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prevented within its territory treason against the fighting nations; it vigorously suppressed the Fifth Column; it granted the status of non-belligerency to the countries fighting for liberty; it opened its ports and bases to the ships and airplanes of the Allies; it placed its raw materials at the disposal of the peoples at war against the Axis; it broke diplomatic and commercial relations with the members of the Tripartite Pact; it promptly declared a state of belligerency with Germany and Japan; and it did not officially send its troops to the theaters of war because they were not requested, but its volunteers--an unforgettable group of earnest young men--left their sacred remains in the battlefields of Africa and Europe.

America feels honored by the fact that the peoples of the Western Hemisphere did not hold back, nor did they hesitate. They contributed with measures of political defense, non-belligerency procedures, democratic loyalty, raw materials, broken relations, and declarations of war, to the struggle and triumph against the Axis powers. And at the bitter moment of the treacherous attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, they tightened their bonds and intensified their efforts to express, materialize, and maintain, without defection or hesitation or fear, their fullest active solidarity toward the United States, the great and heroic nation of the continent, which was attacked in an unpardonable act of treachery. Another sister republic, Brazil, has sent forward its courageous expeditionary Army to the Italian front, where it is cooperating honorably in the Allied triumph.

Thus, the American peoples have been loyal collaborators in the struggle against aggression and conquest; and just as they have rendered an efficient and undeniable support throughout the struggle, within their means and resources, they also wish to cooperate, living up to the high ideals of their history and international conduct, in the tasks of organizing the world and consolidating the peace and welfare of mankind.

The so-called Latin American countries cannot rival the Great Powers in population or military and economic might; but, on the other hand, they possess an unfailing and precious moral strength derived from adherence to law, love of freedom, and respect for democratic ideals, a strength which cannot be ignored or set aside without injury to the human destiny.