

The original documents are located in Box 39, folder “Honduran Reconstruction Fund” of the Betty Ford White House Papers, 1973-1977 at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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Apologies for my typing

To: Nancy Howe, Personal Assistant to Mrs. Ford
The White House

From: Frances ("Petey") McClintock, Coordinator for Honduran Reconstruction Fund
Pan American Development Foundation

Can't believe it's a month since Mrs. Ford was concerned enough, while so seriously ill in the hospital, to express her feelings about the tragic situation in Honduras.

The results were far reaching: from as far away as Oregon and Alaska and even abroad--see reprint from the Tico Times of Costa Rica. Greg Wolfe, who was so active in the beginnings of the Honduran Reconstruction effort, is now in Central America lecturing under the auspices of the Department of State.

He writes of the tremendous problems facing Honduras. The good-will, exemplified by Mrs. Ford's statement of compassion, gives hope to the homeless Hondurans. Upon his return next week, he will give a more detailed evaluation of the situation.

Distinguished Americans with a concern for Honduras, and for Latin America, have been asked to serve on the U. S. Committee for Honduran Reconstruction. Members are still being added to the Committee.

A goal of \$1,000,000 (yes, one million dollars) is suggested as evidence of the private sector's "caring"...that housing and tools be provided.

Businesses and banks with interests in Honduras have been contacted this last week. Results are beginning to come in: some refusals, but a couple of checks for a thousand dollars arrived today. Individual contributions are in the hundreds, but these must be continued and encouraged.

Endorsement and involvement by National Organizations, such as Rotary, Jaycees, AAUW, OEF/USA, BPW, Chambers of Commerce. professional groups - the doctors have already given and expect to give more, labor and religious groups, 4H will give a broadened base for citizen support. They will be a real source of strength in keeping the public aware of Honduras' needs as well as a way to meet those needs.

Schools are encouraged to emulate the Northern Virginia School which raised \$1400 over one weekend. The person who directed and assisted those efforts has been appointed to serve as Consultant for School Participation. Both private and public schools are being contacted.

The Committee also is planning benefits such as one by the Rolling Stones, a Fashion Show by Estevez (sponsored by PALCO), and a Sports Event.

Cooperation with other organizations concerned with helping Honduras has been another area of activity for the Committee (and, I might add, one that has consumed a great deal of time and energy with no direct benefit to Honduran Reconstruction other than good will and a few dollars!!!):

continued....



11/8/74 Memo to N. Howe from F. McClintock (cont.)

Partners of the Americas currently is sponsoring a visit to Vermont, the Partner State of Honduras, for the Honduran Folklorico and Marimba. Enthusiastic audiences are having a great cultural experience as well as hearing first hand of the devastation. Assistance has been offered with their plans upon departure from Vermont. A tentative schedule of their Washington visit is enclosed.

PALCO (Pan American Liaison Committee of Women's Organizations), you will note, has arranged for a performance on November 20th from 6:30-8:30 at the Inter American Development Bank. Honduran Reconstruction will benefit.

Pan American Women of Honduras is conducting a raffle; CARE is planning an art auction in December. Other ideas being explored are bingo games, walk-athons, telethons, etc.

So you can see that people are caring and are trying their best to help.

Distribution of the Honduran Reconstruction ad and poster (a blow-up of the ad) continues as does the circulation of the radio spot announcement done by Shirley Temple Black, prior to her departure for Ghana.

The efforts and ingenuity of many, many people will be needed to maintain the interest and support of the public for Honduran Reconstruction. Mrs. Ford's statement gave a tremendous impetus and encouragement. This progress report of the Committee for Honduran Reconstruction indicates how work is commencing, that the last sentence of the ad "God must love us dearly for He has brought us hope in so many ways"..may become a reality for the Hondurans.

Of course, any comments, criticisms, suggestions would be most welcome. Did you ever see the OAS movie narrated by Shirley Temple Black about the Honduran primitive painter, Velasquez? It is a good vehicle for use by women's clubs, and to talk of the present Honduran situation.

The Pan American Development Foundation holds its Annual Meeting the 25-26th of this month. At that time, they will re-affirm their commitment to Honduran Reconstruction, as well as consider ways to learn from this recent catastrophe and how services and assistance could be improved in the event of future ones.

In closing, let me say how everyone rejoices in Mrs. Ford's recuperation and extend prayerful wishes for her continued well-being.

November 8, 1974



Acceptances as of October 15, 1974

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Pan American Development Foundation

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* Unofficial Sponsor
(See White House Press Release 10/7/74)



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Cooperating Organizations:

Council of the Americas
Partners of the Americas
U.S. Committee UNICEF

Coordinators:

Committee for Honduran Reconstruction

Dr. Gregory Wolfe

Mrs. John C. McClintock

1725 K St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

381-8651

