

by embarking upon a vigorous program of buying up their strategic raw materials, such as rubber, antimony, copper, manganese, tungsten, tin, and zinc, and stockpiling them in the United States.

From the time of the December 7, 1941, attack upon Pearl Harbor until mid-1945, the United States waged total war and did its best to get Latin America to play a supporting role in the conflict. At a consultative meeting of Foreign Ministers held in Rio de Janeiro in January 1942, all the Latin American nations, except Argentina and Chile, agreed to sever relations with the Axis. Soon thereafter the United States stepped up measures for the common defense of the hemisphere. An Inter-American Defense Board was set up to plan for cooperative defense of the coastlines and the lines of communication, and under the Lend-Lease Act \$400 million was set aside for war goods for Latin America.² In exchange for military assistance the United States obtained base facilities from Brazil, Cuba, Panama, and Ecuador.

In general, U.S. policy objectives in Latin America were achieved during World War II. These included (1) elimination of the threat of Nazi subversion, (2) hemispheric unity for both military and political ends, (3) maximum utilization of Latin America's limited military potential for primarily defensive roles, (4) political stability of the region and its sympathetic association with U.S. policy aims, and (5) use of bases and full access to Latin America's strategic raw materials. The main U.S. political goal was cooperation, and this we got—except from Argentina. Eventually all 20 Latin American Republics declared war upon the Axis, and the inter-American system was strengthened and improved by the wartime crisis. At the same time the Latin American economies were shored up by U.S. war purchases.

B. MAJOR POLICY DECISIONS, 1945-59

Prior to the end of World War II, before the sociopolitical ferment in Latin America had reached serious proportions, U.S. policy problems were relatively simple, despite the antagonisms engendered by the issue of "Yankee imperialism." The consequences of political change in Latin America were not unduly disturbing, for politics was the privilege of the upper groups and the armed forces, and revolutions were generally of the palace variety. Sudden changes in the government in power, save in the case of Mexico after 1910, were not apt to involve significant shifts in foreign policies. With the adoption of the "good neighbor" policy and the increasing inter-American solidarity resulting from the deepening danger of war in Europe, relations between the United States and Latin America seemed easier and friendlier than ever before. This spirit was carried over into the period of the war—though notably absent from the United States-Argentine relations—as the Latin American governments generally agreed that the external menace to the hemisphere had to be met.

The harmony of wartime cooperation, however, tended to obscure some of the changes taking place in Latin America, and with the coming of the cold war the achievement of U.S. objectives has be-

² Mark Skinner Watson, "U.S. Army in World War II (Prewar Plans and Preparations)" (Washington, 1950), pp. 89-96. Only \$260 million in lend-lease aid was sent to Latin America during World War II, most of it to Brazil.