provide that country with the encouragement it deserves for carrying out an economic stabilization program against formidable difficulties. Argentine President Frondizi visited the United States as your guest in January 1959 and your proposed trip would offer an excellent opportunity to reciprocate.

¹ Source: Department of State, Central Files, 711.11-EI/12-2959. Secret. Drafted by Melville E. Osborne.

Accordingly, I recommend that you make a tour of these key South American countries. A tentative suggested schedule is enclosed.²

If you approve, the various Governments concerned will be consulted to determine whether the dates proposed would be acceptable.

Christian A. Herter³

² Not attached to the source text. The schedule is, however, enclosed with the copy of this memorandum in the Eisenhower Library, Whitman File, Dulles–Herter Series.

³ Printed from a copy that bears this stamped signature.

72. Memorandum of a Conference With the President, Augusta, Georgia, December 29, 1959, 10:15 a.m.¹

OTHERS PRESENT

Secretary Herter
Secretary Dillon
General Goodpaster

Mr. Herter commented that it is remarkable that the President has experienced no physical letdown after his recent trip. The President said he is feeling fine and is not tired. He reiterated earlier comments that we must get into the State of the Union message something making clear that the wealthy nations must exert great effort to help the less developed nations to advance.²

Mr. Dillon brought up questions concerning the trip to South America which the President is considering making. The President had asked whether there would be any seriously adverse reactions to his going to some countries and not to others. Mr. Dillon said the evaluation in the State Department is that some of the countries skipped will not be happy, but there will be no adverse reactions so serious that we would have to take account of them. Others of the countries skipped will be pleased at this recognition of South America even though they were not visited. The President asked if all American Presidents were likely to go to the dedication of the Brasilia. If so, he thought perhaps Frondizi could get them all together for a talk

¹ Source: Eisenhower Library, Whitman File, Eisenhower Diaries. Secret. Drafted by Goodpaster on December 31.

² President Eisenhower delivered his State of the Union Message on January 7, 1960; for text, see *Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1960–61*, p. 3.

before going up to Brazil. Mr. Dillon said that no one else wants to have an overall meeting of this kind. The practical problems and enmities between the various Chiefs of State are too great.

The President said that every one of these countries has a vote in the UN. He did not think it would be worthwhile to make four of the countries happy if we lose the support of the other seventeen. Mr. Dillon and Mr. Herter thought that the four countries the President should visit should be, in order, Brazil, Uruguay, Chile and Argentina. Mr. Herter raised the idea of the President taking with him the Advisory Committee on Latin America which he recently appointed. The President thought this was an excellent idea and said the Committee could stay behind and visit some of the other countries. He would leave a plane with them for this purpose. He asked Mr. Herter to see if they could be made available for two weeks.

The President also asked Mr. Herter to get in the Ambassadors from the other South American countries and ask them what the reaction of their country would be if he went to four countries, taking the Committee with him, with the Committee then visiting other countries.

Mr. Dillon thought the trip might take ten days in all. The President thought there would be advantage in spending the night in Puerto Rico both ways. He could plan to take Mrs. Eisenhower on that basis. He said he would like to use helicopters at least one way between the airport and the city at each stop.

The President said he would like to know what ceremonies are foreseen, what length of stay in each place, what speeches, meetings, etc. After further discussion he said he was inclined to think that he had better go ahead and undertake the trip.

[Here follows discussion of unrelated subjects.]

G
Brigadier General, USA

73. Editorial Note

On January 6, 1960, the White House announced that President Eisenhower, accompanied by Mrs. Eisenhower, intended to visit Brazil, February 23-26; Argentina, February 26-29; Chile, February 29-March 2; and Uruguay, March 2-3.

The President's stated purpose was to fulfill his long-held desire to travel to South America, to meet the people, and to renew friendships with the leaders of nations allied with the United States in the Organization of American States and to work further with them to develop the inter-American system as an example of nations living in peaceful cooperation.

For text of the White House statement, see Department of State *Bulletin*, January 25, 1960, page 119.

74. **Instruction From the Department of State to All Diplomatic Posts in Latin America**¹

CA-6306

Washington, February 4, 1960.

SUBJECT

Policy Information Statement (ARA-305); President's Trip to Latin America, February–March, 1960

The enclosed Policy Information Statement is forwarded to the Post for use as outlined in Foreign Service Circular No. 49, November 18, 1953² and is also being transmitted to USIA and other interested agencies in Washington for their information and guidance. You are requested to make it available to appropriate officers of USIS and other interested U.S. agencies assigned to your Post.

Instructions regarding USIS treatment of this subject will be issued, as required, by USIA Washington.

Herter

[Enclosure]

[Here follow an outline of the President's itinerary and a listing of those individuals accompanying him on his trip.]

¹ Source: Department of State, Conference Files: Lot 64 D 559, CF 1607. Confidential. Drafted by James A. McNamara of the Bureau of Inter-American Affairs and approved by Philip H. Burris. Also sent to Guayaquil, Maracaibo, Porto Alegre, Puerto La Cruz, Recife, Salvador, São Paulo, and Munich.

² In Foreign Service Circular No. 49, November 18, 1953, the Department of State defined its substantive relationships with the U.S. Information Agency and distributed this information to all Foreign Service posts. A copy of this circular is filed in the Records Management and Research Division of the Bureau of Personnel's Office of Management.

II. United States Policy and Objectives

Begin UNCLASSIFIED

The purpose of the trip was publicly expressed in the White House press release of January 6³ which stated that the President is "partially fulfilling his long-held desire personally to travel in South America, to meet the people and to renew friendships with the leaders of the nations so closely allied with the United States in the Organization of American States." The release further stated that the President hopes that the visit will serve two purposes: "Publicly reflect his deep interest in all the countries of the New World, and encourage further development of the inter-American system, not only as a means of meeting the aspirations of the peoples of the Americas but also as a further example of the way all peoples may live in peaceful co-operation."

End UNCLASSIFIED

Begin CONFIDENTIAL

There has been some criticism in this country and in Latin America that the United States has given a higher priority to other parts of the world and has paid too little attention to the needs and desires of its close neighbors. The forthcoming trip should do much to dispel that belief and to provide a dramatic stimulus to establish closer United States relations with the countries to be visited and other countries of Latin America.

The United States objectives and purposes in each of the four countries follows:

Brazil

Because of its great size, strategic location, prominent role in inter-American affairs and long tradition of close co-operation with the United States, and the fact that relations with Brazil cooled in 1959, the visit to Brazil has special significance. President Kubitschek visited the United States as President-elect⁴ and also met President Eisenhower in 1956 at the meeting of American Chiefs of State at Panama. United States relations with Brazil suffered a setback in mid-1959, due largely to Brazilian insistence upon large-scale United States balance of payments assistance to Brazil on her terms, a demand to which we could not accede. However, they have improved in recent months. Brazil believes that the United States has demonstrated only a lukewarm interest in the initiative sponsored by President Kubitschek,

³ See the editorial note, *supra*.

⁴ President Kubitschek visited the United States as Brazil's President-elect, January 4-10, 1955.

called Operation Pan America,⁵ for a multilateral approach to the economic development of Latin America. The Government of Brazil continues in the belief that Brazil will soon become a world power and ought to be consulted by the United States in important United States foreign policy matters not directly related to United States-Brazilian relations. A Presidential visit to Brazil, with evidence of special regard for Brazil's economic and political importance in the Americas, will provide a needed psychological impulse to improvement in United States-Brazilian relations.

Argentina

The United States Government and private United States banks are assisting in the economic stabilization program which the present democratic Argentine Government is carrying on against formidable difficulties, and in the success of which the United States Government has a distinct policy interest. A visit by President Eisenhower may increase the prestige of the Argentine Government and thus its ability to carry on this program. Moreover, the President of Argentina, Arturo Frondizi, came to the United States on a State Visit in early 1959 and hence President Eisenhower's trip is in the nature of a return courtesy. The visit to Argentina is also designed to point up the present warmth of Argentine-United States relations, as contrasted with the often strained and even hostile relations which existed during the Peron regime.⁶

Chile

Chile has long been regarded as one of the political and cultural leaders of South America. Our relations with Chile are friendly and there exist few outstanding important differences. The Alessandri Administration is committed to a democratic, free enterprise system and has placed itself firmly on the side of the West. Moreover, based on a proposal by President Alessandri, the Chilean Government is actively promoting a meeting of Latin American countries most affected to consider means of limiting arms expenditures to reasonable levels consistent with the needs of national defense and hemispheric security.

Uruguay

Because of its unique record of democratic stability, its long tradition of friendship with the United States and with its neighbors, and its devotion to Free World interests, Uruguay—one of the smaller

⁵ See Documents 109 ff.

⁶ General Juan Domingo Perón ruled Argentina from June 4, 1946, until September 19, 1955.

countries of South America—is particularly suitable for a Presidential visit. Furthermore, the present Government of Uruguay, the first elected by the Nationalist Party in almost 100 years, has consistently sought the closest possible co-operation with the United States, reversing a trend toward coolness displayed by the previous Government. At the request of the Uruguayan Government, that country was placed at the end of the itinerary, since under the collegial executive a new President, Benito Nardone, will take office on March 1.

III. Special Considerations for Guidance of U.S. Agencies and Officials

1. Although the President wishes that time would permit a visit to all of the countries in the area, he has necessarily had to limit his visits to a few contiguous countries in South America. While there are additional reasons for exclusion of certain countries from his itinerary, the selection of only four countries is based primarily on the fact that the fundamental duties and responsibilities of the American Presidency cannot be delegated to permit long absences.

2. It is expected that the President's trip will involve no negotiations. While the President will be glad to confer with the leaders of the countries visited on subjects of mutual concern, he does not intend to negotiate solutions to problems. Moreover, while leaders of the countries visited may raise the question of additional loans or other assistance from the United States, the President must not be expected to make new commitments nor alter present United States policy regarding area problems while on this trip.

3. The impact of the trip will be enhanced if emphasis is placed on the importance which the United States attaches to the inter-American system, the traditionally close relations among the twenty-one American Republics, the growing importance of the Latin American area and its individual nations, and the interest which the United States has in assisting the peoples of Latin America to meet their aspirations for higher living standards, increased economic development, and democratic, representative governments.

4. The fact that the President has asked all of the members of the National Advisory Committee for Inter-American Affairs to accompany him is indicative of the importance both of the Committee and of the trip.

5. While the trip is to be treated as part of the President's larger international mission of seeking direct contact and understanding with other peoples of the world, and the Latin American trip is linked with the other visits toward the achievement, in the President's words, of "peace and friendship in freedom", specific public comparisons of the President's Latin America trip with the President's previous trip to the eleven countries of Europe, Africa, the Middle East and South Asia should be avoided.

End CONFIDENTIAL

[Here follows a statement outlining the purpose of the President's trip.]

75. Memorandum of a Conference With the President, White House, Washington, February 8, 1960¹

OTHERS PRESENT

Secretary Herter
General Goodpaster

[Here follows discussion of unrelated subjects.]

The President next referred to his South American trip. He said he knew it would be a good will trip, but he wanted to know what he should plan to talk about as regards substantive things. Mr. Herter said one problem is that Brazil and Argentina have been following diametrically opposed economic schemes. Brazil has not met the IMF requirements, whereas Argentina has. There are two great things in Brazil—one is Brasilia into which Kubitschek has put a great deal of money, and the second is Operation Pan America, which is his pet proposal. The President recalled that Ayub² had told him that he was spending much less money on Rawalpindi than Kubitschek is spending on Brasilia; in fact, he is limiting the expenditures to \$12 million a year. The city will build slowly so that Pakistan does not wreck itself. Mr. Herter cited as indicative of Brazil's problem a conversation he had had [1 line of source text not declassified]. They have a range with something over 100,000 head of cattle on it occupying an area larger than the state of Georgia. Such diversity between the rich and the poor creates terrible tensions.

[Here follows discussion of atomic weapons and U.S. disarmament policy.]

G
Brigadier General, USA

¹ Source: Eisenhower Library, Whitman File, Eisenhower Diaries. Secret. Drafted by Goodpaster on February 12.

² General Mohammed Ayub Khan, President of Pakistan.

76. Editorial Note

President Dwight D. Eisenhower, accompanied by Secretary Christian A. Herter; the six public members of the National Advisory Committee for Inter-American Affairs (Ambassador Walter J. Donnelly, Dr. Milton S. Eisenhower, G. Kenneth Holland, O. A. Knight, Charles A. Meyer, and Dana G. Munro); Robert Cutler and members of the President's and the Secretary of State's staffs, left Washington on February 22. They visited Brazil, Argentina, Chile, and Uruguay, before returning to Washington on March 7.

Documentation on the bilateral aspects of the President's trip is printed in the compilations on United States relations with Brazil, Argentina, Chile, and Uruguay. Additional documentation is in Department of State, Central File 711.11-EI as well as in the following Department of State lot files: Rubottom Files: Lot 61 D 279; ARA Special Assistant's Files: Lot 62 D 24; Rubottom-Mann Files: Lot 62 D 418; Secretary's Memoranda of Conversation: Lot 64 D 199; and Conference Files: Lot 64 D 559, CF 1607 and CF 1609. At the Eisenhower Library, material on the trip is in the Herter Papers and in the Whitman File, Eisenhower Diaries, and Dulles-Herter Series.

For President Eisenhower's account of his trip to South America, see Dwight D. Eisenhower, *The White House Years: Waging Peace, 1956-1961* (Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday & Co., 1965), pages 525-533.

77. Memorandum From the Secretary of State to the President¹

Washington, March 12, 1960.

SUBJECT

Latin American Press Comment on Your Tour

Latin American press coverage on your tour of South America emphasized the benefit to hemisphere relations through first-hand knowledge of the area gained by you as Chief Executive of the United States.

¹ Source: Eisenhower Library, Whitman File, Dulles-Herter Series. The source text bears the President's initials.

Other frequent themes stressed your personal success, as reflected in terms such as "apostle of peace" and "dedication to the reaffirmation of peace." Front page treatment was heavy in most countries, even though not included in your itinerary.

Editorial treatment, particularly in the four countries visited, viewed your tour as a demonstration of renewed interest in Latin America by the United States and greater importance placed by the United States in its relations with the area.

Stories distributed by Prensa Latina, the Cuban government-controlled wire service, were uniformly negative in emphasizing events of minor importance that suited their line. Some newspapers took editorial issue with this derogatory treatment of your trip.

Comment of government officials was laudatory although a few qualified their remarks with the proviso that the high hopes raised should be followed by action to solve the many problems facing Latin America.

Christian A. Herter

78. Memorandum From the Director of the Executive Secretariat (Calhoun) to the President's Staff Secretary (Goodpaster)¹

Washington, April 28, 1960.

SUBJECT

Follow-up Actions from the President's Good Will Trip to South America

You approved on March 30 the list of follow-up actions arising from the President's trip which I sent you with my memorandum of March 22.²

¹ Source: Department of State, Central Files, 711.11-EI/4-2860. Secret. Drafted by Arthur R. Day of the Executive Secretariat's Reports and Operations Staff on April 27.

² Not printed. (*Ibid.*, 711.11-EI/3-2260)

The enclosed report describes the status to date and future actions contemplated with respect to these follow-up items.³

John A. Calhoun⁴

[Enclosure]

STATUS REPORT ON FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS—THE PRESIDENT

A. Puerto Rico

1. *Operation Big Slam*⁵

State Department action completed, as reported in my memorandum of March 22, 1960.

2. *Puerto Rican Taxes*⁶

State Department action completed, as reported in my memorandum of March 22, 1960.

B. Brazil

1. *Meeting of American Presidents*

The Department sees no advantage to holding a meeting of Presidents prior to the Eleventh Inter-American Conference, now scheduled to be held at Quito, Ecuador, March 1, 1961. Furthermore, it is possible that a meeting of the Committee of 21 will be held in August, 1960, and many countries of the hemisphere believe that the Quito Conference is the appropriate body to give impetus to the results of that meeting. Ecuador in particular would very likely oppose an intervening meeting of Presidents as detracting from the importance of the Quito Conference.

³ According to a handwritten notation on the source text, Goodpaster on May 4 informed officials of the Department of State that he approved the contents of the enclosed report.

In the copy sent to the White House, Goodpaster made the following handwritten notation in the margin next to this paragraph: "5 May 60. Told State this closes it out. G. Advised President. G." (Eisenhower Library, Whitman File, Miscellaneous Material)

⁴ Printed from a copy that bears this stamped signature.

⁵ According to a March 22 memorandum from Calhoun to Goodpaster, Operation Big Slam was an airborne military exercise that occurred in Puerto Rico during the latter part of March 1960. (Department of State, Central Files, 711.11-EI/3-2260)

⁶ According to Calhoun's March 22 memorandum, Under Secretary Dillon had discussed the question of Puerto Rican taxes with Governor Muñoz-Marín and had informed him that legislation had been introduced in the House of Representatives to correct the technical aspects of the Puerto Rican tax problem. (*Ibid.*)

The Department does not believe that a commitment exists to reply to President Kubitschek on this point, and recommends that the matter be allowed to rest unless the Brazilians raise it again. No further report to you is contemplated.⁷

2. *Meetings of Committees of Nine and Twenty-one* (My memorandum to you of April 6, 1960)⁸

The Committee of 9 met in an organizing session on April 18, at the instance of the Brazilian representative and with US agreement, to prepare for further working meetings. Brazil proposed as an agenda for those meetings the five points of the Brazilian Aide-Mémoire II. It is expected that the Committee will meet again in early June to decide on an agenda and to begin working sessions. Eventually, possibly in August, it is thought that a meeting of the Committee of Twenty-one will be held to consider the results of these working sessions.

The train of events desired by President Kubitschek has thus been initiated. Action now lies within the normal procedural framework of the Organization of American States. Therefore, no further reports to you in the context of the President's trip are contemplated. Significant developments will be brought to the President's attention on an ad hoc basis.⁹

C. Argentina

1. *New Steel Mill*

Ambassador Donnelly has conveyed to the U.S. steel industry President Frondizi's interest in increasing Argentina's steel-making capacity. Ambassador Beaulac has informed President Frondizi of this, and of the fact that representatives of the U.S. steel industry will soon be visiting Argentina to study its potential for development in this field.

The Department believes that any commitment to President Frondizi has been fulfilled, and no further report to you on this subject is contemplated.⁹

2. *Modernization of Armed Forces*

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Inter-American Affairs Mallory has conveyed President Frondizi's request to Assistant Secretary of Defense Irwin, stating that this was being done at your behest and offer-

⁷ On the Eisenhower Library copy of this report, Goodpaster noted "OK" in the margin next to this paragraph. (Eisenhower Library, Whitman File, Miscellaneous Material)

⁸ Not printed. (Department of State, Central Files, 371.04/4-660)

⁹ On the Eisenhower Library copy of this report, Goodpaster noted "OK" in the margin next to this paragraph.

ing State Department cooperation in dealing with the question.¹⁰ A copy of Mr. Mallory's letter is attached for your information.¹¹

3. *Civil Aviation Negotiations*

The negotiation of a bilateral air agreement and the grant of a loan for airport construction have never been linked in reaching U.S. aviation objectives. However, since this possibility has been raised by the Argentines, the Department is giving some tentative thought to the feasibility and desirability of relating them. With respect specifically to an Argentine loan request, on the other hand, neither the Export Import Bank nor the Development Loan Fund had, as of April 22, been approached by Argentina with such a request, nor was the Department, including ICA, aware of any follow-up by Argentina on the matter. (This report was cleared at the staff level in the Export Import Bank and the DLF.)

Meanwhile, Ambassador Beaulac met with representatives of the Civil Aeronautics Board and the Department on April 14 to discuss resumption of civil air negotiations, and Embassy Buenos Aires has talked with Argentine officials on the question. Resumption of negotiations is tentatively set for April 28.

The Department does not at present plan to raise with the Argentines the matter of airport loans in the continued absence of an Argentine initiative. Negotiations will be limited to civil air relations. It is considered that the President's commitment to look into the matter has been fulfilled, however, since all the agencies concerned have been brought into the preparation of this report. No further report to you within the context of the South America trip is contemplated.¹²

4. *Ban on Cured Meats*

The appropriate offices of the Department of State have been informed of the President's assurances to President Frondizi, and Deputy Assistant Secretary Mallory informed Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Miller concerning them. A copy of Mr. Mallory's letter is enclosed.¹¹ It is considered that the necessary steps have been taken to fulfill the President's commitment and no further report to you is contemplated.¹²

5. *Consultation with American Nations*

Progress in this direction has been made during the past two years. The briefings of Latin American Ambassadors started by Secretary Dulles and continued by Secretary Herter have been helpful in showing the interest of the United States in keeping the other republics informed on important world events. In the United Nations a

¹⁰ On the Eisenhower Library copy of this report, Goodpaster noted "OK—complete" in the margin next to this paragraph.

¹¹ Not printed.

¹² On the Eisenhower Library copy of this report, Goodpaster noted "OK" in the margin next to this paragraph.

special effort has been made by Ambassador Lodge to keep in close touch with Latin American representatives in the development of United States positions on world issues before that body. The President's briefing luncheon for Latin American Ambassadors on his return from South America helped convey the impression that his visit to four countries was evidence of his sincere interest in the problems of the entire hemisphere.

The problem of satisfying to an even greater extent the Latin American desire to cooperate more effectively with United States policy calls for country-by-country consideration. It is principally Brazil, Argentina and to a lesser degree Chile which have strong feelings in the matter. Mexico has expressed no concern partly because of its pride in the independence of its policy determinations, and also because its aspirations in this regard are satisfied through close association with the United States and active participation in the UN and other international organizations. The Central American and Caribbean countries, as well as most of the smaller South American states, while having a general interest in keeping abreast of United States policies, do not expect to participate significantly in their formulation. Special consideration would have to be given to frequent consultation with such countries as Venezuela, Colombia, Peru and Uruguay on issues of common interest.

A senior officer of the Department will be responsible for briefing Latin American Ambassadors on worldwide issues. This means of meeting Latin American desires to be consulted, or at least informed, about significant policy developments will be strengthened by a continuous effort by the Department to ascertain subjects of particular interest to the Latin Americans, as well as by supplementary background information transmitted to our Embassies in the field. Furthermore, our Embassies will be requested to recommend topics of general and special interest to the governments in the countries in which they are stationed. This will be a continuing program, and no further report to you concerning it is contemplated.¹³

6. Argentine Short-Term Debt

Since the discussion held between President Eisenhower and President Frondizi on February 28 on the Argentine short-term debt there has been no approach by the Argentine Government to the Export Import Bank nor as far as we know to private U.S. banks to obtain refinancing of these short-term obligations. It should be mentioned that Argentine external debt repayments for the next two years are heaviest with regard to European creditors. At present it appears that the Argentine Government is likely to concentrate initially on

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securing refinancing from its European creditors rather than its U.S. creditors. According to the Argentine Embassy, the data for a future approach to creditors is now being compiled in Buenos Aires. This report has been approved by the Export Import Bank and the Treasury Department. No further report to you is contemplated.¹⁴

D. Chile

1. Arms Limitation

In the April 6, 1960 session of the Council of the Organization of American States, Chile proposed the convocation of an OAS Conference on arms limitation as soon as possible. The U.S. supported this proposal. The project was referred to a five-nation working group (the U.S. was not a member but sent an observer). During consideration by the working group, the complexity of the problem became evident and there began to emerge among some of the major Latin American powers an attitude of reluctance, each tending to feel that it should not be included. The results of the working group's study have now been referred to the governments of working group members and a delay of some weeks is anticipated before the group's report will be ready for submission to the Council.

Significant developments will be brought to the President's attention on an ad hoc basis, but no further report is contemplated within the context of the South America trip.¹⁴

2. U.S. Tax on Copper

The Departments of State, Interior and Commerce have considered the question of seeking suspension or removal of the copper excise tax and have concluded that this should not be done at this time.

Suspension or removal of the tax would require legislation. Prior suspensions were enacted at times of short copper supply, a situation which does not now prevail. In addition, the present session of Congress will probably be short, and its calendar is unusually crowded with items which would take precedence over copper legislation. Finally, there is some sentiment in Congress, reflecting that in certain segments of the domestic copper producing industry, in favor of raising the level of the present tax (1.7 cents a pound) or the price at which the tax increases to 2 cents (24 cents a pound). Raising the question of the tax in Congress might therefore bring about a situation less favorable from the Chilean point of view than the present one.

¹⁴ On the Eisenhower Library copy of this report, Goodpaster noted "OK" in the margin next to this paragraph.

The Department recommends that these conclusions be conveyed to the Chilean Government by our Embassy at Santiago. If you approve, we shall send the Embassy instructions to this effect. Otherwise no further action or report is contemplated.¹⁵

With respect to liquidation of the U.S. copper stockpile, this country agreed in April 1959 to consult Chile prior to undertaking a program of disposal of Government-owned copper stocks in excess of the Government's needs. The Department sees no need for further action on the matter at this time since, as the President told President Alesandri, it is not the intention of the U.S. to dispose of its stocks. No further report on this subject is contemplated.¹⁶

This report on both aspects of the copper question was approved by the Departments of Interior and Commerce.

E. Uruguay

1. Ambassador Woodward

This report is the subject of a separate communication.¹⁷

F. Miscellaneous

*1. Cuban Note*¹⁸

Action completed, as stated in my memorandum of March 22, 1960.

¹⁵ On the Eisenhower Library copy of this report, Goodpaster noted "OK" in the margin next to this paragraph. In a memorandum dated May 13, Calhoun informed Goodpaster that the Department of State had transmitted an instruction to this effect to the Embassy in Santiago. (Department of State, Conference Files: Lot 64 D 559, CF 1609)

¹⁶ On the Eisenhower Library copy of this report, Goodpaster noted "OK" in the margin next to this paragraph.

¹⁷ In an April 29 memorandum, Calhoun informed Goodpaster that President Nardone's anxieties that the Department of State intended to transfer Ambassador Woodward were unfounded, and that the Department of State supported President Eisenhower's statements to this effect to President Nardone. [1 sentence (3½ lines of footnote) not declassified] (Department of State, Central Files, 711.11-El/4-2960)

¹⁸ According to Calhoun's March 22 memorandum to Goodpaster, the U.S. Chargé in Cuba on February 29 had informed Cuban authorities, in response to the Cuban Note of February 22, that the U.S. Congress had to implement new sugar legislation to replace that which was expiring, and that the President was unable to extend existing legislation by executive fiat. (*Ibid.*, 711.11-El/3-2260)