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Office of the Press Secretary
to Mrs. Johnson

THE WHITE HOUSE

REMARKS OF MRS. LYNDON B. JOHNSON
AT DEDICATION CEREMONIES OF WOMEN'S
PAVILION HEMISFAIR

As a Texan, and in the theme of Hemisfair's Confluence of Cultures, may I begin: Bienvenidas! Ustedes estan en su casa.

Today is a happy day for Texas, and for all the Western Hemisphere as this celebration begins.

I am pleased there is a Women's Pavilion at Hemisfair, and delighted this facility will have a strong purpose in future years. Here on this platform are many women I have known whose lives have expanded with the exciting challenges and opportunities of our times.

Women of the Western Hemisphere have been forging links of international understanding for many, many years. Right here in San Antonio 52 years ago, the Pan American Round Tables were organized to bring about better understanding between the United States and Latin America through women's groups and schoolchildren. Today their work is found throughout the hemisphere.

Because of the round tables, because the heritage of Texas is so closely tied to Latin America, because Texas has more miles bordering Latin America than any other state in the union, Texas women have long played a role of leadership in fostering good neighborliness.

Women of ideas and ideals have long been a major influence throughout Latin America just as they have here. Women in high positions in the United Nations, women ambassadors, educators, officials, writers -- all have added to the rich hemispheric heritage we celebrate today.

Now the Women's Pavilion at Hemisfair throws open its doors, and says, come one and all, from far and near, be welcome here.

This building, gracious patio, and exhibit areas will be bustling over the next months as visitors flock to see displays on the historical environment that has influenced women so deeply; pictures of the diverse achievements of women today; glimpses of the world of fashion (everything from boots to wigs); and some of the art women have created.

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Plans are already underway -- at the end of Hemisfair -- to transform this Pavilion into a great lasting facility for San Antonio and the Southwest, an Inter-American Educational Center.

The Center will concentrate on those elusive and essential ingredients that will raise people's sights about schools for tomorrow.

- * How can teachers make better use of the facilities of educational television?
- * How can computers free the teacher from administrative routines, so he can concentrate on individual instruction?
- * What kinds of teaching facilities can be brought to migrant families so their children can have equal opportunities in education?
- * How can Spanish American bilingual traditions be taught and strengthened?

Already the Centers' planners are beginning to find answers to these questions.

More and more in America, education is becoming a way of life. Educational television, challenges for informed social action, great fairs like this one, are making education a mental wealth for all seasons, all ages. I welcome the educational explosion, and I welcome good facilities like this Inter-American Center which offer the hope of highly informative. . . highly relevant. . . highly helpful classrooms for children of many lands.

Thank you.

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