

THE WHITE HOUSE

December 1, 1967 4:30 p.m.

MEMORANDUM FOR JUANITA ROBERTS

From: Ernest Goldstein

Re: November 30 luncheon in honor of Governor Connally

On November 30, 1967, Mr. Ernest Goldstein hosted a luncheon attended by 11 Latin American Ambassadors: Ambassador Hugo Margain of Mexico; Ambassador Francisco Linares, of Guatemala; Ambassador Ramon Clairmont-Duenas, of El Salvador; Ambassador Sevilla Sacasa, of Nicaragua; Ambassador Fernando Ortuno, of Costa Rica; Ambassador Ricardo Arias, of Panama; Ambassador Hernan Echavarria, of Colombia; Ambassador Enrique Tejera-Paris, of Venezuela; Ambassador Vasco Leitao da Cunha, of Brazil; Ambassador Celso Pastor, or Peru; and Ambassador Julio Sanjines, of Bolivia.

The luncheon was in honor of Governor John B. Connally of Texas, and he and the invitees shared mutual interest in Hemisfair.

The Vice President attended, along with Ambassador Symington, Mr. Walt Rostow, Mr. William Bowdler and Mr. Robert Sayre from the Department of State.

During the luncheon the Vice President asked Governor Connally to say a few words concerning Hemisfair.

Governor Connally adressed himself to the desirability of full participation by all Latin American Ambassadors in this world's fair, and he described developments to date.

Shortly thereafter, President Johnson entered and Mr. Goldstein and Ambassador Symington presented the Ambassadors to the President. The President greeted each of the Ambassadors individually and had a special abrazo for the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, the Ambassador from Nicaragua.

The President then joined the group and asked what had been said about Hemisfair.

He talked of the difficulties in getting a family picture at this time that would include not only his grandson, but his son-in-law to be, and showed the picture to the group.

He then pointed out how important it was to have the whole family at Hemisfair, and the message was well received.

The President then went on to reminisce about some of his experiences in Mexico, as well as the neighborly activity that characterizes the American-Mexican boarder in good times and in times of disaster.

The Ambassador of Nicaragua rose to address his respects to the President, the Vice President, Governor Connally and Mr. Goldstein, and he expressed his great admiration, respect and affection for the President; he did so not only in very warm personal terms on behalf of himself, but also on behalf of the other Ambassadors.

Shortly thereafter, the President left.

During the ensuing discussion the Ambassador of Guatemala expressed himself very fully concerning the importance of such meetings with the President in making our Latin friends feel themselves truly to be part of the family. The Bolivian Ambassador thought that this occasion was of great significance and he appreciated the opportunity to be able to discuss informally with people in the White House some of the problems of concern to his country.

Ernest Goldstein