

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OCTOBER 21, 1974

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY
Nogales, Mexico

THE WHITE HOUSE

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
AT THE BORDER OF
THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

9:45 A.M. EST

Mr. President, Amigos, I am delighted to be here this morning to meet with you on our border at Nogales. I am delighted and highly honored to participate in these meetings today, which will be partly held in Mexico and partly held in the United States, which symbolizes, Mr. President, the relationship between our two countries.

It is a working partnership of mutual cooperation which exemplifies the spirit behind the new dialogue into which we have entered with all nations of Latin America, and which we will not forget, Mr. President, which started last year in Mexico City.

In our meetings today, Mr. President, let us give new meaning to the special relationship of our two good neighbors -- Mexico and the United States -- through frank and friendly consultation.

It is very significant, Mr. President, that my first trip outside of the United States as President of our country is to Mexico -- our long-time friend and very good neighbor. It provides a living demonstration of how we are inexorably linked by historical ties, by geographical position, by our mutual desire to be good neighbors.

It is my fervent wish that this meeting will mark the beginning of a very close personal relationship between us and contribute to the close cooperation and a very friendly relation of our people and our Government.

Our relationship is of very great mutual benefit. Each of our countries, Mr. President, receives much from the other -- material goods of all kinds, increased understanding through tourism and cultural exchanges, and the enrichment of human life and consciousness through expanded knowledge and warm, warm friendship.

MORE

This exchange is especially evident in the border area. I thank all of you who have come here to welcome me and to see this spirit of friendship which exists between President Echeverria and myself representing our two countries.

Actually, we witness today the flow of people, goods, food, music, art and language. We note the existence of a bi-national commission -- not one, but several -- and bi-national groups of many kinds.

We see the effort by people on both sides of the border to work together in a joint effort to solve the everyday problems of their respective lives. There are countless other instances demonstrating the strong, vital, flourishing and friendly relation that exists between us, and in this border area, Mr. President, we also see living examples of how two governments, disposed to work together in good will, can meet and solve problems.

Along our common border, we have jointly faced and together resolved problems of flood control, sanitation, minor border adjustments, necessitated by the vagaries of the Rio Grande.

We are extremely proud, Mr. President, of our recent resolution of long-standing and complex issues involving the salinity of the water of the Colorado River delivered to your country. Our successful efforts in these areas over the past few years are precedents for the solution of problems that may arise in the future. We must continue to draw upon the spirit of mutual respect and good will which made this cooperation possible in the past.

Mr. President, let us today consider how we can cooperate in solving common problems which will result in a better and better life for the people of our two countries and for all the people everywhere.

Muchas gracias.

END

(9:50 A.M. MST)