

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

LATIN AMERICA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AWARD 001281

MIAMI, FLORIDA

MARCH 7, 1972

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GRACIOUS AWARD, MR. SKACEL. I AM

GREATLY PLEASED TO BE CALLED AN "AMBASSADOR OF GOODWILL,"

BECAUSE GOODWILL IS AND MUST BE THE BASIS OF A COMMON

COMMUNITY OF INTEREST IN THE AMERICAS.

OUR ENTIRE HEMISPHERE IS CHANGING, AND MUCH OF THAT

CHANGE IS IN THE SOUTHERN HALF: IT IS A LATIN AMERICA OF

AWAKENED NATIONALISM AND RESURGENT PRIDE, A LATIN AMERICA

OF PAINSTAKING, OFTEN HEARTBREAKING ACCOMPLISHMENTS,

A LATIN AMERICA OF TALENTED, IMAGINATIVE PEOPLE MAKING

A BETTER WORLD FOR ALL THE AMERICAS.

BUT WITH CHANGE CAN ALSO COME TRAGEDY. AND PERHAPS

THE GREATEST TRAGEDY IS THE DOZEN YEARS OF A CALLOUS AND

INCOMPETENT REGIME IN CUBA.

THE CUBAN PEOPLE HAVE SUFFERED GREATLY. THE DOOR  
TO POLITICAL FREEDOM IS SHUT TIGHT. THE DOOR TO INDIVIDUAL  
INITIATIVE AND ACHIEVEMENT IS HEAVILY PADLOCKED. AND THE  
DOOR TO ECONOMIC SURVIVAL IS QUICKLY CLOSING.

WE MUST CALL OUT, WE MUST NOT FORGET THE PLIGHT OF THE  
CUBAN PEOPLE. THE TRADITION OF CUBAN LIBERTY IS A GREAT ONE  
THAT CANNOT BE WIPED AWAY. WE CANNOT HEAR THE CRIES OF  
DEPRESSION AND DECLINE WITHOUT SYMPATHY AND COMPASSION.  
THE DIMENSIONS OF THE SUFFERING OF THE CUBAN PEOPLE CROSS  
BORDERS AND SPAN THE SEAS.

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WE MUST NEVER RELENT FROM PRESSURING THE CASTRO

GOVERNMENT TO RECOGNIZE HUMANITARIAN NECESSITIES--TO RELEASE

POLITICAL PRISONERS UNJUSTLY IMPRISONED WITHOUT TRIAL AND

TO REUNITE FAMILIES BY ALLOWING REFUGEES TO LEAVE CUBA.

AND WITH CHANGE CAN ALSO COME DANGER.

WE MUST ALSO BE AWARE OF THE NEW AND GRIM REALITY OF  
THE CARIBBEAN--THE QUIET, BUT QUICK AND CONTINUOUS SOVIET  
NAVAL BUILDUP. THE SOVIET NAVAL BASE AT CIENFUEGOS, CUBA,  
HAS BEEN UPGRADED IN APPARENT VIOLATION OF THE U.S.-U.S.S.R.  
AGREEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING OF OCTOBER, 1970. IT HAS BECOME  
A PERMANENT MODERN LOGISTICS BASE AND AS SUCH POSES A  
POTENTIAL DANGER TO THE SECURITY OF THE AMERICAS.



PRESIDENT NIXON SHOULD SEEK, WHEN HE TRAVELS TO MOSCOW  
THIS SPRING, AN EXPANSION OF THE OCTOBER 1970 AGREEMENT TO  
FURTHER RESTRICT SOVIET NAVAL ACTIVITY IN THE CARIBBEAN.  
AND WE MUST IMMEDIATELY IMPROVE OUR SURVEILLANCE FACILITIES  
IN THE CARIBBEAN FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE AMERICAS.

AND ABOVE ALL, WE MUST REALIZE THAT ULTIMATELY OUR  
SECURITY WILL REST NOT ON STRATEGIC DEPLOYMENTS BUT ON THE  
LONG-TERM FRIENDSHIPS THAT WE ESTABLISH WITH OUR NEIGHBORS.

WE MUST REALIZE THAT GOOD NEIGHBORS ARE CONCERNED  
NEIGHBORS, AND THAT A COMMON COMMUNITY OF THE AMERICAS MUST  
RECOGNIZE DIVERSITY AND EQUALITY AMONG ALL THE AMERICAN  
REPUBLICS.

IN THIS PURSUIT, WE CAN IMMEDIATELY INVITE THE  
PARTICIPATION OF THE MANY CUBAN AND PUERTO RICAN PEOPLE WHO  
ARE NOW UNITED STATES CITIZENS, WITH THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF  
THE COMMON TONGUE OF THE AMERICAS--SPANISH--AND WITH THEIR  
CULTURAL ASSOCIATIONS THEY CAN HELP FORM A NEW COMMON  
COMMUNITY IN THE AMERICAS. WE MUST INVITE THEM TO SHARE  
THEIR SKILLS AND THEIR TALENT THROUGH PROFESSIONAL SERVICE  
PROJECTS IN LATIN AMERICA. THEY CAN HELP FORGE A NEW CHAIN  
OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH IN OUR HEMISPHERE.

LET US, THEN, ALL WORK HARDER, AND IN CONCERT TO PROVIDE  
A NEW GENERATION OF PEACE, UNDERSTANDING, AND COMMON PURPOSE  
IN THE AMERICAS.

LET US MAKE OUR COMMON FUTURE A SAFE FUTURE, A SECURE

FUTURE, AND A PROSPEROUS FUTURE.



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