

often than not, tend to resort to nondemocratic procedures to achieve the internal order and stability which both they and the United States for quite different reasons, so ardently desire. The military threat to the security of the hemisphere is certainly not such that our concern for the future growth of democracy must continue to be sacrificed. Profound disillusionment and distrust is felt by democratic leaders in Latin America when the United States, leader of the free world, provides military aid, which is so frequently put to internal political use, and thereby appears to be underwriting undemocratic forces. The political advantages of trying to win the cooperation of military leaders is simply not worth the risk of losing the good will and support of those who oppose them. Furthermore, by its present policies, the United States lays itself open to the charge that its insistence upon maintaining political stability as a defense against the Communist menace leads it into a policy of coddling dictators.

It is because the Latin Americans should no longer be allowed to feel that the United States, in its determination to resist communism, is willing to sacrifice democracy in the process, that the following policy changes are urged:

(a) The United States must offer something more than lip-service to democratic principles. It should make some distinction between highhanded military dictatorship and struggling civilian democracy.

(b) In both its aid and its general attitude, the United States should take into consideration the degree of democracy or dictatorship. This does not mean it should have nothing to do with dictatorial regimes. Rather, an attitude of neither friendship nor antagonism, but one of correct neutrality, should be displayed. In this manner the United States can subtly persuade the people it has no confidence in their oppressors.

(c) Conversely, with those regimes that by acceptable democratic processes are making progress in the development of their human and material resources, more positive encouragement and material assistance should be given.

(d) Also, the United States should work through the inter-American system to make effective the OAS Charter aim of "political organization * * * on the basis of effective exercise of representative democracy."

3. *Economic policy*

Despite the undeniable benefits received from U.S. trade, investment, and public assistance, Latin American governments, supported by their public opinion, have been far from satisfied with U.S. economic policies. Well aware of the much larger public assistance programs the United States is sponsoring in Europe and Asia, they resented treatment which looked like that reserved for a poor relation. As their own postwar economic problems became more critical, due to the exhaustion of wartime accumulated international reserves and to difficulties in the production and marketing of agricultural commodities and industrial raw materials, and as the popular material demands arose from the area's social evolution, Latin American pressures upon the United States for more economic support have steadily increased.