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MR. STETTINIUS: Ladies and Gentlemen, before introducing the next speaker, I wish to introduce to you some very special guests we have with us this afternoon, some American soldiers, many of whom have been wounded at the front. These boys have come to us from nearby hospitals to be present with us this afternoon. They are sitting in the back of the auditorium, and I am going to ask each of them to arise at this time. Boys. (The entire audience stood and applauded the soldiers.)

The Chair now recognizes the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Chairman of the Delegation of Guatemala.

MR. TORIELLO (speaking in Spanish; English version as delivered by interpreter follows:) Mr. President, Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen: We cannot allow clouds of anxiety to obscure the horizon on which all humanity has placed its hopes and most fervent desires. The anguish in our hearts is now vanishing. The terrible shadows must disappear at this Conference in which the United Nations have assembled to construct a better world. It must be thus; otherwise there would be disastrous failure and the verdict of history would be against us. The admirable cooperation of all, and especially the sincere desire for harmony of the sponsoring nations in arriving at the solution of the most difficult problems, will determine the positive success of this most important Conference. They must demonstrate that the same spirit which united them in the battle against those who aspired to the subjugation of the world will continue to unite them now that victory is dawning, in the arduous task of constructing a new world where aggression, tyranny, fear, and misery are no longer possible, a world propitious for peace, justice, and the security of all.

If the powers of evil had triumphed in this war, the forces of violence would have prevailed over the forces of justice and right. Fortunately such was not the case. For this reason the small nations of the world have a profound faith in the juridical organization which this Conference will give to the five continents, since law and the moral force of justice are the only security and strength of small nations.

Guatemala fervently desires that, in the future, rather than depending on armed force the security of nations be based on a world organization, such as that envisaged in the Dumbarton Oaks Proposals, an organization which will have sufficient power to check, in an effective manner, any act of aggression. As a peace-loving nation, confident that peace will be obtained and maintained, Guatemala has faith and the conviction that this time humanity will not forfeit its opportunity--perhaps the last which will

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present itself, as His Excellency, Mr. Anthony Eden remarked--to prevent in the future the danger of another war which might possibly end our civilization.

Guatemala, faithful to the principles of continental solidarity and to the most noble humanitarian ideals, was one of the first to join the United Nations and, within the measure of her capacities and resources, has lent and will continue to lend sincere collaboration, not only during the period of actual conflict but in the constructive task which will follow the war, a task which is the immediate concern of this Conference. Guatemala, then, attends this Conference with great faith and enthusiasm.

In the Inter-American Conference on Problems of War and Peace, recently held in Mexico, Guatemala made pertinent suggestions with regard to the Dumbarton Oaks Proposals, among which suggestions was the desire of the Latin American Republics to obtain adequate representation in the Security Council.

With regard to the International Court of Justice, Guatemala suggested that it should be given compulsory jurisdiction, so as to enable it to summon any state without regard to the nature of the case in question, and so that, acting in complete independence of the community of nations, it nevertheless might have the support of that community in the rendering of its decisions; and that it might render decisions *ex aequo et bono* on certain controversial matters, upon petition of one of the parties--an indispensable condition to the proper functioning of that tribunal. On that occasion, Guatemala also advocated the strengthening of the Pan American system, a system which for fifty years has shown to the world the possibility of the peaceful co-existence of nations, founded on the principles of solidarity and cooperation. The effects of Pan Americanism, which have been tangible on many occasions, especially since the treacherous attack on Pearl Harbor, crystallized brilliantly in the Act of Chapultepec, in which American solidarity found its most complete expression--that of continental fraternity.

With this experience, and in harmony with the pacts of world and continental organization, Guatemala considers as a necessity the celebration of regional pacts between countries linked by geographic, social, and economic bonds. Thus Guatemala would view with especial pleasure an accord with her sister republics which form the Central American Federation, leading to the solution of their mutual problems and to their economic development.

The first step toward this understanding would be the reviving of the Central American Court of Justice, since

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