

70-1-212

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

President
Dear ~~Senator~~ Frei:

On the eve of your assuming office as President of the Republic of Chile, I send you my warmest personal greetings, and sincere good wishes for success in dealing with the opportunities and challenges which lie before you in the coming years.

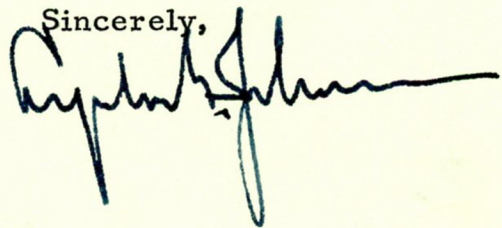
I know I need not emphasize to you how deeply committed I and the people of the United States are to the success of the mutual program which we call the Alliance for Progress. The effort which you and your government are about to begin, embodying as it does a program of economic development and social reform within a framework of liberty, is fully consistent with the high principles of the Alliance.

I know that you will face many problems in the years ahead in your effort to bring about those changes which you believe are so essential to the welfare of your people, and I want you to know that we will always stand ready to support you in your efforts insofar as we are able to do so. We are deeply aware that your success in Chile is of importance to all of us in the Hemisphere and throughout the free world.

While I have not yet had the opportunity to meet you, I already feel a great warmth toward you and the Chilean people because of the close association which you have had with my good friends Senator Humphrey and Senator McCarthy. I have every hope that we shall continue and even expand the close collaboration which has marked Chilean-United States relations over the past years.

Mrs. Johnson joins me in extending to you and your wife our very best wishes on your inauguration.

Sincerely,



His Excellency
Eduardo Frei Montalva
President-elect of the Republic of Chile,
Santiago

(Traducción no oficial)

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La Casa Blanca
Washington

A su Excelencia
Eduardo Frei Montalva
Presidente Electo de la República de Chile
Santiago.

Estimado Senador Frei:

En la víspera de su asunción al cargo de Presidente de la República de Chile, le envío mis más cordiales saludos personales y mis sinceros deseos de éxito en las diversas oportunidades y desafíos que se le presentarán en los años venideros.

Sé que es innecesario destacarle lo profundamente comprometidos que nos sentimos el pueblo de Estados Unidos y yo en el éxito del programa mutuo al cual estamos abocados y que conocemos por Alianza para el Progreso. Los planes que Ud. y su Gobierno se esforzarán en poner en práctica, y que significan un programa de desarrollo económico y de reformas sociales dentro de un esquema democrático, son totalmente consistentes con los elevados principios de la Alianza.

Sé que durante los años venideros, Ud. deberá afrontar muchos problemas en su esfuerzo para realizar estos cambios que considera tan esenciales para el bienestar de su pueblo y quiero que Ud. sepa que nosotros estaremos siempre dispuestos para ayudarlo en sus esfuerzos, dentro de lo que nos sea posible. Estamos profundamente convencidos de que su éxito en Chile tiene importancia no sólo para nuestro Hemisferio sino para todo el mundo libre.

A pesar de que aún no he tenido la oportunidad de conocerlo personalmente, siento una gran estimación hacia Ud. y hacia todos los chilenos, que nace de la estrecha colaboración que Uds. han tenido con mis amigos los Senadores Humphrey y McCarthy. Tengo la seguridad de que estos vínculos continuarán y harán más sólida la colaboración que siempre ha existido en las relaciones chileno-norteamericanas en los años pasados.

La señora Johnson se une a mí para hacer llegar a Ud. y a su esposa nuestros mejores deseos en el día de la transmisión del mando.

Afectuosamente,

(fdo.) Lyndon B. Johnson

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 17, 1969

Dear Mr. President:

As I prepare to leave office, I want not only to say good-bye but also to thank you for helping to make possible cooperation for peace and progress between our two countries during my years as President. I know that the spirit of friendship and mutual respect on which this cooperation has been based will continue and that both our peoples will be the better for it.

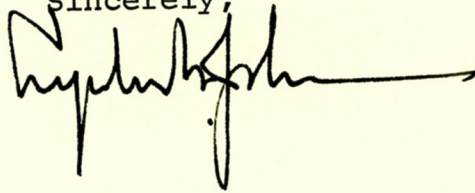
I also want to thank you for our personal association, which has been a source of special gratification. Through it, both of us were able to gain a better understanding of our nations' problems and aspirations.

As the enclosed photographs of our recent lunar flight suggest, this shrinking globe is rapidly becoming a single neighborhood. Even the most distant nations now live closer to each other than villages in a single nation did only a few centuries ago. Countries are learning that they must work together for common ends if any are to survive and prosper in the new world of interdependence which science and technology are helping to create.

We have made some progress to this end in recent years. New forms of international cooperation are evident in many areas. I believe that this progress will continue, and that one day an international community will come into being which is as solidly grounded in common interest and common institutions as national communities are today.

I know that both our countries will play a part in this great venture. Despite my retirement from the Presidency, my interest in Chile's role and my friendship for its people will remain strong and undiminished, as will my dedication to the goals which both our countries share.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "Richard Nixon", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

His Excellency
Eduardo Frei Montalva
President of the Republic of Chile
Santiago