

Each of you in your countries have the qualified personnel that could devote a portion of their time toward bringing together the recommendations for an organizational mechanism or to assist this special international or intercontinental highway committee in the development of this comprehensive highway package.

In conclusion, I want to remind you of my role at this Highway Congress. I am here as a delegate but more specifically as an adviser from the U.S. Congress to our U.S. delegation.

We believe it important to have members of our U.S. Congress in attendance to support our delegation here during the conference, but more importantly to support them at home where their recommendation must receive maximum support for acceptance by our legislative bodies.

This has been a very educational experience for me. The thought has occurred to me that some of you may want to invite some of your own legislators or parliamentarians to future highway congresses. This would permit as legislators to exchange ideas and possibly offer mutual suggestions on how to implement, legislatively, some of the recommendations that you, as technicians and Ministers, agree upon.

The last third of this century will bring forth many recommendations for change and improvement in our transportation systems and our standards of living.

With the technological advancements in radio, television, the satellite communication systems and also, the transportation improvements of our jet and space age, the people of the Americas are going to be asking for more positive leadership from all of us. Many a new light is shining in some of the darker corners of this globe—it comes from the spark of enthusiasm and the ray of hope of an increasingly enlightened people.

With increasing affluence comes the desire to travel to places you've read about in your history books like Punta del Este, Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires, Caracas, the Andes, the Panama Canal and the many other interesting historical and cultural areas of Central and South America.

Many North American, European and other world travelers will want to visit your countries as tourists. Some will come by jets and will rent automobiles for travel in your countries but many will want to drive the Pan American Highway.

With each day of delay, we postpone this opportunity for economic growth, social progress, cultural enhancement, and better understanding among our people.

The question that remains before this great Pan American Congress is, "Will we be prepared to accommodate them?"

Having heard your individual and collective desires expressed during this Congress, I am fully confident you are ready and willing to meet this challenge.

As we work toward this desired multi-nation and intercontinental integrated system of highways, one can't help but visualize the ultimate formation of a "Common Market of all the Americas" tied together with an everlasting symbol of hemisphere solidarity—the completion of the Darien Gap Project.

This will demonstrate to the world that we in the Western Hemisphere are living as good neighbors—openly advocating peace on earth and good will toward all mankind.

We must unite the Americas. United we are strong.

XVIII. TO PROVIDE FOR AN AD HOC COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION OF MAJOR INTER-AMERICAN HIGHWAY PROJECTS OF INTERCONTINENTAL IMPORTANCE

Whereas: The Tenth Pan American Highway Congress has taken note of a most important message by the Hon. Donald H. Clausen, Member of Congress of the United States, in which he commended the leadership of the Congress in advancing the work of the Pan American Highway System; concurred with the late President of Uruguay, General Oscar D. Gestido, on the importance of transportation by land, sea and air in the countries of North, Central and South America, and pointed out that improvements to our highway yield great economic developments, enhance education and cultural growth and promote the general wealth and welfare of our peoples.

Mr. Clausen stated that highway transportation needs of the countries of the Americas call for bold, new, forward-looking planning which takes account of major interests among the nations, and that there must be coordination of planning for major regional, continental and inter-continental highway projects in order to forge a truly integrated highway system which will physically link all countries of the Americas.