

JOINT COMMUNIQUE BY THE PRIME MINISTER OF AUSTRALIA, MR. E.G. WHITLAM AND THE PRIME MINISTER OF PERU, MAJOR GENERAL FRANCISCO MORALES BERMUDEZ

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" At the invitation of the Government of Peru, the Prime Minister of Australia, The Honourable E.G. Whitlam, accompanied by the Special Minister of State, The Honourable L.F. Bowen, paid an official visit to Peru from 24 to 27 April 1975.

The Prime Minister was received by the President of the Republic, Major General Juan Velasco Alvarado, and the Prime Minister and Minister for War, Major General Francisco Morales Bermudez. He also met the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Energy and Mines, Agriculture, Food and Trade.

The Australian Prime Minister undertook a full program of activities which included joint discussions with six Ministers and Senior Officials.

He was welcomed by the Lord Mayor who conferred on him the title of 'Illustrious Guest of the City of Lima'. He visited museums and historical monuments in the capital and in Cuzco.

During the discussions the Prime Minister and the Peruvian Ministers reviewed the international situation and a wide range of bilateral and multilateral developments.

The two Prime Ministers noted with pleasure the wide measure of agreement between their respective countries on important international issues.

They reviewed political and economic problems of the Pacific area, bearing in mind the important responsibilities of both countries in that region.

There was recognition that the countries of the region should work collectively for the protection of their resources within a new world economic order based on ideological pluralism and universality of relations, principles which both Governments observe.

The Prime Ministers discussed the question of disarmament and arms control, particularly the problem of nuclear disarmament. They reaffirmed the need for urgent measures towards a comprehensive world-wide agreement to end all nuclear weapons tests as a necessary step towards complete and general disarmament

under effective international control. They expressed support for the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and the hope that countries which have not yet ratified this would do so in the near future.

The Prime Minister of Australia expressed the deep interest with which his country followed developments in the non-aligned movement and his Government's interest in establishing close relations with it. The Prime Minister of Peru welcomed this interest which his Government viewed with sympathy.

In the bilateral field they exchanged valuable assessments and information on broad political, economic and commercial issues. These exchanges revealed a similar progressive approach based on rejection of any threats to their people's freedom of choice and sovereignty over their natural resources including maritime resources.

The Peruvian Prime Minister noted with considerable interest the information provided by his distinguished counterpart on the general situation in Australia.

He welcomed the domestic measures being implemented by a friendly nation to further its development as well as its important initiatives in the sphere of international economic relations.

In turn the Australian Prime Minister received with interest an account of the Peruvian situation, the profound changes in the political, economic, social and cultural fields, and the significant progress already achieved for the benefit of the Peruvian people. These developments underlined the importance attached to the Velasco doctrine in promoting the development of Latin American countries by devoting the greatest means possible to their progress, and also in assisting efforts towards world disarmament and universal peace.

The Prime Ministers agreed to establish a mixed Intergovernmental Commission for economic cooperation, which will have the object of examining economic relations and of entering into basic agreements for cooperation in the commercial, financial, maritime transport and technical and scientific cooperation fields.

The Prime Minister of Australia invited the Prime Minister of Peru to pay an official visit to Australia. The Prime Minister accepted the invitation with pleasure. A date for the visit will be fixed in consultation between the two Governments."

*Note alteration  
next page.*

In short we are laying the basis for a happy, secure life in the peacetime forces of our country. As one who spent four years in the services I know how important that is. And with the other reforms we have made, and the equipment programs under way, I have no doubt that Australia is in a better position than she has ever been to meet any military threat or military obligation in the foreseeable future.

ALTERATIONS TO THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE BY THE  
PRIME MINISTER OF AUSTRALIA, MR E.G. WHITLAM, AND  
THE PRIME MINISTER OF PERU, MAJOR GENERAL  
FRANCISCO MORALES BERMUDEZ

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1. In the tenth paragraph concerning the non-aligned movement the last sentence reads:-

"The Prime Minister of Peru welcomed this interest which his Government viewed with sympathy and expressed his support for it."

2. This paragraph is immediately followed by another which reads:-

"Both Prime Ministers condemned and rejected all forms of colonialism, neo-colonialism, apartheid and racial discrimination."

3. In the fifteenth paragraph, beginning "In turn the Australian Prime Minister received with interest..." the second sentence beginning "These developments..." now reads:-

"These developments underline the importance attached to the Valasco Doctrine in promoting the development of Latin American countries by limiting military expenditures which have warlike and offensive purposes and by devoting the greatest means possible to their national development."