

FREI - FREY

ADDRESS OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



Personal

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

*Frente Nacional
de Mujeres*

October 18, 1946

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Herbert Little sent me the letter addressed to you by Nina Flores, secretary general of the Frente Nacional de Mujeres of Peru, telling me that you had asked Ruby to arrange for a translation. Herb said that he told you of Ruby's serious illness and asked me to attend to the matter. The original and translation are enclosed. I felt greatly privileged to have had the opportunity of doing this small piece of work, since it gives me the double pleasure of having been of service, even though so slightly and so briefly, to both you and Ruby. If anything of this kind comes up again which you would like to have done, I should be greatly honored to do it -- for Ruby's sake and for yours.

May I tell you a little incident that occurred two days ago in our Division of the Department of State (Area Division American Republics)? The Information Officer at our Embassy at Caracas was reporting on his work there before returning to his post. After speaking of the cordial relationships that were being established with individuals as well as with groups in the Venezuelan capital, he pulled out a handful of Roosevelt dimes.

"I am taking these back with me," he said, "because I know that no other souvenir would mean so much to my Venezuelan friends. It is not because they are coin collectors; it is

the

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
29 Washington Square, West,
New York 11, New York,

Handwritten signature



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20520

the fact that here is the freshly minted image of Franklin D. Roosevelt whom they love with a fervor second only to that which they feel for their great hero Simón Bolívar."

Faithfully,

Muna Lee

Muna Lee
Area Division American Republics

Enclosure:

Translation and original letter.

To make the Four Freedoms reality in the Americas it is necessary to clarify the reasons that hinder making them have effect, since no programmatic element can be established nor incorporated into the life of the people unless there be first eliminated the fundamental obstacles to it. Only then can we establish means of living together without suspicion and distrust.

In these moments of extraordinary economic crisis that we suffer in consequence of the war recently called a crisis [like that] preceding the war, with all its truth of suffering and uncertainty through unnumbered measures of repression and the threat of overpowering the Nazi-Fascist political methods which brought millions of men and women to sacrifice their lives on the battlefield and thousands [to be] annihilated through misery in the fields of production. All this we bore in noble silence and our houses very orphaned. We did not complain then, and the women of my country suffered in abnegation and with valor.

THE CHAIRMAN, ROBERT ROOSEVELT OFFICE
AND WOMEN, 8 STUYVESANT
COURT DELAWARE OF THE BELLEVILLE
HALLWAY ROOMS OF WOMEN

It is true that not in all countries of America did we participate directly on the battlefields, but our contribution was not of less worth, in spite of the poverty through which we were passing in consequence of the devaluation of our money. We contributed with our labor in field, mine and factory, sending prime materials and even woolen and cotton textiles, and we shared our scant production of foodstuffs, condemning ourselves to diminished nutrition and increased poverty. As a result of these exportations, the organic debility of our workers, women and children, was augmented and the most favored persons were the magnates who speculated in the tragedy of our peoples. If in some countries of America we did not contribute boats, airplanes and submarines, nor well equipped armies, it was because of the economic misery and limitations to which the ravens of Wall Street, as your immortal husband called them, have subjected us. We have been and still are condemned to their underhandedness and unholty impositions, and in that way they, making common cause with national agents in their service, have profited and profit, exploiting us, humiliating us; sowing resentments that separate and hatreds that are not to be forgotten, acting as Enemies No. 1 of inter-American friendship.

Men sincerely Americanist have at different times revealed the manoeuvres of the members of a capitalist system culminating in imperialism. When we speak of this dire system, we do not blame the people of the United States for it. We know how to differentiate between the guilty and the victims, and sad experience points out the veritable delinquents and the accomplices serving them as agents. And whilst that institution established at Wall Street does not disappear, with its abominable practices and methods; whilst the Government of your country does not pass legislation withdrawing its support and freeing itself of their manoeuvres; whilst they continue to be protected by citizenship in defending their thefts; your Government will not be free from suspicion on the part of victim countries nor will implantation of the Roosevelt Four Freedoms be easy. This does not mean that we should not struggle to implant them; on the contrary, it is the moment for decisive conjoint action to establish them.

Now I am going to make to you a concrete denunciation of the manoeuvres of prominent members of this imperialism that divides and separates the peoples of the continent, that exploits and manoeuvres against their freedom when it discovers natural discontent. The Standard Oil, the Cerro de Pasco Copper Corporation, the International Petroleum -- confining myself to my own country -- and to their activities. The Standard Oil in community with its old enemies, including the U.N.O., supports the leaders of the Aprista Party, Messrs. Victor Raul Haya de la Torre, Manuel Seoane and Co., and in conspiracy with the enterprises above mentioned attempts to dismember Peru of almost the third part of its territory for an indefinite period, in order to appropriate the oil region of Sechura.

Messrs. Haya de la Torre and Seoane, have turned into agent collectors of bonds of a foreign debt, made approximately twenty years ago by an Administration then unconstitutional. But precisely now, when we are still not convalescent from our crisis and are enduring its intensest rigors, payment is exacted...! And to augment our tragedy, they try to take away our gold, the only effective guarantee of our already devaluated money; and this infamous determination will surely condemn us to the implantation of fiscal paper money without guarantee, and [will work] against our paper money devaluating it still further, without possibility of our acquiring much from other countries, condemning our exchange to humiliating limitations; and then Mr. Dollar will appear, arrogant and aggressive... They have condemned us then to pay these bonds, to hand over our oil region, and they take away our gold... Do you believe, Señora, that this is the best way to draw us into closer relationship? Do you believe that these measures will strengthen the Good Neighbor Policy?...

Thus you see that I am presenting concrete facts which threaten us in this anguished postwar period. You will tell me that these questions have nothing to do with the Four Freedoms. Yes, Señora. With our devaluated currency, without guarantee, with the easily understood dangers of small and frozen accounts, overburdened with foreign commitments, and with the resulting obligation of buying products in set markets, or of

buying/

buying set products, elimination of an open market would result. We shall consume less, much less. Labor will be worse remunerated in my country, a profound inequality will be established between purchasing power and prices of articles of consumption. We shall have to pay for every import at the dollar or pound sterling price, against paper money. In order to silence the consequent justified discontent, Nazi-Fascist methods of repression will be implanted with greater rigor, with censorship of the press as well, as was done on December 7 last by the Apristas at present in power. On April 13 of this year they bludgeoned and beset honest hardworking women who were meeting in San Martín Plaza to ask bread for their children; we were clubbed pitilessly by the shock forces that Apra utilizes for inflammatory purposes, their ranks controlled by the Chief [sic] of the Aprista Party, Don Victor Raúl Haya de la Torre, at present a member of the United Nations in the Commission on the Rights of Man... What irony...! The policeman's club, tear gas, persecutions, deportations, muzzling of the press, concentration camps, again will resume daily activity... And all this with upraised arm, the Mussolini's very salute, adopted by the Aprista Party today in power.

Señora Roosevelt, human rights cannot be defended when opportunity is not given to live like human beings without suspicion, without wretchedness, and without discord! The women of that great country, with you at their head, should invite a clarification of financial processes in the Americas. Do not let the interests and bastard ambitions of the imperialists and their agents endanger the life and freedom of the peoples. This is the best method of carrying on the work of authentic friendly understanding. Human rights can never be defended so long as ambitions of domination and capitalistic enslavement intervene. You will not deny that the uneasiness of the peoples of the Americas is no mere phantom of the imagination. Our denunciation is made, concretely.

Check the fiscal manoeuvres of imperialism, w/ Nazi-Fascist methods. Let us unite to strive and liquidate every indication or encouragement of the We/

We Peruvian women have matured in the suffering of our parents and in the wretchedness of our children. When we at last have the right to live like civilized people, they confront us with a reality that impels our just protest; and in order to achieve the right that is ours, that of living as free beings without guardians, as Wilson said, only one road is left us: the unification and coordination of effective forces among women of the Americas to conquer the right of our liberation.

To establish a boycott of all labor preparing muniments of war.
Permanent action against every measure coercive of freedom.
Denunciation of, sanctions against, boycott of every Government or Party that exercises its function through Nazi-Fascist methods against its people.

The direct friendly understanding between peoples would become more effective, since treaties, agreements, or conventions with discredited Governments have no value because they deceive public opinion and undermine the confidence of the country. This class of Government neither respects nor carries out such agreements, having only those that can benefit them personally or the political group with which they are in collusion or to which they belong.

The conquest of the confidence of the nationalities should be aimed at, then, more directly, through the methods of mutual support, of fraternal cooperation, without impositions nor extortions, if in reality an effective implantation of democracy is desired; initiating only democratic method in the implantation of [foreign] capital in my country. Insuring the needful for the workers and guaranteeing every human being his rights. The mothers of your native country will be the first in defending this democratic platform. We in Peru will second them and will strive to implant these [ideas] here, since the politicians have given us only wretchedness, unrest, uncertainty, censorship, and enslavement.

Señora Roosevelt, let us unite to liquidate or check the fatal manoeuvres of imperialism, with its Nazi-Fascist methods. Let us unite to strive and liquidate every indication or encouragement of the

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germ of new wars...! Millions of mothers, wives and children are orphaned and outcast victims of suffering. The methods already denounced are those that foster discontent, unleash hatred, foment fratricidal conflict. They arm the peoples for destruction and annihilation...! We have had enough of international political manoeuvres. Enough of imperialistic economic combinations! Enough of going against the peoples that work for and aspire to a just independence. It is time now for us to live on a lofty plane in our vision and in our deeds.

We women of Peru hope that the women of your country will take up our cry, which we make erect and high-hearted, so that you may establish conjointly with us noble proposals for implantation of the Four Freedoms: Freedom from Fear...! Freedom from Want...! Freedom of the Press, Freedom of Thought!

We feel confident of your valuable acceptance [of our idea] for achievement of our campaign. In hope of your longed for reply, we subscribe ourselves,

Yours respectfully,

For the National Front of Women

[signed] Nina Flores
General Secretary

DR. J. W. FREUDENBERG
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Auckland C.1, N.Z.,
July 16, 1946.

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt,
N. Y. A.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt,

Please find enclosed a cartoon by G. E. Minchinick which was published in "The New Zealand Herald" of July 12, 1946. This cartoon will surely interest you, because it shows you the high respect of the N.Z. people for the memory of your late husband. We have endeavoured to show you our admiration when we had the honour of seeing you here. This excellent cartoon by Mr. Minchinick, who is one of our best N.Z. cartoonists, is really the expression of the New Zealanders.

I am,

Yours respectfully,

J. W. Freudenberg

✓ FEN/R

WORK OF PARLIAMENT

THE ADDRESS-IN-REPLY

MR FRASER SPEAKS

(Special Reporter)

WELLINGTON, Thursday

Before an excellent attendance in the public galleries the Prime Minister, Mr Fraser, spoke in the Address-in-Reply debate in the House of Representatives tonight. Throughout an address lasting an hour and 35 minutes Mr Fraser was in vigorous and often jocular vein. He confined his remarks to the party political situation and devoted the major portion of his address to rebutting recent statements by Opposition members.

The other Cabinet Minister who took part in the debate tonight was the Minister of Health, Mr Nordmeyer. The House spent practically the whole day on the Address-in-Reply debate and a further nine members spoke, this bringing the total of those who have contributed to the debate so far to 35, or nearly half the number who will wish to take part. The day's debate was also notable for the fact that the two women members of the House, Mrs G. H. Ross (Opposition—Hamilton) and Miss M. B. Howard (Government—Christchurch East) spoke, the latter announcing a scheme to co-ordinate maternity services.

The House adjourned at 10.30 p.m. until 10.30 a.m. tomorrow, when the debate will be continued. The House will rise tomorrow afternoon until Wednesday.

SPURT SOON

LEADERS' AGREEMENT

MAKING UP LOST TIME

which meant they were worth no more to the recipients.

The Minister of Health, Mr Nordmeyer, said reference had been made by the Leader of the Opposition and other Opposition members to figures of £35,000,000 and £40,000,000 reduc-



.... BUT HIS SOUL GOES MARCHING ON