

Suggested Remarks by the Vice President at the Reception for United States Employees Working for the Organization of American States, Adams and Jefferson Rooms, Department of State, September 6, 1967, 6-9 PM

I am pleased to have this opportunity to join in honoring the citizens of the United States who are working with and for the Organization of American States.

The United States commitment to hemispheric

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unity and progress is deep and irrevocable. Nowhere is that commitment given greater emphasis or stronger affirmation than in the caliber and dedication of our citizens who serve the OAS. I want them to know that their Government and their nation are proud of them.

It has been said that internationalism is the moving force of this century - a force greater than that

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of the atom. For out of international cooperation - peaceful cooperation - can grow a world in which want is replaced by sufficiency, in which aggression has given way to respect for one's neighbors, in which belligerency has been overtaken by understanding. These are the goals for which we strive domestically no less than universally.

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The men and women of the OAS not only believe that such a world - a better world - is desirable, they are giving of themselves to help make it possible. They, as members of a great and growing international civil service belong to an army of peace - an army with no enemy save that of war and want.

It is the belief of the United States that this

international civil service, which is exemplified by the secretariat of the OAS even as it is by that of the UN, must be independent and vigorous; Indeed, its integrity must always be the hallmark of its labors.

↳ Today, in singling out the citizens of the United States, we pay tribute to them as Americans who are serving the best interests of their nation by serving

the hemisphere, and thereby the world itself. Through them we congratulate, too, their devoted colleagues from all the other OAS member nations - nations that are as justifiably proud of their citizens as we are of ours.

↳ Together they are showing what can be done when men set aside artificial barriers and work together for

the common good. ↳ Their labors are the foundation upon which the future is being built. ↳ I congratulate them and, for the sake of us all, I wish them success.



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