

1601
Enclosure No. 1 to Despatch No. 18,405 dated June 23, 1944, from the American Embassy, Mexico, D.F.

Free Translation of Report in Novedades of June 23, 1944 of resumption of relations with Bolivia and other aspects of the Mexican Foreign relations.

Headline: Mexico Renews Her Relations with Bolivia.

Subheading: Invitation to the Other Countries that They Do the Same.

Text: As of today, June 23, the Government of Mexico will renew its diplomatic relations with the Government of Bolivia, after a suspension of eight months caused by the sudden fall of President Peñaranda.

The renewal of relations with the Governmental Junta of La Paz will take place simultaneously today on the part of the other countries of the Continent and as a result of an invitation in this regard extended to them by our Government. (underscoring supplied) It will be recalled that some weeks ago Dr. Salvador R. Guzman in his character as Minister Plenipotentiary of Mexico was sent to the City of La Paz, Bolivia, to carry out certain studies and to render his report to the Minister for Foreign Relations. We duly recorded the return of Dr. Guzman, who for some days was informing Licenciado Padilla regarding the mission he carried out. As a result of these activities the invitation was extended to all the Governments of the Continent to renew diplomatic relations simultaneously, which will be done today as we said above.

Subheading: Official Statement

The official statement on the subject which was made public yesterday by the Chancery is the following:

"The Ministry for Foreign Relations determined not to omit any step susceptible of contributing to continental solidarity and the defense of our Hemisphere and no less alert to the development of the friendly bonds resulting from the affection which our people profess for that of Bolivia, followed with the greatest interest the possible international repercussions of the developments in that nation from the date on which - as a consequence of the Inter-American consultations which took place last December and January - all diplomatic relations remained suspended between Mexico and that country.

"With the object of examining the advisability of proceeding with new consultations on a subject of a continental interest, this branch of the Government - with the friendly approval of the Bolivian authorities - commissioned Dr. Salvador R. Guzman, Minister Plenipotentiary of Mexico, to proceed to La Paz. Upon his return our commissioner submitted an interesting report, which made

it

it possible, for the Government of Mexico, which at the same time took into account information received from other sources, to reach the conclusion that the establishment of diplomatic relations with the provisional Government of Bolivia not only was in accordance with the sentiments of the Mexican people but would contribute efficaciously toward strengthening continental unity and the defense of our Hemisphere, the sole considerations which were taken into account in carrying out Resolutions XXII and XXIII approved last December and January by the Emergency Consulting Committee for Political Defense, which has its headquarters in Montevideo.

"Therefore within the spirit of the Resolutions mentioned, the Ministry for Foreign Relations applying the system of consultations adopted in our continent, on the 16th of this month communicated to all the American Governments in maintaining relations with that of Bolivia, the contents of the above mentioned report, suggesting to them at the same time, the advisability of proceeding to the renewal of said relations, if possible as of the 23rd of this month, with the understanding that each State would carry out this friendly step in accordance with its respective diplomatic practices. The date of the 23rd was suggested with the hope of removing even the slightest suspicion that the Governments of this Hemisphere subjected the application of this measure to the results of the elections which are to take place the 2nd of July, elections which being a manifestation of the sovereignty of the Bolivian people alone for the right to determine"

"In view of the fact that the friendly suggestion of Mexico was accepted, the head of this Ministry, Licenciado Ezequiel Padilla, will send tomorrow - June 23 - a telegram to Señor Dr. Enrique Valdivieso, Minister for Foreign Relations for Bolivia, indicating the wish of our Government to establish diplomatic relations with the provisional Government of Bolivia.

"The Government of Mexico hopes (celebra) most sincerely that, in taking this new step for the cause of continental solidarity, there has been evidenced once more the spirit of cooperation of the American Republics, as well as the uniformity of judgment and the harmony of its fraternal sentiments.

"For its part, the Ministry for Foreign Relations desires to express its appreciation for the valuable aid which in this transcendental matter it received from the interested american diplomatic representatives residing in this capital, whose activity undoubtedly contributed to the very happy result which is described in these lines".

Licenciado Ezequiel Padilla, Minister for Foreign Relations, on announcing last night the news of relations with the Bolivian Governmental Junta having been reestablished,

concerning

concerning which we give full information in this page, made the following comments.

"I sincerely believe that the reestablishment of diplomatic relations with Bolivia should be a cause of satisfaction for all the countries of our Hemisphere for there has been cleared up a situation confusing for the sentiments of confraternity which unite us with that people and continental solidarity will be seen greatly reinforced.

"Moreover, he said, the security of our Continent will be strengthened since we are sure that Bolivia will continue contributing with complete enthusiasm to its defense.

"For those who desire that the joint existence of States develop coordinately for the good of all, it is undoubted that the system of consultations carried out on this occasion - susceptible of being perfected - has demonstrated its constructive capacity in an affair of great importance."

Subheading: Great Prestige of Mexico Abroad.

We took advantage of the brief minutes of the interview granted us by Licenciado Padilla to amplify our questions with respect to international policy. What is the position of Mexico - we asked him at this time? "Examining our international position - he replied - it is apparent that the situation in Mexico can be considered as highly (francamente) satisfactory. The visit of the Prime Minister of Great Britain to our Embassy in London; the visits since made to this capital by two outstanding members of the Government of the United States; the arrival at this capital of a large group of Canadian students, headed by the Rector of the University of Montreal, a visit which will later acquire greater importance with the arrival of the Mayor of that city - all this taking place within a few days - are clearly indications of the appreciation which Mexico has acquired abroad."

Subheading: Oumansky Not Engaged in Propaganda in Mexico.

Believing the occasion opportune, Licenciado Padilla asked us to deny the frequent reports which appear in newspapers and magazines concerning the activities of the Russian Embassy to the effect that it is making Soviet propaganda in our city.

"Frequently magazines and newspapers of this city - said Licenciado Padilla in these very words - attribute to Mr. Constantin Oumansky, Ambassador of the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics, activities which if the information is true indicate actual intervention in the internal affairs of the Republic.

"In this regard, I wish to state that the conduct of Ambassador Oumansky has been absolutely correct and that all of his activities both official and social have been based always on the most strict diplomatic norms. This applies to all the members of the Soviet Embassy."