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SECRÉTAIRE D'ÉTAT AUX AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES. Notes for a Speech to be
Delivered by the
Secretary of State for
External Affairs of Canada,
The Honourable Don Jamieson,
At a Dinner Given in Honour
Of the Foreign Minister
Of Peru, His Excellency
José de la Puente,
Lima, Peru, January 20, 1977



Your Excellency, Senora de la Puente, Ladies and Gentlemen,

We have, I think come to the end of a very successful visit, successful, not only in what it has accomplished in discussions held and projects concluded, but, also successful in very human terms. I must thank you for the cordial welcome you and your Government have given to all of us. The warm hospitality and friendship that we have received since we first arrived on Peruvian soil has been for us a concrete indication of the significance you attach to our relations.

I do not wish to bore you, Excellency, or members of the audience, with an exhaustive enumeration of all the agreements we have reached or announced in the fields of cooperation and trade. These we have discussed amply at our press conference this afternoon. I will say this however, they demonstrate how close our relations have become in the economic field as a result of the considerable efforts of both sides in the last few years. What has been a new dimension on this trip, and what I have particularly enjoyed, have been the wide ranging political discussions we have held. Throughout our conversations, I have appreciated your clarity and your openness. I might add as well your experience, for while we have both been Foreign Ministers but for a short while, I must consider myself a neophyte when I look at your eminent diplomatic career. You combine a distinguished academic record with a thorough grounding in all the important branches of international affairs.

I have been especially pleased at the results of this visit, for we had intended it to be one of substance. As an earnest of our intentions to develop our relations with you in all areas to the fullest extent possible, I brought with my my colleague, Mr. Marcel Prud'homme, Chairman of the Committee on External Affairs and National Defence of the House of Commons, as well as an extensive delegation representing the Canadian business community and several government departments. In addition, several journalists have accompanied us. I am pleased you have had an opportunity to meet these representatives. As you see from the size and seniority of our delegation, Your Excellency, we take our relations with Peru very seriously indeed.

In strengthening our relations with you, we also consider we have promoted the cause of inter-American cooperation. If I had given this speech a few years ago. I might not have included such a reference for we are, I admit, relatively late converts to the inter-American idea. Canada has had a historical evolution that has set us somewhat apart from most of the other nations in the hemisphere. It has never known a revolution and therefore has never had a break in the continuity of its cultural ties with Europe. These cultural ties, furthermore, have been especially strong, because of the existence in Canada of two principal European languages that have allowed us to draw on the richness of two European cultures. In saying this I cannot claim that we can draw on the same richness of cultural influence as you with your blend of European traditions and ages old indigenous civilizations.

Out of our diversity of influences, both American and European, we have managed in Canada to construct a society that owes something to all of its sources, but at the same time contains much that is original. We are, at the same time, a federation and have a parliamentary system of government. We have a mixed economy in which private and public companies exist side by side and in which the Government plays a major role in influencing the pace of development. We have established a Foreign Investment Review Agency which allows new foreign investment or foreign acquisition of existing Canadian firms only where the investment or acquisition can be considered to be a significant benefit to Canada.

If our unique historical evolution led us in the past to neglect the hemispheric dimension of our relations, there came a time, Your Excellency, when we recognized at last the need to diversify our foreign policy, to reach out and to strengthen our ties with the rest of the hemisphere. We realized that we had to balance the rich, extensive and, I must emphasize, satisfying relations we enjoy with the United States by expanding our economic, cultural, scientific and political contacts with the other major regions of the world.

Latin America is for us a key area, together with the European Economic Community and Japan, in the pursuit of this policy. Since we took the decision in 1970 to strengthen our links with the other countries of the western hemisphere, we have appointed an Ambassador as our Permanent Observer to the Organization of American States, we have become members of the Inter-American Development Bank to which we have pledged or committed \$300 million, we have finished joining all the significant specialized agencies of the OAS, we have established a number of bilateral aid programs throughout the area and we have provided the Andean Pact with aid to finance integration studies.

In principle, Canada supports any moves in Latin America towards economic or political cooperation. For this reason, we have been a member for some time of the UN Economic Council for Latin America; we shall continue to support the Andean Pact; and we have offered to cooperate in the technical development projects of SELA.* We are willing to look once again at the question of Canadian membership in the OAS once the Organization has decided what its future role should be.

If our interests in inter-American affairs is relatively recent, our relations with Peru are for our standards quite old. For you are one of the countries with which we established relations, when in the days of the Second World War, we began to expand our foreign policy beyond the narrow confines of the pre-war years. In the period of rapid change that you have traversed since your revolution of 1968, you have always enjoyed our sympathy, respect and understanding. We have tried to make our understanding for this humanist revolution manifest in a number of ways.

In the first year of our bilateral aid programmes in Latin America, 1972, we began in Peru. It is with Peru now, that we have one of our largest assistance programs in Latin America. We are pleased at the way in which our gestures of friendship have met with a welcoming echo from you, and our ties have grown and developed for several years. We are especially happy at the way in which our trade has grown. From 1970 to 1975 our exports to Peru have almost doubled, while our imports have almost tripled.

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During the past year and a half, our relations have been especially active. In September 1975 we were happy to welcome a senior trade mission from your country. As a result of this visit, we agreed to discuss projects involving up to \$300 million in credits from the Export Development Corporation. In March of 1976 the President of the Canadian International Development Agency visited here to discuss ways in which we could cooperate for development on an equal basis, especially in joint ventures. In June of last year, the Assistant Deputy Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce led a Canadian trade mission here to consider some of the projects that had come up during the visit of your trade mission to Canada the previous September. Now I have come to build on what has been done in the past and to prepare for the future.

As I indicated at the beginning of this talk the object of my visit is to develop our relations in a variety of areas, both political and economic, on a sound long term basis.

We want to achieve a better understanding between us of our respective views and questions related to a new economic order. We have long respected Peru as an influential advocate of the desire of the developing countries to obtain a more rapid transfer of real resources in order to accelerate their pace of development. We are in a good position to understand the aims of the Third World, for we depend for much of our livelihood on the export of commodities. At the same time, we are also dependent on the import of other commodities, such as petroleum and tropical products, thus, we can understand the need for having commodity arrangements that meet the needs of the consuming, as well as of the producing countries. As the co-chairman for the industrialized nations at the Conference on Industrial Co-operation, we have been working closely with Sr. Perez Guerrero of Venezuela to bridge the gap that at present separates the developed from the developing nations.

At the Multilateral Trade Negotiations in Geneva, we have also worked to help the resource exporting countries with our proposal of a complementary negotiating technique known as the "sector approach". Our proposal is designed to provide better opportunities for these countries to produce and market abroad both highly processed commodities, as well as raw materials, and, in this way, to achieve a higher degree of industrialization.

If we respect in you an authentic voice of the aims of the Third World in North/South affairs, we look upon you as a close ally in questions relating to the Law of the Sea. We are well aware that it was Peru that pioneered the concept of the 200 mile zone.

As we become progressively more engaged in the affairs of this hemisphere, we wish to have your views on the complex questions of inter-American relations. We are particularly interested in your views on the evolution of such inter-American organizations as the Organization of the American States, the Latin American Economic System and the Andean Pact.

We are also glad of the opportunity to hold consultations with you on the way in which we can adapt our cooperation for development to changing circumstances.

Although we have a wide range of interests it is, I suspect, in economic affairs where there is the greatest potential for cooperation between us. In saying this, I recognize that both our economies are at present passing through periods of adaptation, and that, as a consequence, our trade may not develop as fast as it has recently. the long run, however, I am convinced that the possibilities for a close cooperation in this area are considerable, because of the parallels in our patterns of economic development. In both countries, we have faced problems of attempting to develop with inadequate financial resources, a relatively small domestic market and an often hostile nature, enormous territories enclosing substantial wealth. To do this we have had to respond in a similar manner. We both have had to develop or acquire the organization, the technology, and the infrastructure necessary to open up our vast territories, to realize their potential in hydro electric power, in raw materials and in agriculture. Because of the similarity of our patterns of development we, in Canada, are leaders in the technology that you require in many areas for the development of your economy and your infrastructure, and we are happy to cooperate with you.

We do not expect, however, our collaboration to be only in one direction. The Canadian market remains one of the most open in the world. Our general scheme of preferences provides special tariffs on a wide range of your goods. We are prepared in the Multilateral Trade Negotiations to agree to further liberalization. We hope that on your side you will take our mutual interests into account in developing your economic policies.