

Mr. GALLAGHER. You can say that. I thought we would bring some balance into this meeting.

Chairman MORGAN. If the committee will come to order, I hope we can stick to the subject matter at hand.

Ambassador LINOWITZ. Mr. Chairman, could I make a statement, sir?

Chairman MORGAN. Yes. Mr. Gallagher?

Mr. GALLAGHER. Yes.

Ambassador LINOWITZ. I would just like to say this, if I might.

I know that the President is deeply anxious that this resolution, if it is to be approved as he hopes and we hope, will have the widest possible bipartisan support.

I know the President would not have wanted to participate in the launching of this resolution if it were going to be construed as a partisan matter or one which suggested that partisan considerations should be invoked.

I know, too, that—as all of you here do—the President believes this is a critical time in our relations in this hemisphere. We were in a difficult situation. We found only when the Buenos Aires Conference came to an end that the Latin American nations were indeed ready to make the kind of commitments which would justify us in coming before the Congress and asking for some resolution which would convey the sense of this Congress as well as of the Executive that we were with them, offering them encouragement and incentive to go forward with these commitments which are going to mean a great deal of effort, of dedication, of use of resources on their part.

This resolution—may I just again say—is not designed to evoke a commitment of Congress to a specific figure. We are not asking and have no right to ask, and shall not ask for what has been described as a blank check. We are not seeking and shall not seek to shortcut congressional procedures.

We are here hoping that you will agree that a resolution in the form presented would be appropriate, would convey the sense of this Congress in cooperation with the President so that the countries of Latin America, with whom he meets in a few weeks, will know that the U.S. Government as a government is with them, is ready to help them if they carry through on the statements and the commitments they undertook at Buenos Aires.

The language here proposed has nothing except the intention of carrying through on what I have just said. It may well be that there could be changes, perhaps Mr. Frelinghuysen might have some change in wording which would help and perhaps others might. If there is something here which you believe goes beyond what I have just said, it is not intended to be part of this resolution.

I hope these words will perhaps clarify what apparently has been troubling some of the members of this committee, and I would be glad to reiterate it and to meet with any of you at any time in order to find a way of avoiding the slightest question but that that is precisely what we are trying to accomplish here.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Ambassador, I think that you have entirely clarified the point. That is exactly the whole point of this resolution,