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COMMEMORATION OF THE FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Letter dated 24 October 1985 from the Permanent Representative of
Bolivia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the message from His Excellency Víctor Paz Estenssoro, Constitutional President of the Republic of Bolivia, on the occasion of the commemoration of the fortieth anniversary of the United Nations.

I should be grateful if you would have this message circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under agenda item 39.

(Signed) Jorge GUMUCIO GRANIER
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Message dated 24 October 1985 from the Constitutional President
of Bolivia addressed to the President of the General Assembly
and the Secretary-General

On the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of the United Nations I have the honour, through you, to pay tribute to the world Organization on behalf of the Government and people of Bolivia.

In 1939, mankind was swept up into the largest conflagration in history. The League of Nations was unable to prevent the suspicions and tensions which the Treaty of Versailles had left unresolved from finally kindling the fires of war. Six years of terrible anguish had to elapse before man could again begin to glimpse peaceful horizons. However before peace came, mankind, while still in a state of shock witnessed the dawn of the era of nuclear weapons, an era of constant anxiety and fears.

It is for that reason that the Charter of the United Nations, which in 1945 showed the world the possibility of achieving lasting peace, has such great significance for all peoples.

Bolivia is one of the founding States of the United Nations. In signing the San Francisco Declaration Bolivia put its seal on the promise to help "maintain international peace and security" and "to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom" as stated in the preamble to the Charter.

Since that time we have undertaken to set an example in our daily lives, within the international community, of tolerance, friendship, mutual respect, co-operation and protection of human rights.

Within the context and spirit of the Charter of the United Nations standards have been established recognizing the equal rights and opportunities of all States, large and small, powerful and weak. On this fortieth anniversary Governments must be encouraged to persevere in the adherence to these standards, particularly at the present time when peace is still a dream, injustice has not yet been fully overcome and when poverty, social inequalities and discrimination of all varieties remain an unfortunate reality.

Nevertheless, the world Organization can cite as one of its outstanding achievements the solution of problems affecting the international community, problems which might otherwise have led to far more critical and insoluble situations.

In this anniversary year, the United Nations has given a further example of its noble mission, in the multinational co-operation it has begun and is promoting for Bolivia to support the policy of economic recovery pursued by my Government.

My people will not forget this gesture. My Government, which has been vested with authority by a decision of the people, has as its objective to enhance the well-being and rights of the majority in Bolivia.

This social policy is in line with the principles set forth by international agreements in the San Francisco Declaration. To achieve these goals Bolivia will continue to make its presence actively felt in the United Nations and in the specialized agencies of the system.

In the next 15 years that remain of the twentieth century, we are called upon to demonstrate whether we are capable of achieving that ideal of a less conflict-ridden world, one far removed from injustice and fears. Now is the hour for noble duties for the next hour will be the time when we must render account to the younger generations in our countries.

(Signed) Víctor Paz ESTENSSORO
Constitutional President of the
Republic of Bolivia
