

Surely the gentleman is not naive enough to think that there isn't something mighty close to an authorization in the language which he is advocating.

Mr. SELDEN. If I am not mistaken, commitments were made in connection with the Alliance for Progress for something like a maximum of a billion dollars a year, but I might point out to the gentleman this committee hasn't authorized a billion each year, nor has the Congress appropriated that amount. We have looked at the programs very carefully and have given different authorizations each time in connection with the Alliance for Progress.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. That is why I say we should not go down the road 5 years and give any one a blank check.

We have never done that with respect to a fund which may never come into existence and which may need four times as much money as the administration now anticipates.

Mr. SELDEN. We are simply saying in this resolution, as I understand it, if this economic integration fund comes into existence and if the Latin Americans do certain things, then we are going to cooperate with them.

The President, in his message, spelled out the maximum amount the Executive thinks will be necessary, if that happens, but it still will be subject to the authorization of this committee and an appropriation by the Appropriations Committee.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. That is no protection at all. We will have an obligation to honor our commitment made this year without any knowledge of what the financial situation will be with respect to this fund 3 or 4 years from now. The fact that we have an outside figure which varies depending on which administration we hear from is not going to be any protection to us as an outside limit in 1969.

Mr. SELDEN. I would certainly agree with the gentleman that if these things are carried out, if the Latin American nations come through with their commitments, we would be obligated to support them in their integration efforts.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. This is my argument.

Mr. SELDEN. In my opinion, however, the executive branch must justify any request for funds to this committee before we would authorize a specific amount.

The Secretary, the President, and the Ambassador have simply spelled out what they believe will be the maximum amount necessary, but if this resolution is passed we are not authorizing funds.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. No one has contended that.

Mr. FARBSTEN. Is my time used up?

Chairman MORGAN. The gentleman from New York's time has expired.

Mr. FARBSTEN. Mr. Chairman, may I ask one question?

Chairman MORGAN. I am sure the committee will bear with one question.

Mr. FARBSTEN. I would like to reply to Mr. Frelinghuysen.

On page 4 of this resolution in the printed copy, at the bottom in the paragraph before the last it says:

The nature and amount of such assistance is to be dependent on demonstrated need and adequate self-help within the recipient countries.