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Folder Title:
President Perez of Venezuela State Visit 4/24/90 [OA 8311][1]

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4's - as per conversation
w/ Jeb Bush, 4/18/90.
[P. 1, TOAST]

McGroarty/Dooley
April 18, 1990
9:00 am
[VENEZ]

Sharon
Lee
2703

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: ARRIVAL STATEMENT FOR OFFICIAL VISIT OF
PRESIDENT PEREZ OF VENEZUELA
THE SOUTH LAWN
APRIL 26, 1990
XX:00 AM

Welcome, all of you. // It is my great honor to welcome
the head of state of South America's oldest democracy -- and one
of Latin America's most respected statesmen -- Carlos Andres
Perez, President of Venezuela. //

State Dept
background
notes

And I am especially pleased that we welcome him today.
President Perez has come here from Managua -- just hours after
attending the inauguration of Violeta Chamorro as the new
President of Nicaragua -- // democratic Nicaragua. A great day
for democracy -- and a great advance for the cause of freedom in
our hemisphere.

Don Johnson
NSC
4592

President Perez, on the morning after Nicaragua's recent
elections, I called you to discuss the stunning victory the
Nicaraguan people had won at the ballot box. I called to confer
with you because I knew how long and hard you worked to bring
democracy to Nicaragua.

NGA speech
2/26/90

From the final days of the Somoza regime -- to your efforts
^{on behalf of} as a participant in the Contadora Group -- and now to the moment
of freedom's triumph, your deep personal commitment to the
advance of democracy has never wavered.

342-3815
364-6130
342-2214
Venez Embassy

Today, another nation has joined freedom's ranks. For the people of all the Americas this is a time to celebrate. More than that -- it is a time to dedicate ourselves to the day, perhaps not so distant, when all the people of this hemisphere live in freedom. //

Mr. President, in just a few moments, we will move inside to the Oval Office and begin our consultations. But before we do, let me say a few words about the new course your nation has chosen -- about the changes your nation is making in its economic orientation. And about Venezuela's version of what I hear you call Perez-troika. //

In the past year, we've seen the thirst for freedom transform the world. With that unquenchable desire for political freedom has come a realization that freedom is also the key to economic development.

From Moscow to Managua, we've witnessed a shift -- from the teachings of Marx to the lessons of the free market. // That shift parallels the one you've begun in Venezuela -- by stripping away the layers of state control that stifled development, in favor of free market principles that -- experience proves -- provide fertile ground for growth.

I know this transition -- with its difficult short-term effects -- has meant hardship for the people of Venezuela. But it is the kind of new beginning that will lay the foundations for future growth. // It is not an easy path -- but it is the only path to prosperity and better lives for all Venezuelans.

X That's why I'm pleased to see that Venezuela and its main creditors have reached agreement on a plan for dealing with the debt burden -- a plan that opens the way for opportunity and growth. With this agreement, Venezuela can take the next step forward -- toward economic vitality, and growing prosperity for all its people. And that, Mr. President, is not only a testiment to to **Venezuelan energy and enterprise** -- but to your vision and **courage**. //

On behalf of all Americans, Mr. President, it is my great pleasure to meet with you here at the White House. // Once again, welcome -- and may God bless the **Republic of Venezuela**.

#

Alan Yalk

647-4216

Venezuela desk @ state

McGroarty/Dooley
April 18, 1989
9:00 am
[VENEZ.TST]

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: TOAST AT THE STATE DINNER IN HONOR OF
PRESIDENT PEREZ
THE WHITE HOUSE
APRIL 26, 1989
7:30 PM

Mr. President. Distinguished guests. Friends of Venezuela:
Barbara and I are delighted to share this evening together. //
It's always a pleasure to host a visiting head of state, but the
pleasure is even greater when there are personal ties involved.
And Mr. President, that's true in the case of Venezuela. // My
son Jeb -- who's here with us tonight -- lived and worked in your
country. *[during your first term as Pres.]* My friend and classmate of many years ago, Alberto
Vollmer of Venezuela, is also here tonight.

And of course, Barbara and I had the opportunity to visit
your country, and meet with you, while I was Vice President, back
in 1981 -- and we gratefully accept your invitation to return to
Venezuela later this year.

The key to the good relations we enjoy is that our two
nations share a common love of freedom. We agree that no system
is better than democracy at securing the **peace and prosperity** all
nations seek. That no system is better suited to respect **basic
human rights** -- or provides a better home to **human aspirations**.
Those shared values form the basis of our friendship. Even our
occasional **disagreements** take place within the broad bounds of
democracy, in an atmosphere of mutual respect. ///

Doyle Baker
4592
P. 361
Oct 1

Don Johnson
4592

Mr. President, you are one of Latin America's great statesmen -- and I hope you won't mind that I share with our guests tonight conclusive proof of your stature -- proof provided by Venezuela's Constitution. According to its provisions, no President can serve a second term -- not, that is, without first waiting 10 years.

*State Dept.
background
Notes*

[[Now, before I go any further let me say -- with all due respect to the Constitution of Venezuela -- this is one of those areas where there is room for democracies to differ. // The U.S. Constitution suits me just fine. //]]

Carlos Andres Perez first became President in 1973; his five-year term ended in 1978. 10 years later -- at the earliest possible opportunity -- the voters of Venezuela made this man the first President elected to a second term. / Mr. President, not only is it a testament to your patience -- but to your countrymen's deep regard for you and your leadership. //

Perez bid

Your life-long service to your nation has been a source of faith: Faith that Venezuela will move forward under your guidance -- faith that democracy will move forward in Latin America, with Venezuela in the vanguard. //

Tonight, Mr. President, I offer this toast:
To the shared ideals that unite our nations;
To lasting friendship between the people of the United States and the people of Venezuela;
And to the future of freedom and democracy across all the Americas.

#

**ARRIVAL: PRESIDENT PEREZ OF VENEZUELA / SOUTH LAMIN
APRIL 26, 1990 / 10:00 AM**

**WELCOME, ALL OF YOU. // IT IS MY GREAT HONOR TO
WELCOME THE LEADER OF ONE OF SOUTH AMERICA'S OLDEST
DEMOCRACIES -- AND ONE OF LATIN AMERICA'S MOST
RESPECTED STATESMEN -- CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ, PRESIDENT
OF VENEZUELA. //**

**AND I AM ESPECIALLY PLEASED THAT WE WELCOME HIM
TODAY.**

- 2 -

**PRESIDENT PEREZ HAS COME HERE FROM MANAGUA -- JUST
HOURS AFTER ATTENDING THE INAUGURATION OF VIOLETA
CHAMORRO AS THE NEW PRESIDENT OF NICARAGUA -- //
DEMOCRATIC NICARAGUA. A GREAT DAY FOR DEMOCRACY -- AND
A GREAT ADVANCE FOR THE CAUSE OF FREEDOM IN OUR
HEMISPHERE.**

PRESIDENT PEREZ, ON THE MORNING AFTER NICARAGUA'S RECENT ELECTIONS, I CALLED YOU TO DISCUSS THE STUNNING VICTORY THE NICARAGUAN PEOPLE HAD WON AT THE BALLOT BOX. I CALLED TO CONFER WITH YOU BECAUSE I KNEW HOW LONG AND HARD YOU WORKED TO BRING DEMOCRACY TO NICARAGUA.

FROM THE FINAL DAYS OF THE SOMOZA REGIME -- TO YOUR EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF THE CONTADORA GROUP -- AND NOW TO THE MOMENT OF FREEDOM'S TRIUMPH, YOUR DEEP PERSONAL COMMITMENT TO THE ADVANCE OF DEMOCRACY HAS NEVER WAVERED.

TODAY, ANOTHER NATION HAS JOINED FREEDOM'S RANKS. FOR THE PEOPLE OF ALL THE AMERICAS THIS IS A TIME TO CELEBRATE.

MORE THAN THAT -- IT IS A TIME TO DEDICATE OURSELVES TO THE DAY, PERHAPS NOT SO DISTANT, WHEN ALL THE PEOPLE OF THIS HEMISPHERE LIVE IN FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY. //

MR. PRESIDENT, IN JUST A FEW MOMENTS, WE WILL MOVE INSIDE TO THE OVAL OFFICE AND BEGIN OUR CONSULTATIONS. BUT BEFORE WE DO, LET ME SAY A FEW WORDS ABOUT THE NEW COURSE YOUR NATION HAS CHOSEN -- ABOUT THE CHANGES YOUR NATION IS MAKING IN ITS ECONOMIC ORIENTATION.

AND ABOUT VENEZUELA'S VERSION OF WHAT I HAVE HEARD DESCRIBED AS PEREZ-TROIKA. //

IN THE PAST YEAR, WE'VE SEEN THE THIRST FOR FREEDOM TRANSFORM THE WORLD. WITH THAT UNQUENCHABLE DESIRE FOR POLITICAL FREEDOM HAS COME A REALIZATION THAT FREEDOM IS ALSO THE KEY TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

FROM MOSCOW TO MANAGUA, WE'VE WITNESSED A SHIFT -- FROM THE TEACHINGS OF MARX TO THE LESSONS OF THE FREE MARKET. //

THAT SHIFT PARALLELS THE ONE YOU'VE BEGUN IN VENEZUELA -- BY STRIPPING AWAY THE LAYERS OF STATE CONTROL THAT STIFLED DEVELOPMENT, IN FAVOR OF FREE MARKET PRINCIPLES THAT -- EXPERIENCE PROVES -- PROVIDE FERTILE GROUND FOR GROWTH.

I KNOW THIS TRANSITION -- WITH ITS DIFFICULT SHORT-TERM EFFECTS -- HAS MEANT SOME PAIN FOR THE PEOPLE OF VENEZUELA. BUT IT IS THE KIND OF NEW BEGINNING THAT WILL LAY THE FOUNDATIONS FOR FUTURE GROWTH. //

IT IS NOT AN EASY PATH -- BUT WE ARE CONVINCED IT IS THE ONLY PATH TO PROSPERITY AND BETTER LIVES FOR ALL VENEZUELAN.

THAT'S WHY I'M PLEASED TO SEE THAT VENEZUELA AND ITS MAIN CREDITORS HAVE REACHED AGREEMENT UNDER THE BRADY PLAN FOR DEALING WITH THE DEBT BURDEN -- A PLAN THAT OPENS THE WAY FOR OPPORTUNITY AND GROWTH. WITH THIS AGREEMENT, VENEZUELA CAN TAKE THE NEXT STEP FORWARD -- TOWARD ECONOMIC VITALITY, AND GROWING PROSPERITY FOR ALL ITS PEOPLE.

AND THAT, MR. PRESIDENT, IS NOT ONLY A TESTAMENT TO
VENEZUELAN ENERGY AND ENTERPRISE -- BUT TO YOUR VISION
AND COURAGE. //

ON BEHALF OF ALL AMERICANS, MR. PRESIDENT, IT IS MY
GREAT PLEASURE TO MEET WITH YOU HERE AT THE WHITE
HOUSE. // ONCE AGAIN, WELCOME -- AND MAY GOD BLESS
THE REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA.

#



ENTERTAINMENT THANK YOU/OFFICIAL VISIT OF PRESIDENT PEREZ
PETE FOUNTAIN -- APRIL 26, 1990

We've just heard one of the living legends of Dixieland -- an artist who grew up playing the great jazz houses on Bourbon Street, and who's played this house on Pennsylvania Avenue -- 5 times now. On behalf of all our guests, Barbara and I want to thank Pete Fountain -- and his talented band -- for sharing the sounds of Bourbon Street with us tonight.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

APRIL 20, 1990

TO: SPEECHWRITERS
FM: CATHY FENTON, SOCIAL OFFICE
X7064
RE: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON
ENTERTAINER/APRIL 26 VENEZUELA
DINNER/THANK YOU REMARKS FOR
THE PRESIDENT

Attached is background information on
PETE FOUNTAIN, our entertainer for next
week's dinner. Please copy us with your
draft thank you for the President.

Thank you.

cc: ANNA PEREZ



PETE FOUNTAIN BIOGRAPHY

The year was 1939 and Peter Dewey LaFontaine, Jr. was nine years old - a skinny kid with bad lungs who spent most of his time hanging around The Top Hat Dance Hall near his home on Broad Street. The Top Hat was a stronghold for Dixieland jazz and Dixieland had a strong hold on Pete Fountain even then. He knew he wanted to be a musician - he thought he wanted to be a drummer.

The family doctor had something else in mind. His prescription called for a musical instrument that would strengthen those lungs - the clarinet. Pete's father was a natural musician and it was he who taught Pete to play his first note.

Endlessly in trouble with his music teachers, Pete could not not play Dixieland. He will tell you today that Benny Goodman and Irving Fazola were really his teachers. After endless hours of listening to their recordings and practicing, the personal sound of Pete Fountain began to emerge - and it was fat.

By the time he was sixteen, he had already gained a reputation on The Street - Bourbon Street. He played with the Junior Dixie Band in the famous Parisian Room - often performing for legendary jazzmen. It was a heady time of life. And it was to lead to one of the great joys and tragedies of his youth. A call from the Opera House Burlesque Theatre brought the news. Irving Fazola's band was playing there and the caller asked Pete if he would like to play - said he had heard Pete had a sound as good as Faz's. Pete Fountain was not yet out of high school and he was being asked to replace his idol on the bandstand. Irving Fazola had died that day at the age of thirty-six.

A few years later Pete joined Phil Zeto's International Dixieland Express. They were playing El Morocco on The Street. It was there he met Beverly. She had decided very young to marry a musician, and Pete had decided very young to be a musician.

Soon enough Pete was playing with one of the best known Dixieland bands on The Street - The Basin Street Six. But it was not long after, that be-bop came in and the music that Pete Fountain loved could not provide him or anybody else with a living. Dixieland, in it's own birthplace - New Orleans, was definitely asleep. Pete went to Chicago for an extended gig with the Dukes of Dixieland - just to play his kind of music. He spent most weekends flying back and forth to and from New Orleans. Finally, he returned to New Orleans - this time for good.

3rd Level • The New Orleans Hilton • Poydras Street and the Mississippi • New Orleans, La. 70140 • 504-523-4374

He gave up music. By then there were three children to be considered - but no work. It was 1956 and it was a bummer. He spent a year failing miserably at several miserable jobs. Pete went back to music. The sound was still in him. All he needed was a band, a bandstand and a place to play.

Lawrence Welk gave him all those. A one-night television guest appearance turned into a two-year stay. Welk promised he would make Pete Fountain a household word - and he did. It was with Welk that Pete played Carnegie Hall for the first time. Naturally he chose a Benny Goodman tune, "China Boy" - it was a great night.

Pete was to learn irrevocably what every New Orleanian has to accept as a fact of life. You can leave New Orleans, but it never leaves you. The smells, the sights, the sounds. It cannot be described, it cannot be erased.

Pete Fountain came home. Again. This time it would really be for good. And this time, he came home to his own club - Pete Fountain's French Quarter Inn at Bourbon and St. Ann. The tiles are still set in the sidewalk from those days. But the need for a larger place forced Pete to move further down The Street - to the 200 Block. He stayed there until 1977.

Pete was looking for a new location and the new New Orleans Hilton was looking for Pete Fountain. Pete and Baron Hilton started talking and Pete found a permanent home in the Hilton. This new move was announced on The Tonight Show - and it surprised everyone.

When the Hilton opened in August, 1977 - Pete Fountain was there. He recreated his famous Bourbon Street club in the hotel. Capacity crowds every night, repeated guest appearances on network television including over fifty performances on Johnny Carson's "The Tonight Show", and major new recordings have propelled Pete Fountain into yet another successful phase of his long career.

Over Pete's career he has recorded over eighty albums, three of which have gone gold, "Pete Fountain's New Orleans", "The Blues", and "Mr. New Orleans". He has also received a gold record for his hit single "Just A Closer Walk With Thee". The University of Santa Fe has bestowed an Honorary Doctorate Degree in music to Pete for his tremendous music contributions.

Pete has had command performances for four Presidents of the United States. Pete has performed for Pope John Paul II at the New Orleans Papal Mass with an attendance of over 400,000 persons. Pope John Paul II was quoted as saying "I have always heard about the beautiful music of New Orleans. Today I have been able to hear it and admire it personally."

Pete spends most of his time at his "retreat" in Bay St. Louis. And there is a lot there to keep him busy - "the fishing is great".

Pete has three children, four grandchildren, and a garage full of antique cars. The prized car collection includes a 1936 4-door Ford Convertible, a 1934 Ford Phaeton, a 1934 Ford Roadster, and a 1957 3900SL Mercedes.

**TOAST AT THE STATE DINNER IN HONOR OF PRESIDENT PEREZ
THE WHITE HOUSE / APRIL 26, 1989 / 7:30 PM**

**MR. PRESIDENT. DISTINGUISHED GUESTS. FRIENDS OF
VENEZUELA: BARBARA AND I ARE DELIGHTED TO SHARE THIS
EVENING TOGETHER. // IT'S ALWAYS A PLEASURE TO HOST A
VISITING HEAD OF STATE, BUT THE PLEASURE IS EVEN
GREATER WHEN THERE ARE PERSONAL TIES INVOLVED. AND MR.
PRESIDENT, THAT'S TRUE IN THE CASE OF VENEZUELA. //**

- 2 -

**OUR OWN JEB AND COLUMBA HERE WITH US TONIGHT -- LIVED
AND WORKED IN YOUR COUNTRY DURING YOUR FIRST TERM AS
PRESIDENT. THEY LOVED IT AND SO DO WE.**

**BARBARA AND I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT YOUR
COUNTRY IN 1957 AND AGAIN WHILE I WAS VICE PRESIDENT,
BACK IN 1981 -- AND WE GRATEFULLY ACCEPT YOUR
INVITATION TO RETURN TO VENEZUELA LATER THIS YEAR.**

THE KEY TO THE GOOD RELATIONS WE ENJOY IS THAT OUR TWO NATIONS SHARE A VISION OF A TOTALLY DEMOCRATIC HEMISPHERE AND A COMMON LOVE OF FREEDOM. WE AGREE THAT NO SYSTEM IS BETTER THAN DEMOCRACY AT SECURING THE PEACE AND PROSPERITY ALL NATIONS SEEK. THAT NO SYSTEM IS BETTER SUITED TO RESPECT BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS -- OR PROVIDES A BETTER HOME TO HUMAN ASPIRATIONS. THOSE SHARED VALUES FORM THE BASIS OF OUR FRIENDSHIP.

EVEN OUR OCCASIONAL DISAGREEMENTS TAKE PLACE WITHIN THE BROAD BOUNDS OF DEMOCRACY, IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF MUTUAL RESPECT. ///

MR. PRESIDENT, YOU ARE ONE OF LATIN AMERICA'S GREAT STATESMEN -- AND I HOPE YOU WON'T MIND THAT I SHARE WITH OUR GUESTS TONIGHT CONCLUSIVE PROOF OF YOUR STATURE -- PROOF PROVIDED BY VENEZUELA'S CONSTITUTION.

ACCORDING TO ITS PROVISIONS, NO PRESIDENT CAN SERVE A SECOND TERM -- NOT, THAT IS, WITHOUT FIRST WAITING 10 YEARS.

CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ FIRST BECAME PRESIDENT IN 1973; HIS FIVE-YEAR TERM ENDED IN 1978. 10 YEARS LATER -- AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE OPPORTUNITY -- THE VOTERS OF VENEZUELA MADE THIS MAN THE FIRST MAN IN MODERN TIMES TO BE ELECTED TO A SECOND TERM. /

MR. PRESIDENT, THIS IS A TESTAMENT TO YOUR COUNTRYMEN'S DEEP REGARD FOR YOU AND FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP. //

YOUR LIFE-LONG SERVICE TO YOUR NATION HAS BEEN A SOURCE OF FAITH: FAITH THAT VENEZUELA WILL MOVE FORWARD UNDER YOUR GUIDANCE -- FAITH THAT DEMOCRACY WILL MOVE FORWARD IN LATIN AMERICA, WITH VENEZUELA IN THE VANGUARD. //

**TONIGHT, MR. PRESIDENT, I OFFER THIS TOAST:
TO THE SHARED IDEALS THAT UNITE OUR NATIONS;
TO LASTING FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE PEOPLE OF THE
UNITED STATES AND THE PEOPLE OF VENEZUELA;
AND TO THE FUTURE OF FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY ACROSS
ALL THE AMERICAS.**

#



THE STATE VISIT
TO
WASHINGTON, D.C.
OF
HIS EXCELLENCY
CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ
PRESIDENT
OF
THE REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA
AND
MRS. PEREZ
APRIL 25 TO APRIL 28, 1990

* * *

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MEMBERS OF THE OFFICIAL VENEZUELAN DELEGATION

His Excellency
Carlos Andres Perez
President of the Republic of Venezuela

Mrs. Perez

His Excellency
Dr. Reinaldo Figueredo Planchart
Minister of Foreign Affairs

His Excellency
Dr. Simon Alberto Consalvi
Ambassador of Venezuela
to the United States

His Excellency
Dr. Celestino Armas
Minister of Energy and Mines

His Excellency
Dr. Miguel Rodriguez Fandeo
Minister of Coordination and Planning

MEMBERS OF THE OFFICIAL VENEZUELAN DELEGATION
(Continued)

His Excellency
Dr. Octavio Lepage
Chairman, Foreign Policy Committee
of the Senate

His Excellency
Dr. Jose Rodriguez Iturbe
Chairman, Foreign Policy Committee
of the Chamber of Deputies

His Excellency
Dr. Marco Tulio Bruni Celli
Member of the Chamber of Deputies

His Excellency
Dr. Pedro Tinoco, Jr.
President of the Central Bank

Dr. Sonia Perez
Daughter of the President

Dr. Jose Alvarez Stelling
President, Venezuelan Bankers Association

His Excellency
Dr. Julio Sosa Rodriguez
Former Ambassador of Venezuela
to the United States

Her Excellency
Dr. Beatrice Rangel
Vice Minister of the Secretariat
of the Presidency

MEMBERS OF THE ACCOMPANYING VENEZUELAN
DELEGATION

Dr. Pedro Berroeta

Mrs. Carolina Herrera

Maestro Carlos Cruz Diez

Mr. Antonio Bianchi

Dr. Enzo de Buffalo

Dr. Andres Stambouli

Mr. Alberto Vollmer

Mr. Hans Neumann

Dr. Marcel Granier

Mr. Gustavo Cisneros

Ms. Gabriela Febres Cordero

Mr. Antonio Hernandez

Mrs. Marta Perez de Hernandez

Mrs. Claudette de Veitia

Mr. Luis Salazar

Mr. Andres Galarraga

THE STATE VISIT
TO
WASHINGTON, D.C.
OF
HIS EXCELLENCY
CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ
PRESIDENT
OF
THE REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA
AND
MRS. PEREZ

APRIL 25 TO 28, 1990

SUMMARY SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY
APRIL 25

6:00 pm Mrs. Perez arrives
seperately, Andrews
Air Force Base,
Washington, D.C.

6:35 pm Mrs. Perez arrives
Blair House via
motorcade.

10:00 pm- Greeted by Assistant Chief
10:10 pm of Protocol Black and Welcoming
Committee, Andrews Air Force
Base, Washington, D.C.*

* Mrs. Perez does not attend.

SUMMARY SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY
APRIL 25
(Continued)

10:40 pm Arrive Blair House via motorcade.

Overnight: Blair House.

SUMMARY SCHEDULE

THURSDAY
APRIL 26

10:00 am- Arrival Ceremony with The
10:25 am President and Mrs. Bush,
South Lawn, The White House.

10:30 am- Meeting with The President,
10:45 am Oval Office, The White House.*

10:30 am- Coffee offered by Mrs.
11:00 am Bush in honor of Mrs.
Perez, Green Room, The
White House.

10:45 am- Expanded Meeting with The
11:30 am President, Cabinet Room,
The White House.*

12:00 pm- Meeting with Secretary of State
12:30 pm Baker, Secretary's Office,
Department of State.*

12:30 pm- Luncheon offered by
2:00 pm Mrs. Baker in honor of
Mrs. Perez, Thomas
Jefferson Room,
Department of State.

* Mrs. Perez does not attend.

SUMMARY SCHEDULE

THURSDAY
APRIL 26
(Continued)

12:30 pm- Working Luncheon with Secretary
1:30 pm of State Baker, James Madison
Room, Department of State.*

3:00 pm- Meetings with Senate Majority
3:45 pm Leader Mitchell and Senate
Minority Leader Dole, Room
S-221, United States Capitol.*

4:15 pm- Meeting with Speaker Foley,
4:45 pm Room H-206, United States
Capitol.*

7:30 pm- Refreshments with The President
7:45 pm and Mrs. Bush, Family Quarters,
The White House.

7:45 pm- Reception, State Dinner and
10:35 pm After-Dinner Entertainment, East
Room and State Dining Room, The
White House.

* Mrs. Perez does not attend.

SUMMARY SCHEDULE

FRIDAY
APRIL 27

9:00 am- Protocolary Session in honor of
11:00 am President Perez, to be followed
by Address before Permanent
Council, Hall of the Americas,
Organization of American States.*

10:05 am- Mrs. Perez tours
11:00 am Rosemont Day Care
Center.

11:20 am- Mrs. Perez tours
12:00 pm St. John's Child
Development Center.

11:05 am- Wreath-Laying Ceremony, Simon
11:15 am Bolivar Monument.*

12:00 pm- Luncheon with members of
2:00 pm International Banking Community,
Blair House.*

1:50 pm- Mrs. Perez tours
3:30 pm Melwood Horticultural
Training Center.

* Mrs. Perez does not attend.

SUMMARY SCHEDULE

FRIDAY
APRIL 27
(Continued)

3:00 pm- Dedication Ceremony, new
4:00 pm Venezuelan Embassy.*

4:15 pm- Press Conference, new Venezuelan
5:15 pm Embassy.*

7:00 pm- Reception offered by Ambassador
9:00 pm and Mrs. Consalvi in honor of
President and Mrs. Perez,
Venezuelan Ambassador's
Residence.

9:00 pm- Private Meeting with Ambassador
10:30 pm Consalvi, Venezuelan
Ambassador's Residence.*

* Mrs. Perez does not attend.

Overnight: Blair House.

SUMMARY SCHEDULE

SATURDAY
APRIL 28

8:40 am- Farewell Ceremony with Chief
8:45 am of Protocol Reed and Farewell
Committee, Washington Monument
Grounds, Reflecting Pool.

8:45 am- United States Presidential
8:55 am Helicopters to Andrews Air Force
Base.

9:00 am- United States Presidential
9:50 am Aircraft to La Guardia Airport,
New York, New York.

Resume private schedule upon
arrival.

THE STATE VISIT
TO
WASHINGTON, D.C.
OF
HIS EXCELLENCY
CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ
PRESIDENT
OF
THE REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA
AND
MRS. PEREZ

APRIL 25 TO 28, 1990

DETAILED SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY

APRIL 25, 1990

WASHINGTON, D.C.

6:00 pm Mrs. Perez arrives
separately, Andrews Air
Force Base, Washington,
D.C., via Venezuelan
Special Aircraft from
Caracas, Venezuela.

WEDNESDAY

APRIL 25, 1990 (Continued)

WASHINGTON, D.C.

6:05 pm Depart Andrews Air
Force Base via
motorcade en route
Blair House.

Motorcade Assignments

Lead Car	USSS
Spouse's Car	Mrs. Perez
Follow-up	USSS
Protocol Car	Mr. Bumgardner
Car 3	Min. Rodriguez Fandeo Dr. Tinoco
Car 4	TBD
Car 5	TBD

6:35 pm Arrive Blair House,
1651 Pennsylvania
Avenue, N.W.

Greeted by:

Mrs. Benedicte Valentiner
General Manager
Blair House

WEDNESDAY

APRIL 25, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

10:00 pm His Excellency Carlos Andres Perez,
President of the Republic of
Venezuela, arrives Andrews Air Force
Base, Washington, D.C., via
Venezuelan Special Aircraft from
Managua, Nicaragua.

Mr. William F. Black
Assistant Chief of Protocol

and

His Excellency
Simon Alberto Consalvi
Ambassador of Venezuela
to the United States

Mr. Black and Ambassador Consalvi
board the aircraft and escort
President Perez to the Welcoming
Committee.

(Open Press Coverage)

Welcoming Committee

Mrs. Consalvi

Brigadier General
Ralph R. Rohatsch, Jr.
Commander
Air Force District of Washington

WEDNESDAY

APRIL 25, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

Welcoming Committee
(Continued)

Mrs. Rohatsch

Mr. Michael M. Skol
Deputy Assistant Secretary of State
for Inter-American Affairs

His Excellency
Edilberto Moreno
Ambassador of Venezuela
to the Organization of
American States

Mrs. Moreno

Her Excellency
Nora Arnao Machado
Alternate Ambassador of
Venezuela to the Organization
of American States

Mr. Simon Faraco
Consul General
of Venezuela at Baltimore

Mrs. Faraco

Dr. Carlos Bivero
Minister-Counselor
Embassy of Venezuela

Mrs. Bivero

WEDNESDAY
APRIL 25, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

Welcoming Committee
(Continued)

Dr. William Larralde
Minister-Counselor
Embassy of Venezuela

Mrs. Larralde

Major General
Miguel Ignacio Morales-Perez
Defense and Military Attache
Embassy of Venezuela

Brigadier General
Juan Carlos Zarate
Air Attache
Embassy of Venezuela

Rear Admiral
Salvador Paz Camacho
Naval Attache
Embassy of Venezuela

Mrs. Angela Peraza
Attache
Embassy of Venezuela

After greeting members of the
Welcoming Committee, Mr. Black and
Brigadier General Rohatsch escort
President Perez to his car.

WEDNESDAY

APRIL 25, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

10:10 pm Depart Andrews Air Force Base via
Motorcade en route Blair House.

Motorcade Assignments

Lead Car	USSS
Spare Car	USSS Mr. Black Mr. Bumgardner
Pres.'s Car	Pres. Perez Amb. Consalvi
Follow-up	USSS
Protocol Car	Amb. Silva Ms. Morales
Car 3	Dr. Armas Dr. Lepage Dr. Iturbe
Car 4	Brig. Gen. Beltran Lt. Col. Filatov Miss Rosales
Car 5	Mr. Rodriguez
Embassy Van	TBD

WEDNESDAY

APRIL 25, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

10:40 pm Arrive Blair House.

Greeted by:

Mrs. Benedicte Valentiner
General Manager
Blair House

Overnight: Blair House.

THURSDAY
APRIL 26, 1990

WASHINGTON, D.C.

9:00 am Individuals with Southwest Tickets arrive the Southwest Gate of The White House.

9:15 am The following individuals arrive The White House via the Visitor's Entrance, East Executive Avenue, to be escorted to the Gold Rope Area:

Gold Rope Guests

Brig. Gen. Juan Carlos Zarate

Mr. Simon Faraco

Mrs. Norma de Faraco

Mr. Alberto Vollmer

Mr. Orlando Garcia

Rear Adm. Salvador Paz Camacho

Mrs. Claudette de Veitia

Mr. Raimundo Guisandes

Dr. William Larralde

Amb. Nora Arnao Machado

Mrs. Carolina Herrera

Mr. Gustavo Cisneros

Mr. Hans Neumann

Dr. Marcel Granier

Ms. Gabriela Febres Cordero

Dr. Enzo de Buffalo

THURSDAY
APRIL 26, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

Gold Rope Guests
(Continued)

Dr. Pedro Berroeta

Maestro Carlos Cruz Diez

Mr. Antonio Bianchi

<p><u>9:30 am</u> The Gold Rope Guests are escorted to the Gold Rope Area on the South Lawn of The White House.</p>

THURSDAY
APRIL 26, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

Welcoming Committee

9:40 am The following members of
the Welcoming Committee
arrive the West Lobby of
The White House and are
escorted to their assigned
places on the South Lawn:

The Secretary of State

Mrs. Baker

Representative of the Joint
Chiefs of Staff

THURSDAY
APRIL 26, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

Welcoming Committee
(Continued)

9:45 am The following members of
the Welcoming Committee
are escorted to their
places on the South
Lawn:

The Honorable
John Sununu
Chief of Staff and
Assistant to the President

General Brent Scowcroft
Assistant to the President
for National Security
Affairs

The Honorable
William Kristol
Chief of Staff and Assistant
to the Vice President

Welcoming Committee
(Continued)

9:30 am The following members
of the Welcoming Committee
arrive The White House
via the Visitor's Entrance,
East Executive Avenue,
and are escorted to their
assigned places on the
South Lawn:

Mrs. Maria Eugenia Consalvi
Wife of the Venezuelan Ambassador
to the United States

His Excellency
Jose Luis Fernandes Lopes
Ambassador of Cape Verde
to the United States
and Dean of the Diplomatic Corps

His Excellency
Edilberto Moreno
Ambassador of Venezuela to the
Organization of American States

Mrs. Marta Perez de Hernandez
Daughter of the President

Mr. Antonio Hernandez
Son-in-Law of the President

THURSDAY
APRIL 26, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

Welcoming Committee
(Continued)

Dr. Carlos Bivero
Minister-Counselor
Embassy of Venezuela

Major General
Miguel Ignacio Morales-Perez
Defense and Military Attache
Embassy of Venezuela

THURSDAY

APRIL 26, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

Official Venezuelan Delegation
(For Toe Markers on Lawn)

President Perez
Mrs. Perez
Foreign Minister Figueredo Planchart
Ambassador Consalvi
Minister Armas
Minister Rodriguez Fandeo
Dr. Lepage
Dr. Iturbe
Dr. Celli
Dr. Tinoco
Dr. Perez
Dr. Stelling
Dr. Rodriguez
Dr. Rangel

THURSDAY

APRIL 26, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

9:40 am The following members of the
Official Venezuelan
Delegation depart Blair House
en route the Diplomatic
Entrance of The White House
via the Southwest Gate:

Car Assignments

Car 3 FM Figueredo Planchart
 Amb. Consalvi
 Mrs. Consalvi

Car 4 TBD

Car 5 TBD

9:43 am Arrive the Diplomatic
Entrance of The White House
and proceed to assigned
places on the South Lawn.

THURSDAY
APRIL 26, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

9:55 am President and Mrs. Perez depart Blair House via motorcade en route the Diplomatic Entrance of The White House via the Southwest Gate.

Motorcade Assignments

Lead Car	USSS
Spare Car	USSS Mr. Black Mr. Bumgardner
Pres.'s Car	Pres. Perez Mrs. Perez
Follow-up	USSS
Protocol Car	Amb. Silva Mrs. Morales

9:55 am The President and Mrs. Bush arrive the Diplomatic Reception Room.

9:59 am The President and Mrs. Bush take positions on the White House side of the drive.

THURSDAY

APRIL 26, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

The motorcade carrying President and Mrs. Perez enters The White House grounds and proceeds to the Diplomatic Entrance.

10:00 am President and Mrs. Perez are introduced to The President and Mrs. Bush by Ambassador Reed.

(Photo Opportunity)

The President introduces the following persons to President and Mrs. Perez:

The Secretary of State
Mrs. Baker

The President escorts President Perez onto the reviewing platform. Mrs. Bush escorts Mrs. Perez to the right of the platform in front of the Official Venezuelan Delegation.

Present Arms.

Ruffles and Flourishes.

National Anthem of the
Republic of Venezuela.

National Anthem of the
United States.

21-Gun Salute.

Order Arms.

Inspection.

Troop in Review.

The Army Fife and Drum Corps
passes in front of the
platform.

Present Arms.

Order Arms.

The Commander of Troops
concludes the Honors at this
time.

President Bush and President Perez
move to the microphone and face the
press.

THURSDAY
APRIL 26, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

Remarks by President Bush.

Response by President Perez.

President Bush and President Perez face the troops and the Commander of Troops indicates that the Ceremony is concluded.

10:20 am The President and Mrs. Bush escort President and Mrs. Perez to the Diplomatic Entrance and upstairs to the State Floor.

They proceed to the Cross Hall where a receiving line is formed in the following order:

Ambassador Reed
(to introduce)

The President
President Perez
Mrs. Bush
Mrs. Perez

Members of the Official Venezuelan Delegation and the Welcoming Committee proceed via the Southwest Staircase into The White House, are escorted into the Red Room, and are presented to the receiving line in the Cross Hall.

THURSDAY

APRIL 26, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

Members of the Official Venezuelan Delegation and the Welcoming Committee are escorted into the Blue Room where refreshments are served.

10:25 am President Bush escorts President Perez to the Oval Office.

(Photo Opportunity)

10:40 am Members of the Welcoming Committee from the Venezuelan Embassy are escorted to the Visitor's Entrance.

10:40 am Members of the Official Venezuelan Delegation not participating in the Meeting in the Cabinet Room depart the North Portico via the Northwest Gate en route Blair House.

10:45 am Arrive Blair House.

THURSDAY
APRIL 26, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

10:30 am- Meeting with The President in
10:45 am the Oval Office.

Venezuelan Participants

President Perez
Dr. Rangel - Notetaker
Miss Rosales - Interpreter

10:30 am Mrs. Bush escorts Mrs.
Perez to the Green Room.

White House Social
Officers escort remaining
Coffee participants to
the Green Room.

10:35 am- Coffee offered by Mrs.

11:00 am Bush in honor of Mrs.
Perez in the Green Room
of The White House.

At the conclusion of the
Coffee, Mrs. Bush escorts
Mrs. Perez to the North
Portico.

THURSDAY

APRIL 26, 1990 (Continued)

WASHINGTON, D.C.

11:05 am Depart The White House
via motorcade en route
Blair House.

Motorcade Assignments

Lead Car USSS

Spouse's Car Mrs. Perez
 Mrs. Consalvi
 --Mr. Daly

Follow-up USSS

Embassy Car 6 TBD

11:10 am Arrive Blair House.

THURSDAY
APRIL 26, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

10:45 am- Expanded Meeting with The President
11:30 am in the Cabinet Room.

Venezuelan Participants

President Perez
Foreign Minister Figueredo Planchart
Ambassador Consalvi
Minister Armas
Minister Rodriguez Fandeo
Dr. Tinoco
Dr. Rodriguez
Dr. Rangel - Notetaker
Miss Rosales - Interpreter

At the conclusion of the Meeting,
President Bush escorts President Perez
to his car.

11:35 am Depart The White House via motorcade en
route Blair House.

THURSDAY
APRIL 26, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

Motorcade Assignments

Lead Car	USSS
Spare Car	USSS Mr. Black Mr. Bumgardner
Pres.'s Car	Pres. Perez Amb. Consalvi
Follow-up	USSS
Protocol Car	Amb. Silva Mrs. Morales
Car 3	TBD
Car 4	TBD
Car 5	TBD

11:40 am Arrive Blair House.

THURSDAY

APRIL 26, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

12:20 pm Mrs. Perez departs Blair House via motorcade en route Department of State.

Motorcade Assignments

Lead Car USSS

Spouse's Car Mrs. Perez
Mrs. Consalvi
Mrs. Soto
--Mr. Daly

Follow-up USSS

Embassy Car 6 Mrs. Moreno
Mrs. Perez
de Hernandez
Mrs. Veitia
Maj. Padrio

Embassy Car 7 Mrs. Colmanares
Mrs. Madrid
Mrs. Silva
Mrs. Peraza

12:25 pm Arrive the Diplomatic Entrance of Department of State.

Greeted by:

Mrs. James A. Baker, III

12:30 pm- Luncheon offered by
2:00 pm Mrs. Baker in honor of Mrs. Perez, Thomas Jefferson Room, Department of State.

THURSDAY
APRIL 26, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

2:05 pm Depart Department of
State via motorcade en
route Blair House.

Motorcade: As on arrival.

2:10 pm Arrive Blair House.

11:50 am Depart Blair House via motorcade
en route Department of State.

Motorcade Assignments

Lead Car	USSS
Spare Car	USSS Mr. Black Mr. Bumgardner
Pres.'s Car	Pres. Perez Amb. Consalvi
Follow-up	USSS
Protocol Car	Amb. Silva Mrs. Morales
Car 3	TBD

THURSDAY
APRIL 26, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

Car 4 TBD

Car 5 TBD

11:55 am Arrive the Diplomatic Entrance of
Department of State.

Greeted by:

The Honorable
James A. Baker, III
The Secretary of State

The Honorable
Joseph Verner Reed
The Chief of Protocol

(Photo Opportunity)

Secretary Baker and Ambassador
Reed escort President Perez via
reserved elevator to the Seventh
Floor.

12:00 pm- Meeting with Secretary Baker,
12:30 pm Secretary's Office, Department of
State.

THURSDAY
APRIL 26, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

12:30 pm- Working Luncheon with Secretary
1:30 pm Baker, James Madison Room, Department of
State.

Venezuelan Participants

President Perez
Foreign Minister Figueredo Planchart
Ambassador Consalvi
Minister Armas
Minister Rodriguez Fandeo
Dr. Rodriguez
Dr. Celli
Dr. Tinoco
Dr. Lepage
Dr. Iturbe
Miss Rosales - Interpreter

At the conclusion of the Working
Luncheon, Secretary Baker escorts
President Perez to the Diplomatic
Entrance.

(Open Press Coverage)

1:35 pm Depart Department of State via motorcade
en route Blair House.

THURSDAY
APRIL 26, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

Motorcade: As on arrival.

1:40 pm Arrive Blair House.

2:45 pm Depart Blair House via motorcade en route the United States Capitol.

Motorcade Assignments

Lead Car	USSS
Spare Car	USSS Mr. Bumgardner
Pres.'s Car	Pres. Perez Amb. Consalvi
Follow-up	USSS
Protocol Car	Amb. Silva Mrs. Morales
Car 3	TBD
Car 4	TBD
Car 5	TBD

2:55 pm Arrive the Senate Carriage Entrance,
United States Capitol.

Greeted by:

The Honorable
Henry K. Giugni
Sergeant at Arms
United States Senate

THURSDAY
APRIL 26, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

3:00 pm- Meeting with The Honorable
3:45 pm George J. Mitchell, Senate Majority Leader,
and The Honorable Robert Dole, Senate
Minority Leader, Room S-221, United States
Capitol.

3:50 pm Proceed to the Rotunda, United States
Capitol.

Greeted by:

The Honorable
Jack Russ
Sergeant at Arms
United States House of Representatives

4:15 pm- Meeting with The Honorable Thomas H.
4:45 pm Foley, Speaker of the House of
Representatives, Room H-206, United States
Capitol.

4:50 pm Depart the United States Capitol via
motorcade en route Blair House.

Motorcade: As on arrival.

5:00 pm Arrive Blair House.

THURSDAY

APRIL 26, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

Venezuelan Guests for the State Dinner
at The White House

His Excellency
Carlos Andres Perez
President of the Republic of Venezuela

Mrs. Perez

His Excellency
Dr. Reinaldo Figueredo Planchart
Minister of Foreign Affairs

His Excellency
Dr. Simon Alberto Consalvi
Ambassador of Venezuela
to the United States

Mrs. Consalvi

His Excellency
Dr. Celestino Armas
Minister of Energy and Mines

His Excellency
Dr. Miguel Rodriguez Fandeo
Minister of Coordination and Planning

His Excellency
Dr. Pedro Tinoco, Jr.
President of the Central Bank

THURSDAY

APRIL 26, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

Venezuelan Guests for the State Dinner at
The White House
(Continued)

Dr. Sonia Perez
Daughter of the President

His Excellency
Dr. Octavio Lepage
Chairman, Foreign Policy Committee
of the Senate

His Excellency
Dr. Jose Rodriguez Iturbe
Chairman, Foreign Policy Committee
of the Chamber of Deputies

His Excellency
Dr. Marco Tulio Bruni Celli
Member of the Chamber of Deputies

Dr. Jose Alvarez Stelling
President, Venezuelan Bankers Association

His Excellency
Dr. Julio Sosa Rodriguez
Former Ambassador of Venezuela
to the United States

THURSDAY

APRIL 26, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

7:10 pm The following members of the Official Venezuelan Delegation depart Blair House en route the Diplomatic Entrance of The White House via the Southwest Gate.

Car Assignments

Car 4 TBD

Car 5 TBD

7:15 pm Arrive the Diplomatic Entrance of The White House and proceed directly to the East Room.

THURSDAY

APRIL 26, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

7:28 pm Depart Blair House via motorcade en route
the North Portico of The White House via
the Northwest Gate.

Motorcade Assignments

Lead Car	USSS
Spare Car	USSS Mr. Black Mr. Bumgardner
Pres.'s Car	Pres. Perez Mrs. Perez
Follow-up	USSS
Protocol Car	Amb. Silva Mrs. Morales
Car 3	FM Figueredo Planchart Amb. Consalvi Mrs. Consalvi

7:30 pm Arrive the North Portico of The White
House.

Greeted by:

The President

Mrs. Bush

(Photo Opportunity)

THURSDAY

APRIL 26, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

The President and Mrs. Bush escort President and Mrs. Perez to the Yellow Oval Room of the Family Quarters for refreshments.

7:45 pm The Officer in Charge requests permission to secure the Colors. The President grants approval. The Color Team secures the Colors and proceeds out of the Yellow Oval Room and down the Grand Staircase, led by the Officer in Charge.

At the foot of the staircase, the Color Team divides.

7:47 pm The four principals arrive the State Floor via the Grand Staircase, pause at the foot of the stairs for a press photo session, and proceed directly to the East Room, led by the Color Team.

As the Color Team halts outside the East Room, an announcement is made.

The Color Team precedes the four principals into the East Room during the playing of "Hail to the Chief."

THURSDAY

APRIL 26, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

The Colors divide after clearing the doorway, and the four principals move into place between them, but two steps ahead.

A receiving line is formed in the East Room as follows:

Ambassador Reed
(to introduce)

President Bush
President Perez
Mrs. Bush
Mrs. Perez

Dinner guests proceed through the receiving line and directly into the State Dining Room.

At the conclusion of the Reception, The President and Mrs. Bush escort President and Mrs. Perez into the State Dining Room.

State Dinner offered by The President and Mrs. Bush in honor of His Excellency Carlos Andres Perez, President of the Republic of Venezuela, and Mrs. Perez.

Dress: Black tie.

THURSDAY
APRIL 26, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

8:15 pm Toast by The President.

Response by President Perez.

8:30 pm Dinner is served.

9:15 pm The after-dinner guests attending the Entertainment at The White House arrive the East Center Gate, East Executive Avenue, and are escorted to the Diplomatic Reception Room.

9:55 pm The President and Mrs. Bush escort President and Mrs. Perez to the Blue Room.

The after-dinner guests are escorted to the Red, Blue, and Green Rooms.

Guests are offered coffee in the Red, Blue, and Green Rooms.

THURSDAY
APRIL 26, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

10:10 pm Guests proceed to the East Room
for the Entertainment.

10:15 pm The Entertainment begins.

10:35 pm The Entertainment concludes.

The President and Mrs. Bush thank
the entertainers.

(President and Mrs. Perez may wish
to join The President and Mrs.
Bush in thanking the entertainers.)

Following the Entertainment, The
President and Mrs. Bush escort
President and Mrs. Perez to the
North Portico for their departure.

10:40 pm Depart The White House via
motorcade en route Blair House.

Motorcade: As on arrival.

10:45 pm Arrive Blair House.

Overnight: Blair House.

FRIDAY
APRIL 27, 1990

WASHINGTON, D.C.

8:50 am Depart Blair House via motorcade
en route the Organization of
American States.

Motorcade Assignments

Lead Car	USSS
Spare Car	USSS Mr. Black Mr. Bumgardner
Pres.'s Car	Pres. Perez
Follow-up	USSS
Protocol Car	Amb. Silva Mrs. Morales
Car 3	TBD
Car 4	TBD
Car 5	TBD

FRIDAY

APRIL 27, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

8:55 am Arrive the Organization of
American States.

Greeted by:

His Excellency
Joao Baena Soares
Secretary General
Organization of American States

Her Excellency
Ana Colomor O'Brien
Chief of Protocol
Organization of American States

FRIDAY

APRIL 27, 1990 (Continued)

WASHINGTON, D.C.

9:45 am Mrs. Perez departs Blair House via motorcade en route the Rosemont Day Care Center.

Motorcade Assignments

Lead Car	USSS
Spouse's Car	Mrs. Perez Mrs. Consalvi Mrs. Soto --Mr. Daly
Embassy Car 6	Mrs. Moreno Mrs. Perez de Hernandez Mrs. Veitia Maj. Padrino
Embassy Car 7	Mrs. Colmanares Mrs. Madrid Mrs. Silva Mrs. Peraza

10:00 am Arrive the Rosemont Day Care Center, 2000 Rosemont Avenue, N.W.

Greeted by:

Mrs. Marta Gonzalez
Director of Programs
Rosemont Day Care Center

10:05 am- Mrs. Perez tours the
11:00 am Rosemont Day Care Center.

FRIDAY

APRIL 27, 1990 (Continued)

WASHINGTON, D.C.

11:00 am Mrs. Perez departs the Rosemont Day Care Center via motorcade en route the St. John's Child Development Center.

Motorcade: As on arrival.

11:15 am Arrive the St. John's Child Development Center, 505 MacArthur Boulevard, N.W.

Greeted by:

Mrs. Denise O'Neil
Director of School Programs

Ms. Gayle Union
Director of Development

11:20 am- Mrs. Perez tours the
12:00 pm St. John's Child Development Center.

12:00 pm Depart the St. John's Child Development Center via motorcade en route Blair House.

Motorcade: As on arrival.

12:20 pm Arrive Blair House.

9:00 am- Protocolary Session in honor of
11:00 am President Perez, to be followed by
Address before the Permanent Council,
Hall of the Americas, Organization of
American States.

FRIDAY
APRIL 27, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

11:00 am Depart the Organization of American States via motorcade en route the Simon Bolivar Monument.

Motorcade: As on arrival.

11:03 am Arrive the Simon Bolivar Monument, 18th Street and Virginia Avenue, N.W.

Greeted by:

Mr. William F. Black
Assistant Chief of Protocol

Major General
Donald C. Hilbert
Commanding General
Military District of Washington

11:05 am- Wreath-Laying Ceremony, Simon
11:15 am Bolivar Monument.

11:15 am Depart the Simon Bolivar Monument via motorcade en route Blair House.

Motorcade: As on arrival.

11:20 am Arrive Blair House.

FRIDAY

APRIL 27, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

1:15 pm Mrs. Perez departs Blair House via motorcade en route the Melwood Horticultural Training Center.

Motorcade: As on arrival.

1:45 pm Arrive the Melwood Horticultural Training Center, 5606 Dower House Road, Upper Marlboro, Maryland.

Greeted by:

Mr. Carl Copus
Executive Director
Melwood Horticultural
Training Center

1:50 pm- Mrs. Perez tours the
3:30 pm Melwood Horticultural
Training Center.

3:30 pm Mrs. Perez departs the Melwood Horticultural Training Center via motorcade en route Blair House.

Motorcade: As on arrival.

4:00 pm Arrive Blair House.

FRIDAY

APRIL 27, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

12:00 pm- Working Luncheon with members of the
2:00 pm International Banking Community,
Blair House.

2:45 pm Depart Blair House via motorcade en
route the new Venezuelan Embassy.

Motorcade Assignments

Lead Car	USSS
Spare Car	USSS Mr. Black Mr. Bumgardner
Pres.'s Car	Pres. Perez
Follow-up	USSS
Protocol Car	Amb. Silva Mrs. Morales
Car 3	TBD
Car 4	TBD
Car 5	TBD

2:55 pm Arrive new Venezuelan Embassy, 1099
30th Street, N.W.

FRIDAY

APRIL 27, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

- 3:00 pm- Dedication Ceremony, new Venezuelan
4:00 pm Embassy.
- 4:15 pm- Press Conference, new Venezuelan
5:15 pm Embassy.
- 5:20 pm Depart the new Venezuelan Embassy via
motorcade en route Blair House.
- Motorcade: As on arrival.
- 5:30 pm Arrive Blair House.
- 6:45 pm President and Mrs. Perez depart Blair
House via motorcade en route the
Venezuelan Ambassador's Residence.

Motorcade Assignments

Lead Car	USSS
Spare Car	USSS Mr. Bumgardner
Pres.'s Car	Pres. Perez Mrs. Perez
Follow-up	USSS
Protocol Car	Amb. Silva Mrs. Morales

FRIDAY
APRIL 27, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

Car 3 TBD

Car 4 TBD

Car 5 TBD

6:55 pm Arrive the Venezuelan Ambassador's
Residence, 2443 Massachusetts
Avenue, N.W.

Greeted by:

His Excellency
Dr. Simon Alberto Consalvi
Ambassador of Venezuela
to the United States

Mrs. Consalvi

7:00 pm- Reception offered by Ambassador
9:00 pm and Mrs. Consalvi in honor of
President and Mrs. Perez, Venezuelan
Ambassador's Residence.

Dress: Business suit.

9:00 pm- Private Meeting with Ambassador
10:30 pm Consalvi at the Venezuelan
Ambassador's Residence.

FRIDAY

APRIL 27, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

10:35 pm Depart the Venezuelan Ambassador's
Residence via motorcade en route
Blair House.

Motorcade: As on arrival.

10:45 pm Arrive Blair House.

Overnight: Blair House.

SATURDAY
APRIL 28, 1990

WASHINGTON, D.C.

6:30 am Baggage call.

8:35 am Depart Blair House via motorcade en route the Washington Monument Grounds, Reflecting Pool.

Motorcade Assignments

Lead Car	USSS
Spare Car	USSS Mr. Black Mr. Bumgardner
Pres.'s Car	Pres. Perez Mrs. Perez Amb. Consalvi Mrs. Consalvi
Follow-up	USSS

SATURDAY
APRIL 28, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

Protocol Car	Amb. Silva Mrs. Morales
Car 3	TBD
Car 4	TBD
Car 5	TBD

8:40 am Arrive the Washington Monument
 Grounds, Reflecting Pool.

Greeted by:

The Honorable
Joseph Verner Reed
The Chief of Protocol

8:40 am- Ambassador Reed escorts President
8:45 am and Mrs. Perez to the Farewell
 Committee.

SATURDAY
APRIL 28, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

Farewell Committee

His Excellency
Simon Alberto Consalvi
Ambassador of Venezuela
to the United States

Mrs. Consalvi

Mr. Michael M. Skol
Deputy Assistant Secretary of State
for Inter-American Affairs

His Excellency
Edilberto Moreno
Ambassador of Venezuela
to the Organization of
American States

Mrs. Moreno

Her Excellency
Nora Arnao Machado
Alternate Ambassador of
Venezuela to the Organization
of American States

SATURDAY

APRIL 28, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

Farewell Committee
(Continued)

Mr. Simon Faraco
Consul General
of Venezuela at Baltimore

Mrs. Faraco

Dr. Carlos Bivero
Minister-Counselor
Embassy of Venezuela

Mrs. Bivero

Dr. William Larralde
Minister-Counselor
Embassy of Venezuela

Mrs. Larralde

Major General
Miguel Ignacio Morales-Perez
Defense and Military Attache
Embassy of Venezuela

Brigadier General
Juan Carlos Zarate
Air Attache
Embassy of Venezuela

Rear Admiral
Salvador Paz Camacho
Naval Attache
Embassy of Venezuela

Mrs. Angela Peraza
Attache
Embassy of Venezuela

SATURDAY
APRIL 28, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

After greeting members of the Farewell Committee, Ambassador Reed escorts President and Mrs. Perez to their helicopter.

8:45 am Depart the Washington Monument Grounds, Reflecting Pool, via United States Presidential Helicopters.

Helicopter 1 Manifest (10)

Pres. Perez	Mr. Black
Mrs. Perez	USSS-2
F.M. Figueredo	
Amb. Consalvi	
Mrs. Consalvi	
Min. Armas	
Venezuelan Security	

Helicopter 2 Manifest (10)

Min. Fandeo	Mr. Bumgardner
Dr. Lepage	USSS-2
Dr. Iturbe	
Dr. Celli	
Dr. Tinoco	
Dr. Stelling	
Dr. Rodriguez	

SATURDAY
APRIL 28, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

8:55 am Arrive Andrews Air Force Base.

Greeted by:

Brigadier General
Ralph R. Rohatsch, Jr.
Commander, Air Force District
of Washington

Mrs. Rohatsch

Mr. Black and Brigadier General and
Mrs. Rohatsch escort President and
Mrs. Perez to their aircraft.

9:00 am Depart via United States Presidential
Aircraft en route La Guardia Airport,
New York, New York.

Flight Time:	0:50
Time change:	None
To be served:	Snack

SATURDAY

APRIL 28, 1990 (Continued) WASHINGTON, D.C.

Aircraft Manifest (20)

Pres. Perez	Mr. Black
Mrs. Perez	Mr. Bumgardner
FM Figueredo	Mr. Payne
Planchart	USSS-6
Min. Armas	
Min. Fandeo	
Dr. Lepage	
Dr. Iturbe	
Dr. Celli	
Dr. Tinoco	
Dr. Rodriguez	
Mr. Rangel	

9:50 am His Excellency Carlos Andres Perez,
President of the Republic of
Venezuela, and Mrs. Perez arrive La
Guardia Airport, New York, New York,
and resume a private schedule.

ACCOMMODATIONS

WASHINGTON, D.C.

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Washington, D.C. 20500

Switchboard	(202) 347-0397
Protocol Office	(202) 393-6492
" "	(202) 393-6493
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* * *

6TH STORY OF LEVEL 1 PRINTED IN FULL FORMAT.

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NOVEMBER 18, 1981, WEDNESDAY, FINAL EDITION

SECTION: STYLE; 01

LENGTH: 1600 WORDS

HEADLINE: THE TOAST AND TUNES;
SURPRISING SPICE AT REAGAN'S DINNER FOR VENEZUELA'S PRESIDENT;
CONTINENTS AND CORDIALITY

BYLINE: BY CARLA HALL AND DONNIE KACCLITTE

KEYWORD: DINNER

BODY:

They have in common things ranging from baseball to El Salvador, interests that these two presidents made a point of mentioning last night as they toasted each other at the White House. The occasion was an official dinner that President Reagan gave for Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins.

"Tonight we honor a man and a country that have chosen a path of principle," said Reagan in his toast. ". . . democracy and human rights is not the easiest course, but it is the most moral."

Said Herrera, in a toast that turned into a speech: "We are committed to democracy . . . in this line of conduct, we give active political and moral support to the government junta of El Salvador . . ."

It was an evening filled with the traditions and grandeur of dining at the White House -- good music, fine wines and toasts to democracy and cooperation. But more about that later. The unexpected twist in the format was the entertainment, provided by Robert Boulet, whose nightclub-like act took the formally clad group -- well, by surprise.

After a few numbers Boulet hopped off the East Room stage, microphone in hand, to work the audience, particularly the first row.

"All I need is a girl . . ." he crooned to Barbara Bush, the vice president's wife.

"Do you mind if I say you're cute in every way?" he asked Pat Haig, the secretary of state's wife.

Then, to President Reagan: "Am I getting into trouble?"

"That face, that face, it just isn't fair," he sang, moonishly looking into Nancy Reagan's eyes. "You must excuse me if I stare." He shook his head and smiled at her. "You're gorgeous."

Then he told a story about going into the audience to sing that same song at Lake Lanier, but the spotlights got in his eyes, and only later did he realize to whom he was singing. "It was all men -- a lumberjack convention." Finally he found a face with long hair to sing to. "It worked out," he joked. "He's been

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writing every week."

There was more. "Wake up," he said, giving chief of protocol Leonore Annenberg a poke in the arm.

Still more. "It's impossible," he warbled to the tune of the familiar song, and then interjected his own lyrics, "making love in a Toyota." Few laughs. "That gets a big laugh in nightclubs."

His director at the afternoon rehearsal, it turned out, was Frank Sinatra, the occasional impresario to the White House, who had flown to Washington from Los Angeles with Nancy Reagan on Monday. ("He paid his own way," Sheila Tate, the first lady's press secretary, said earlier.)

"Frank was here this afternoon and said 'make it fast,' " Boulet told the audience while finishing up his act with "If Ever I Would Leave You" from "Camelot."

The president bounded onto the stage to thank the singer. Said Reagan, "I'll never forget the night you sang to me at Lake Tahoe." The house roared.

Reaction later ranged from polite to effusive. Leonore Annenberg: "Oh, gosh, no I wasn't asleep. I was tapping my feet."

Cardinal Terence Cooke: "I enjoyed it very much, especially the last number."

Minutes before he went to the press room to review a copy of the president's foreign policy speech, national security adviser Richard Allen was relaxed and joked during the after-dinner coffee. When asked about the controversy over the \$1,000 he received for Mrs. Reagan as a "thank-you" fee for granting an interview to Japanese journalists, Allen said, "Now, do I look miffed? Would you ask Ambassador J. William Middendorf if I look miffed?"

"No, he doesn't look miffed," said Middendorf, the U.S. representative to the Organization of American States. He later nudged with Allen and told him, "Out of every adversity comes an opportunity for success."

Those who were in on the talks earlier in the day between Reagan and Herrera were pleased with the outcome. "Very frank," said Venezuelan Ambassador Perez-Curiroaga.

"Extremely successful," said presidential counselor Edwin Meese. "The two men found a lot in common in terms of their approach to the Americas."

It seemed appropriate, since both are powers in the western hemisphere -- Venezuela with its OPEC oil and the United States with almost everything else. And Venezuela is an important backer of U.S. efforts to aid the Duarte civilian-military government in El Salvador.

It also turned out that both presidents were sports journalists at one time. Reagan drew a laugh when he told his guests how Herrera delivered a speech to the United Nations, then went off to Yankee Stadium to see a baseball game.

It also reminded Reagan of another sports fan, his mother-in-law. She once told him Nancy Reagan's birthday would have been July 4 instead of July 6,

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except that Mrs. Davis didn't want to miss a double-header at Yankee Stadium.

Fires blazed on the hearths and as a sign that the weather had turned chilly, the dark velvets and rustling taffetas captured the evening's glow. Nancy Reagan and Lee Annenberg both wore black velvet. Betty Herrera's taffeta moire was in bright pink, a popular color among the guests. And guest Tom Wolfe, the author, left his signature white suit at home and donned the traditional tuxedo.

For dinner there was roast lamb, green beans amandine and hazelnut bombe, with three California wines. And after the entertainment, there was dancing and champagne. The Reagans took a few spins on the floor and on their way upstairs Nancy paused for a chat with her friend Jerome Zipkin, until her husband, the president, gently nudged her that it was time to go.

GUEST LIST

The following were invited to last night's White House dinner for Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins and Mrs. Herrera

Jose Alberto Zamorano, minister of foreign affairs

Luis Ugueto Arismendi, minister of finance

Gen. Bernardo Leal Puchi, minister of defense

Jose Luis Zapata, minister of agriculture

Humberto Calderon Bertl, minister of energy and mines

Gonzalo Garcia Bustillos, minister of the secretariat of the presidency

Marcial Perez-Chiriboga, ambassador to the United States, and Josefina de Perez-Chiriboga

Hilarion Cardozo, ambassador to the Organization of American States, & Mrs. Cardozo

Dr. Julio Sosa Rodriguez, former to the United States

ADM. Julio Cesar Lanz Castellanos, chief of the president's military household

Sen. James Adonor (R-S.D.)

Richard V. Allen, assistant to the president for national security affairs, and Pat Allen

Leonore Annenberg, chief of protocol

Rep. Eugene V. Atkinson (D-Pa.)

Patricia A. Avery, U.S. News and World Report

James A. Baker III, chief of staff and assistant to the president, & Susan Baker

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MALCOLM BALDRIGE, secretary of commerce, & MARGARET BALDRIGE

FREDERICK BIEDEL, deputy director of the REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE, & VIOLET BIEDEL

JOHN K. BLOCK, secretary of agriculture, & SUE BLOCK

VICE PRESIDENT GEORGE BUSH & BARBARA BUSH

GUSTAVO LISNEROS, president of HINGGATE PROPERTIES, NEW YORK, N.Y., & PATRICIA LISNEROS

WILLIAM P. CLARK, deputy secretary of state, & JOAN CLARK

CARDINAL IERENCE COOKE, archbishop of NEW YORK

MR. & MRS. RONALD CRAWFORD, ARLINGTON, VA.

MICHAEL K. DEEVER, deputy chief of staff and assistant to the president, & CAROLYN DEEVER

COUNT & COUNTESS DE KAVENEL, NEW YORK, N.Y.

SAM DONALDSON, ABC NEWS

JOHN C. DUNCAN, chairman, COUNCIL OF THE AMERICAS, NEW YORK, N.Y., & BARBARA DUNCAN

THOMAS U. ENDERS, assistant secretary of state-designate for inter-AMERICAN AFFAIRS, & GAETANA ENDERS

DAVID & MARILYN EVINS, NEW YORK, N.Y.

PETER M. FLANIGAN, managing director, MILLON READ & CO. INC., NEW YORK, N.Y., & BRIGID FLANIGAN

REP. L.H. FOUNTAIN (D-N.C.), & CHRISTINE FOUNTAIN

MR. & MRS. STEPHEN D. GAVIN, LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

ROBERT GOULET, NEW YORK, N.Y.

PETER J. GRACE, president, W.K. GRACE & CO., NEW YORK, N.Y., & MARGARET GRACE

PAUL E. GRAY, president, MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, & PRISCILLA GRAY

ALAN GREENSPAN, president, TOWNSEND-GREENSPAN & CO. INC., NEW YORK, N.Y.

ALEXANDER HAIG, secretary of state, & PATRICIA HAIG

COLLEEN HARGRAVE, TEMPLETON, CALIF.

SEN. URRIN HATCH (R-UTAH) & ELAINE HATCH

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MIMI HERRERA, NEW YORK, N.Y.

JANET HOOKER, NEW YORK, N.Y.

JAQUELIN H. & BETTY HUME, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

MARY LOU JUDY

JUNE KARGER, NEW YORK, N.Y.

JOHN L. & FRANCES LOED, NEW YORK, N.Y.

WILLIAM H. LUERS, AMERICAN AMBASSADOR TO VENEZUELA, & MRS. LUERS

PETER MCLOY, DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR OF STAFF FOR THE FIRST LADY, & KACEY MCLOY

EDWIN MEESE III, COUNSELOR TO THE PRESIDENT, & URSULA MEESE

AILEEN MENIE, NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

ALEXIS MERSENDES

J. WILLIAM MIDDENDORF, REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES TO THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES, & ISABELLE MIDDENDORF

VERA NOVAK

ALEJANDRO URTILA, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES, & HEILGA URTILA

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THE REV. MOSEA WILLIAMS, GEORGIA STATE REPRESENTATIVE, ATLANTA, GA., &
JUANITA WILLIAMS

TOM & SHELLA WOLFE, NEW YORK, N.Y.

JEROME ZIPKIN, NEW YORK, N.Y.

GRAPHIC: PICTURE, BETTY HERRERA, NANCY KEAGAN, AND PRESIDENTS HERRERA AND
KEAGAN, BY JOHN McVONNELL

DATE: APRIL 19, 1990

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YOUR SEARCH REQUEST IS:

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LEVEL 1... /

END STORY OF LEVEL 1 PRINTED IN FULL FORMAT.

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THE BOSTON GLOBE

FEBRUARY 27, 1990, TUESDAY, CITY EDITION

SECTION: NATIONAL/FOREIGN; PG. 1

LENGTH: 878 WORDS

HEADLINE: BUSH TO MOVE FOR EARLY LIFTING OF US SANCTIONS;
DEFEAT OF THE SANDINISTAS

BYLINE: BY JOHN W. MASNEK AND MICHAEL KRANISH, GLOBE STAFF

DATELINE: WASHINGTON

KEYWORDS: NICARAGUA; ELECTION; RESULT; GEORGE BUSH; REACTION; US; RELATION;
AID; NAME- CHAMORRO; NAME-URTEGA

BODY:

Sorting out the stunning upset in Nicaragua's presidential election, the Bush administration indicated yesterday that it would move quickly to lift economic sanctions. President Bush, meanwhile, called for an end to military conflict.

The election of Violeta Chamorro, backed by the United States, was a surprise to Washington. Particularly unexpected was her wide margin of victory over President Daniel Ortega. Bush hailed that victory and said that there was room in Nicaragua for peaceful debate.

"We hope now for a peaceful transition, for the institutionalization of the democratic process in Nicaragua, and there is space in a democratic Nicaragua for all political points of view," Bush said at a meeting with the nation's governors, who are holding their winter conference in the capital.

Bush said he had talked to President Carlos Andres Perez of Venezuela about possible trade and economic measures to assist the new Chamorro government. The economy of Nicaragua under the Sandinistas is in shambles, and that reportedly was a major factor in the vote against Ortega.

However, the Bush administration is already operating under a tight fiscal budget and has the added expense of the invasion of Panama and the follow-on aid to deal with. And Congress, which for most of the last decade has been wrapped in a bitter battle over aiding the contra guerrillas in Nicaragua, quickly became embroiled in the question of where to find the money to fund an aid package.

Marlin Fitzwater, the White House press secretary, acknowledged US responsibility for helping Nicaragua after Chamorro's victory. "We certainly feel a special responsibility for the people of Nicaragua and the courageous action that they have taken to bring these elections about," he said.

Fitzwater said Bush wanted to lift US sanctions "as soon as it is feasible." The sanctions, imposed on May 1, 1985, by President Reagan, bar imports from Nicaragua, ban US exports to it and prohibit Nicaraguan aircraft

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of boats from entering the United States.

Of more immediate concern to the White House was making sure that the US-financed contras abide by Bush's call for an end to any further military activity by the contras or the Sandinistas. The adversaries have waged a vicious and costly war over the last decade.

Pressed on whether the contras should lay down their weapons, Fitzwater repeated merely that the free election means there is no need for military action. "Our advice" to the contras "is that there's no need for further military conflict," he said.

Bush said he would send congratulations to Chamorro for her victory and to Urteaga for conducting the election with fairness and for his pledge to abide by the result.

Administration officials were being careful not to gloat over Urteaga's defeat.

On Capitol Hill, Sen. Robert Dole of Kansas, the Republican minority leader, once again broached the idea of taking funds away from top recipients of US aid, such as Israel, and redirecting the money to countries such as Nicaragua.

"We must provide her new government with aid," Dole said, referring to Chamorro. "And let's not kid ourselves: we're talking about big bucks in aid. . . it raises the same old question - the question we are facing for Eastern Europe and Panama - where are we going to get the money? The world is changing, but our bank account isn't."

Dole's suggestion of diverting money from Israel and other countries is certain to be contested. There will doubtless be calls for Bush to drop his pledge of "no new taxes" as well as a push to take money from the defense budget as part of the so-called "peace dividend."

Sen. George Mitchell of Maine, the majority leader, said Democrats want to review a request from the Chamorro government and the White House before proposing an aid package.

Thomas S. Foley of Washington, the House speaker, meanwhile, swept aside questions about where to find the money. "These questions weren't raised when we were spending hundreds of millions in military aid for the contras," said Foley.

Throughout Congress yesterday, there was an air of self-congratulation, with many Republicans saying that Chamorro's victory would not have been possible without steadfast support for the contras.

"It wasn't until President Reagan took a hard line toward Urteaga and secured funding for the Nicaraguan freedom fighters that the Sandinistas yielded and, under the Central American accords, agreed to Sunday's elections," said Sen. Gordon Humphrey, the New Hampshire Republican.

But Rep. J. Joseph Moakley, the Democrat from Massachusetts, credited the peace plan put forward by President Oscar Arias of Costa Rica. "It is important to realize that this is not a victory for US policy aiding the contras," said

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MOAKLEY. "THIS IS A VICTORY FOR THE ARIAS CENTRAL AMERICAN PEACE PLAN WHICH PREACHED DIALOGUE, RECONCILIATION AND DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS."

GRAPHIC: PHOENIX, PRESIDENT BUSH NAILS VIOLETA CHAMORRO'S VICTORY AS HE GESTURES DURING AN ADDRESS TO THE NATION'S GOVERNORS AT THE WHITE HOUSE YESTERDAY. FROM LEFT ARE: GOV. JERRY BRANSTAD OF IOWA, GOV. BILL CLINTON OF ARKANSAS, GOV. BOOTH GARDNER OF WASHINGTON, AND GOV. CARROLL CAMPBELL OF SOUTH CAROLINA. / AP PHOENIX

SKD STORY OF LEVEL 1 PRINTED IN FULL FORMAT.

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FEBRUARY 27, 1990, TUESDAY, NORTH SPORTS FINAL EDITION

SECTION: NEWS; PG. 1; ZONE: C

LENGTH: 1056 WORDS

HEADLINE: OUTCOME PUTS U.S. ON THE SPOT

BYLINE: BY GEORGE DE LAMA, CHICAGO TRIBUNE

DATELINE: WASHINGTON

BODY:

THE STUNNING electoral victory in Nicaragua by the U.S.-backed opposition Monday set the stage for a reversal in relations between Washington and Managua that soon could end a decade of hostility and bloodshed.

PUBLISHER Violeta Chamorro's trouncing of President Daniel Ortega and his Sandinista government also may improve the prospects for peace in El Salvador, further isolate Communist Cuba and help the U.S. and Nicaragua improve their ties to the rest of Latin America, senior Bush administration officials and other experts on the region said.

BUT serious obstacles within and outside Nicaragua also loom as Chamorro and her U.S. patrons navigate an uncharted path to democracy in a nation that has known mainly political turmoil and violence for more than a century, the analysts acknowledged.

Chief among them were whether the Sandinistas would relinquish control of their large army and secret police forces, and whether U.S.-supported contra rebels would lay down their arms and return to Nicaraguan society.

President Bush called for an immediate cease-fire between the army and the contras as the first step to reconciliation, saying, "There is no reason at all for military activity from any quarter."

Bush aides acknowledged they also face another problem: At a time when the U.S. faces new demands for aid from numerous former dictatorships from Eastern Europe to Panama, where will Washington find the money to help rebuild Nicaragua's war-ravaged economy?

The electoral outcome was seen by administration officials as a clear victory for Bush and his decision last year to scale back U.S. military aid to the contras and instead seek bipartisan congressional support for an electoral solution in Nicaragua.

Administration officials were not gloating, but one aide said Bush's policy succeeded where former President Ronald Reagan's "divisive, bitterly emotional" policy of supporting the rebels at all costs had failed.

A number of other factors helped influence events in Nicaragua, including Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's efforts to restrain the

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sandinistas, the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe, pressure from the Central American peace plan and the presence of some 2,500 foreign observers in Nicaragua on election day.

Congressional Democrats were even claiming part of the credit, saying the vote represented an endorsement of their preference for a political rather than a military solution to the problems in Nicaragua. The Bush administration did not take issue, apparently feeling there was enough credit to go around.

The Chamorro victory clearly caught the White House off guard. It was Jimmy Carter, an electoral observer in Nicaragua and the U.S. president when the sandinistas came to power, who informed Secretary of State James A. Baker III of the opposition triumph with a phone call shortly after 4 a.m. Monday.

Baker in turn called Bush with the news. But within hours, administration sources said, the self-congratulations turned to tough questions in an urgent planning session the president called at the White House:

What should the U.S. do if the sandinistas refuse to hand over power? How does the U.S. help keep together the fractious opposition, united only in its loathing of the sandinistas, now that it won the election? How quickly should the U.S. move to lift economic sanctions? When should the U.S. urge the contras to come down from the hills? And, most important, how does Washington put together a large enough aid package to make a difference?

The president and his aides reached no answers Monday to any of these questions, senior officials said.

"As a first step, we just sat down to identify all these issues we'll have to decide. We don't have any magic formula," said one senior administration official who attended the White House meeting.

"We know we have to get Violeta Chamorro and UNU (her National Opposition Union) all the help we can. They haven't had any experience in governing; they haven't been through this before. There is no doubt this is going to be very difficult."

Seeking to avoid any heavy-handed tactics that would give the sandinistas an excuse to retain power, Bush called Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez to ask his support in helping Chamorro form a government, and in holding the sandinistas to their word that they will hand over power peacefully.

Of particular concern is whether the sandinistas will cede control of their battle-hardened army, an extension of their political movement, and disband their secret police.

Holding together the shaky UNU coalition is another difficult proposition, administration officials concede.

Kiordan Koett, director of Latin American studies at Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies, called Chamorro "a Cory Aquino repeat, trying to govern in a country with deep divisions and tensions," he said, referring to the president of the Philippines. "She can't be seen as a puppet of George Bush," he added.

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A debate already has begun within the administration about how soon to lift economic sanctions against Nicaragua that were imposed in 1985: should the U.S. act before tomorrow's scheduled inauguration April 25 or wait until after the Sandinistas step down?

"We haven't even come close to deciding any of that; it's still too early. But we have to decide that pretty soon," a senior White House official said.

There are other wild cards as well, officials said. For one thing, no one knows what the reaction of Cuba will be, nor what advice a presumably dismayed and angry Fidel Castro will give Ortega.

Left behind by the sea of change sweeping the communist world, Castro is increasingly an outcast because of his anti-democratic ways. Now he could help the Sandinistas facilitate the coming transition in Nicaragua, or he could persuade them to impede it, officials say.

Also not known is whether the Sandinistas' loss will lead leftist guerrillas in neighboring El Salvador back to the bargaining table for peace negotiations with the right-wing government there.

U.S. and Salvadoran officials believe a new government in Nicaragua will increase the pressure for peace talks. But Marxist hard-liners in Managua, Havana and El Salvador could yet decide to step up the war, analysts fear.

TERMS: NICARAGUA; ELECTION; RESULT; OPPOSITION; GROUP; UNITED STATES; SUPPORT; ECONOMY; FINANCE; RELATION; REACTION; TRADE

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FEBRUARY 27, 1990, TUESDAY, LATE EDITION - FINAL

SECTION: SECTION A; PAGE 15, COLUMN 5; FOREIGN DESK

LENGTH: 315 WORDS

HEADLINE: TURNOVER IN NICARAGUA;
BUSH'S REMARKS ON NICARAGUA

BYLINE: AP

DATELINE: WASHINGTON, FEB. 26

BODY:

FOLLOWING IS A TRANSCRIPT OF PRESIDENT BUSH'S REMARKS TODAY ON THE ELECTION IN NICARAGUA, AS RECORDED BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS. THE PRESIDENT SPOKE AT A MEETING OF THE NATIONAL GOVERNORS' ASSOCIATION.

ANY FRIEND OF DEMOCRACY CAN TAKE HEART IN THE FACT THAT VIOLETA CHAMORRO WON THE ELECTION. AND THE ELECTION PROCESS, BY ALL ACCOUNTS FREE AND FAIR, IS A CREDIT TO THE PEOPLE OF NICARAGUA, WHO CHOSE TO DETERMINE THEIR NATION'S FUTURE, NATION'S FUTURE AT THE BALLOT BOX. AND THAT IS A VICTORY FOR DEMOCRACY.

YESTERDAY'S ELECTION MOVES US ONE STEP CLOSER TO THE DAY WHEN EVERY NATION IN THIS HEMISPHERE IS A DEMOCRACY, AND I'LL SOON SEND MESSAGES - I THINK THEY MAY HAVE ALREADY GONE OUT TO - TO MRS. CHAMORRO, CONGRATULATING HER ON HER VICTORY; TO PRESIDENT URTEGA, CONGRATULATING HIM ON THE CONDUCT OF THE ELECTION AND ON HIS PLEDGE TO STAND BY ITS RESULTS; TO PRESIDENT CARTER AND HIS COUNTERPART ON THAT ONE, VAN EVANS; TO MR. SOARES OF THE U.A.S.; TO PEREZ DE CUELLAR AND ELLIOT RICHARDSON OF THE UNITED NATIONS FOR THEIR LEADING ROLES IN OBSERVING THE ELECTIONS.

IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS, I'LL BE SPEAKING WITH CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICAN LEADERS. THIS MORNING I TALKED TO PRESIDENT CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ OF VENEZUELA ABOUT APPROPRIATE TRADE AND ECONOMIC MEASURES THAT WE CAN TAKE TO SUPPORT THE NEW GOVERNMENT OF NICARAGUA.

WE HOPE NOW FOR A PEACEFUL TRANSITION, FOR THE INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS IN NICARAGUA, AND THERE IS SPACE IN A DEMOCRATIC NICARAGUA FOR ALL POLITICAL POINTS OF VIEW.

GIVEN A CLEAR MANDATE FOR PEACE AND DEMOCRACY, THERE IS NO REASON AT ALL FOR FURTHER MILITARY ACTIVITY FROM ANY QUARTER, AND WE HOPE THE CEASE-FIRE WILL BE RE-ESTABLISHED WITHOUT DELAY AND RESPECTED BY ALL SIDES.

FOR YEARS THE PEOPLE OF NICARAGUA HAVE SUFFERED, AND TODAY THE PEOPLE OF NICARAGUA HAVE SPOKEN. AND NOW IS THE TIME FOR NICARAGUA TO MOVE FORWARD TO FREEDOM.

GRAPHIC: PHOTO: "THERE IS NO REASON AT ALL FOR FURTHER MILITARY ACTIVITY FROM ANY QUARTER," SAID PRESIDENT BUSH, WHO CALLED NICARAGUA'S ELECTION A "MANDATE FOR PEACE."

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SUBJECT: ELECTIONS; UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS;
NICARAGUA-INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS-US

NAME: BUSH, GEORGE (PRES)

GEOGRAPHIC: NICARAGUA

background notes

Venezuela

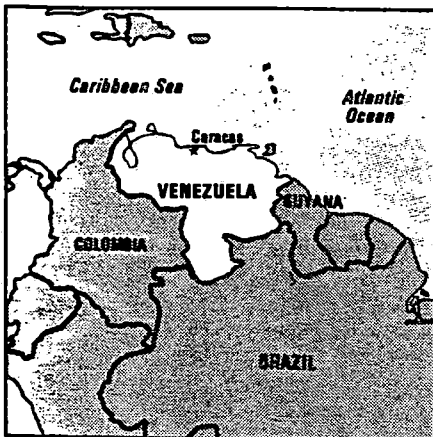


United States Department of State
Bureau of Public Affairs

April 1987

1987

NICA
PANAMA
Anti-Drugs
Debt



Official Name:
Republic of Venezuela

PROFILE

Geography

Area: 912,050 sq. km. (352,143 sq. mi.); about the size of Texas and Oklahoma combined. **Cities:** *Capital*—Caracas (metropolitan area pop. est. 4.0 million). **Terrain:** Varied. **Climate:** Varies from tropical to temperate, depending on elevation.

People

Nationality: *Noun and adjective*—Venezuelan(s). **Population** (1986): 17,791,000. **Annual growth rate:** 2.7%. **Ethnic groups:** Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, Arab, German, Amerindian, African. **Religions:** Roman Catholic 96%, Protestant 2%. **Languages:** Spanish (official), Indian dialects spoken by some of the 200,000 Amerindians in the remote interior. **Education:** *Years compulsory*—9. **Literacy**—88.4%. **Health:**

Infant mortality rate—27.3/1,000. *Life expectancy*—70 yrs. **Work force** (about 6 million): *Agriculture*—15%. *Industry and commerce*—35%. *Services*—26%. *Other*—24%.

Government

Type: Federal republic. **Independence:** July 5, 1821. **Constitution:** January 23, 1961.

Branches: *Executive*—president (head of government and chief of state); 24-member Council of Ministers (Cabinet). *Legislative*—bicameral Congress (200-member Chamber of Deputies, 47-member Senate). *Judicial*—18-member Supreme Court.

Subdivisions: 20 states, 2 federal territories, 1 federal district, and a federal dependence (72 islands).

Political parties: Democratic Action (*Accion Democratica*—AD), Social Christian (*Comite Organizador Politico pro Elecciones Independientes*—COPEI). *Other parties*—minor, which gained representation to the National Congress Dec. 1983: Movement to Socialism (*Movimiento al Socialismo*—MAS); People's Electoral Movement (*Movimiento Electoral del Pueblo*—MEP); Republican Democratic Union (*Union Republicana Democratica*—URD); New Alternative (*Nueva Alternativa*—NA); Movement of the Revolutionary Left (*Movimiento de Izquierda Revolucionaria*—MIR); Movement of National Integrity (*Movimiento de Integridad Nacional*—MIN); National Opinion (*Opinion Nacional*—OPINA); and Venezuelan Communist Party (*Partido Comunista de Venezuela*—PCV). **Suffrage:** Universal and compulsory over 18.

Central government budget (1985): \$13.1 billion.

Flag: Three horizontal bands—yellow, blue, and red, with a crest in a corner of the yellow band and a semicircle of seven stars in the middle of the blue band. The colors come from the banner flown by Simon Bolivar; the stars represent the seven provinces.

Economy

Real GDP (1985): \$50 billion. **Real annual growth rate** (1984–85): –0.4%. **Real per capita income:** \$2,629. **Avg. inflation rate** (1985): 11.4%.

Natural resources: Petroleum, natural gas, coal, iron ore, gold, other minerals, hydroelectric power, bauxite.

Agriculture (7.4% of GDP): *Products*—rice, coffee, corn, sugar, bananas, and dairy meat, and poultry products. *Land*—4%.

Industry (19% of GDP): *Types*—petrochemicals, oil refining, iron and steel, paper products, aluminum, textiles, transport equipment, consumer products.

Trade (1985): *Exports*—\$14.2 billion: petroleum (\$12.8 billion), iron ore, coffee, steel, aluminum, cocoa. *Major markets*—US, Canada, Italy, Japan, Spain, FRG.

Imports—\$7.3 billion: machinery and transport equipment, manufactured goods, chemicals, foodstuffs. *Major suppliers*—US, Japan, Canada, FRG, France, Italy, Brazil.

Official exchange rate: *Preferential*—14.5 bolivares = US\$1. In February 1983, Venezuela adopted a multitiered exchange rate system. In December 1986, the government decreed an official exchange rate of 1 per US\$1 for specified products and transactions.

Fiscal year: Calendar year.

Membership in International Organizations

UN and some of its specialized and related agencies, including membership in the Security Council (1986–87); Organization of American States (OAS); International Coffee Agreement; Latin American Integration Association (ALADI); Andean Pact; Rio Pact; Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC); Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE); Latin American Reciprocal Petroleum Assistance (ARPEL); Latin American Economic System (SELA); Andres Bello Agreement.



GEOGRAPHY

Venezuela spans the major sea and air routes linking the northern and southern parts of the Western Hemisphere. Its coastline is 2,816 kilometers (1,750 mi.) on the Caribbean Sea and Atlantic Ocean. Venezuela also claims the territory east of the present boundary to the Essequibo River, which was allocated to Guyana by the Arbitral Award of 1899.

Venezuela has four distinct geographic regions:

- The Andes Mountains and adjacent hill country in the northwest;
- The coastal zone north of the mountains bordering Lake Maracaibo and the Caribbean Sea, including the Orinoco Delta;

- The plains or *llanos*, extending from the mountains south and east to the Orinoco River; and
- The Guyana Highlands, a vast area of high plateaus and rolling plains south and east of the Orinoco. Angel Falls, the world's highest waterfall, is in this area.

Although the entire country lies in the torrid zone, the temperature varies with the altitude. The lowland coastal area is hot and humid, as are the inland river valleys. The highlands generally are warm during the day and cool at night. For most of the country, the rainy season is from May through November; the rest of the year is dry. Caracas is located in a valley at 900 meters (3,000 ft.) and averages 23 °C (74 °F) year round.

PEOPLE

Most Venezuelans are of European, Amerindian, and/or African descent. The most recent influx of European immigration dates to the early 1950s, when large numbers of Spanish, Italian, and Portuguese immigrants arrived. The 1981 census showed that 94% of the people are native born; of the foreign born, most came from Spain, Italy, Portugal, Africa, and Colombia. As of 1986, about 17,000 U.S. citizens were living in Venezuela. Unlike many of its neighbors, Venezuela does not have a large Amerindian population.

Venezuela is one of the Western Hemisphere's least densely populated countries. Most of the population is concentrated in the Andes and along the coast. Although nearly half of the land

area lies south and east of the Orinoco River, that area contains only 4% of the population.

The annual population increase since 1950 has been about 3.4%. Although it has declined in recent years to 2.7%, it is still one of the world's highest. The population is rapidly changing from rural to urban. In 1936, only 35% of the population lived in cities and towns of more than 1,000 inhabitants; today about 80% do. One out of every five Venezuelans lives in Caracas.

Social and Economic Issues

Venezuela's wealth is distributed unevenly, and a significant percentage of the population has inadequate nutrition, housing, clothing, and education. These problems are complicated by the tremendous pressures created by rapid population growth. Venezuela doubles its population about every 20 years; 40% are under 15 years of age, and 70% are under 30.

The literacy rate among Venezuelans 15 years of age and older was 88.4% in 1985. The government encourages those who can read and write to assist those who cannot by distributing training materials—books and tapes—throughout the country.

The first 9 years of primary education are compulsory. Of children aged 13–18, 45.9% are enrolled in day or special evening classes. In addition, adults are urged to participate in special night classes conducted at all educational levels.

Venezuela has 13 public universities, 7 private universities, and 11 private polytechnic or university institutes. Total enrollment of university-level students in 1985 was 388,886, a 75% increase over 1975.

Until recently, Venezuela's major employment problem was a shortage of skilled workers and managers to operate what had been a burgeoning and increasingly technological economy. To fill the gap, Venezuela recruited many skilled foreign technicians, expanded its technical education facilities, and sent Venezuelans abroad for training. With the economic decline of the past few years, rising unemployment has displaced the lack of technically qualified personnel—though still a significant factor—as the primary manpower concern.

While an official survey in December 1982 put unemployment at only 7%, by 1985 the official estimate was 12.1%. Some private sector and labor organizations put the figure as high as 20%.

Despite the recent contraction of its economy, Venezuela remains a goal for

immigrants, many of them undocumented, from other Latin American and Caribbean countries. Industrial wages, benefits, and working conditions remain relatively high, an achievement of Venezuela's large, disciplined multiparty labor movement.

HISTORY

Venezuela was discovered by Columbus in 1498 on his third voyage. It was one of the first colonies in the New World to revolt against Spain (1810), but independence was not achieved until 1821 under the leadership of **Simon Bolivar, Venezuela's native son** and continental hero. Venezuela, with what are now Colombia, Panama, and Ecuador, was part of the Republic of Gran Colombia until 1830, when it separated and became a sovereign state.

Venezuela's 19th century history is characterized by frequent periods of political instability, dictatorial rule, and revolutionary turbulence. The 20th century has been marked by long periods of authoritarianism—dictatorships of Gen. Juan Vicente Gomez (1908–35) and Gen. Marcos Perez Jimenez (1950–58)—as well as by a democratic interlude, between 1936 and 1948. Since the overthrow of Perez Jimenez on January 23, 1958, **democratic elections have been held in 1958, 1963, 1968, 1973, 1978, and 1983.**

Romulo Betancourt (1959–64), of the **Democratic Action Party (AD)**, became the first popularly elected president in Venezuelan history to complete his term in office. His administration, with the cooperation of the Democratic Republic Union (URD) and the country's second largest party, the Social Christian Party (COPEI), embarked upon a path of development and democracy. President Betancourt, surviving extremist threats from rightist military and civilians and from leftist subversives supported by the Castro regime of Cuba, modernized the government and produced numerous social reforms.

His AD successor, Raul Leoni (1964–69), consolidated and continued many of these reforms. However, the AD-COPEI coalition split, and further internal AD divisions led to the narrow victory of Rafael Caldera (1969–74), a COPEI university professor and international labor expert. His March 1969 inauguration marked the country's first peaceful transfer of power to a president from another political party. Among the initiatives of the Caldera government was Venezuela's entrance into the Andean Pact.

President Caldera was succeeded by AD's **Carlos Andres Perez**, a veteran party politician and former Betancourt interior minister, who won by a landslide in a field of a dozen candidates. The Perez administration initiated a huge government program of industrial expansion and consolidated state ownership of extractive industries, such as petroleum. With this accomplishment, Venezuela became a Third World leader.

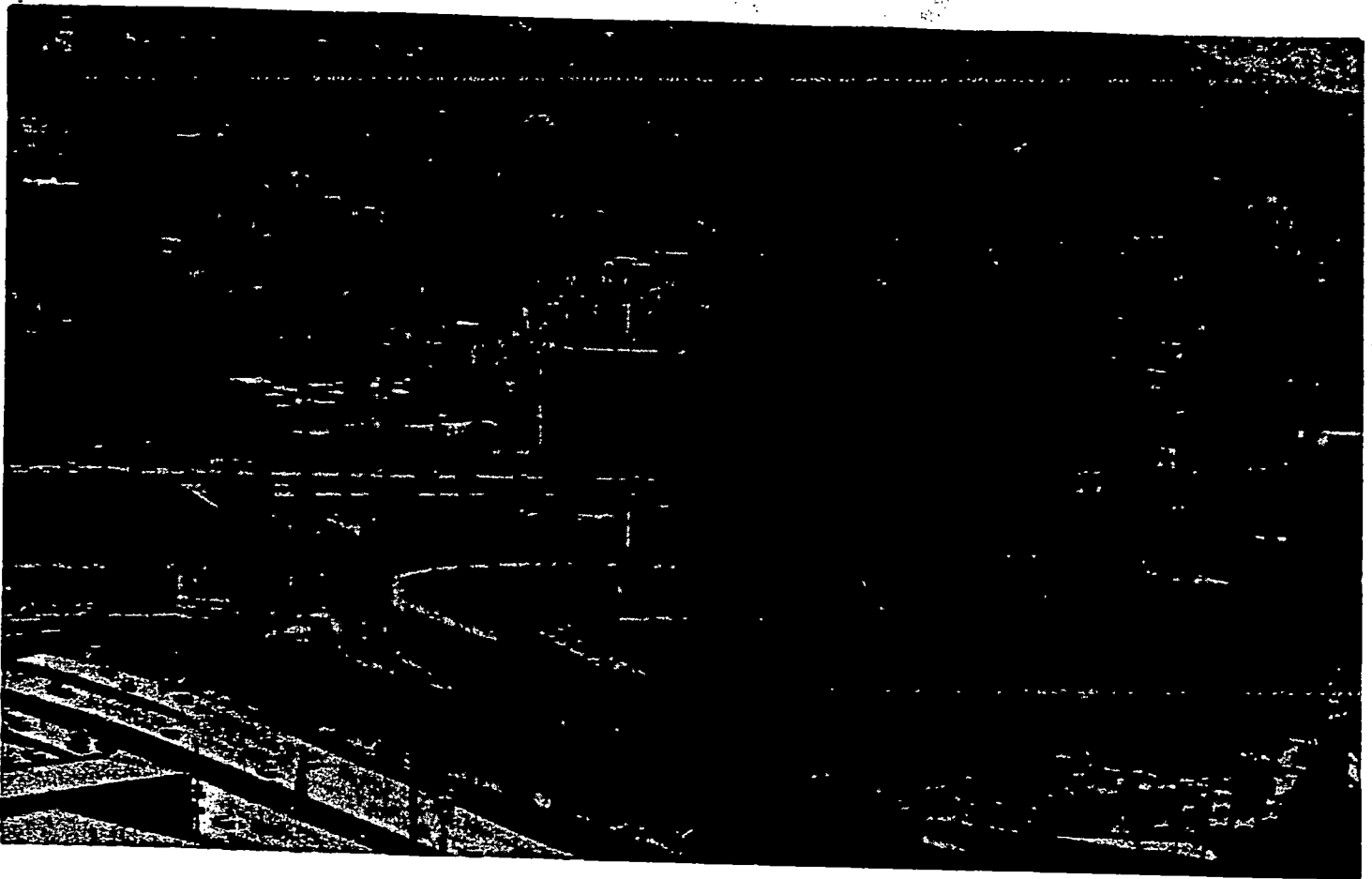
President Luis Herrera Campins of the COPEI succeeded Perez in a hotly contested race in December 1978. Herrera ran on a platform of improved social services and more efficient government, winning by about 200,000 votes out of 5 million. AD, however, retained control of the Congress. The country's mounting economic ills, following in the wake of a world recession, posed the greatest problem to the Herrera government. In February 1982, Herrera instituted currency control measures which, in effect, devalued the bolivar. Herrera also led his nation in the search for peace in Central America; Venezuela, in conjunction with Colombia, Mexico, and Panama, formed the "Contadora Group," whose efforts are aimed at avoiding armed conflict in the region.

President Jaime Lusinchi of AD won the 1983 presidential election with the largest majority in Venezuela's 27 years of democratic government. The AD Party retained control of the Congress with increased majorities in both houses. Confronted with falling revenues due to the **declining price of petroleum**, the Lusinchi administration refinanced \$22 billion of Venezuela's \$25.5 billion (end of 1985) external public debt. As a member of the Contadora Group, the Lusinchi government maintains the commitment to peace and democratization in Central America.

GOVERNMENT

The constitution, Venezuela's 26th since independence, guarantees freedom of religion, speech, and assembly and assigns substantial economic development responsibility to the federal government.

National elections are held every 5 years in which the president, members of Congress, and the state legislatures are elected. The president can be elected to **only one term and may not be reelected until 10 years after the end of that term.** Ex-presidents are life members of the Senate. Voting is mandatory for all Venezuelan citizens who are at least 18 years old and who are not convicts or members of the armed



Aerial view of Caracas.

forces. Generally, more than 80% of those registered vote. Each political party has its own ballot with a distinctive color and symbol. Elections are supervised by an independent, federally appointed electoral commission.

The executive, legislative, and judicial branches are separate. The president has extensive powers, including the power to appoint the Council of Ministers (cabinet) and state and territorial governors by decree, without congressional confirmation. State governors and other officials are considered part of the national government, though their powers are limited by their states' constitutions and elected legislatures.

Legislative responsibility is vested in the bicameral Congress, whose principal powers are the capacity to approve, alter, or reject the budget and to censure acts of the executive branch.

Judicial power is exercised by the Supreme Court of Justice and lower courts. The nine members and nine alternate judges of the Supreme Court are elected by Congress for 9-year terms.

In domestic affairs, the Venezuelan Government's goals are to:

- Preserve and protect free and democratic institutions and to maintain public order;
- Strengthen and modernize the armed forces;
- Eliminate the socioeconomic conditions which foster crime and to upgrade law enforcement resources;
- Enforce legal sanctions in cases of public malfeasance;
- Refinance the external public debt without generating undesirable effects on the living standards;
- Decrease the role of the public sector in the national economy and to impose strict controls on public borrowing;
- Reorient the national industrial base to production of essential goods to meet basic needs, generate jobs, fight inflation, and save foreign exchange; and
- Improve the physical infrastructure necessary to an expanded role for agriculture.

Principal Government Officials

President—Jaime Lusinchi

Ministers

- Interior—Jose Angel Ciliberto
 Foreign Relations—Simon Alberto Consalvi
 Finance—Manuel Azpurua Arreaza
 Defense—Maj. Gen. Jose Rafael Cardozo Grimaldi
 Development—Gustavo Mirabal Bustillos
 Education—Luis Manuel Carbonell
 Health and Social Welfare—Otto Hernandez Peretti
 Agriculture and Livestock—Felipe Gomez Alvarez
 Labor—Simon Antoni Pavan
 Transport and Communications—Juan Pedro Del Moral
 Justice—Jose Manzo Gonzalez
 Energy and Mines—Arturo Hernandez Grisanti
 Environment and Natural Resources—Guillermo Colmenares Finol
 Urban Development—Cesar Quintana Romero
 Youth—Virginia Olivo De Celli
 Minister to the Presidency—Carmelo Lauria Lesseur

Ministers of State

Coordination and Planning—Leopoldo Carnevali

President of the Venezuelan Investment Fund—Hector Hurtado

Culture—Paulina Gamus

Science and Technology—Tulio Arends

President of the Venezuelan Corporation of Guayana—Leopoldo Sucre Figarella

Basic Production and Coordination of State Enterprises—Vacant

Governor of the Federal District—Miguel Angel Contreras Laguado

Ambassador to the United Nations—Andres Aguilar

Ambassador to the OAS—Edilberto Moreno Pena

Ambassador to the United States—Valentin Hernandez

Venezuela maintains an embassy in the United States at 2445 Massachusetts Ave. NW., Washington, D.C. 20008 (tel. 202-797-3800). Consulates general are in Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, New Orleans, New York, Philadelphia, Portland, and San Francisco. Visas are issued only by consulates.

POLITICAL CONDITIONS

President Carlos Andres Perez used the country's vast new petroleum revenues to launch an ambitious domestic economic expansion program in metallurgical, agricultural, petrochemical, and other fields and placed more than \$5 billion abroad in short-term investments and development loans and other such assistance for developing countries.

President Herrera Campins of COPEI took office in March 1979 with a Congress in which the opposition AD party had a plurality. Herrera Campins' administration was faced with rising political and social tensions during its tenure, primarily because of a national economic downturn, declining petroleum prices, overseas capital flight, and rising unemployment. Public discontent resulted in a sweeping victory by the opposition party candidate Jaime Lusinchi in December 1983, the largest electoral landslide since that of Romulo Gallegos in 1948.

Although the Lusinchi administration has vigorously attacked the nation's social and economic problems, the continuing deterioration of the world petroleum market and the nation's approximately \$39 billion debt has limited the government's options.

Travel Notes

Customs: US citizens need a tourist card or visa, a US passport, and a travel ticket valid for onward passage. Tourist cards may be obtained from airlines or travel agencies, visas from the Venezuelan Embassy or a consulate. Business visitors who do not enter Venezuela on a tourist card or tourist visa must obtain a *solvenca* (tax release) before leaving Venezuela. For information, call Caracas 35-35-52.

Climate and clothing: Springweight clothing is appropriate in Caracas, which has an altitude of a little over 914 m. (3,000 ft.) and an average temperature of 23 °C (74 °F). The rainy season is from May to November. Elsewhere, temperatures vary with altitude, from a lowland average of 27 °C (80 °F) or more to below freezing at 4,500 m. (15,000 ft.) or higher.

Health: Medical services are good for most purposes. Essential medicines are available locally. Tapwater should be boiled and vegetables carefully prepared. No immunizations are required for travelers arriving from the United States.

Telecommunications: Long-distance telephone and telegraph services are available. Direct-dial service is available to the United States and more than 60 other countries. Venezuela is one standard time zone ahead of eastern standard time. Venezuela does not observe daylight saving time.

Transportation: Principal Venezuelan cities in the interior are connected by air, highway, and rail with Caracas. Venezuela's interna-

tional airline has daily flights to several US cities. Caracas' Maiquetia Airport has become an important international travel center in the Caribbean. An underground metro system serving Caracas is under construction with 11 stations in operation. Completion of the system is scheduled for 1987.

Tourist attractions: Caracas—colonial Caracas, botanical gardens, many museums, tours. Outlying areas—colonial Tovar, a German settlement 48 kilometers (30 mi.) from Caracas; beautiful cataracts at Canaima include Angel Falls, the world's highest; breathtaking Andean scenery at Merida.

There are two world-class hotels in Caracas with a total of 1,505 rooms. Several other hotels are frequently used by international travelers.

Local holidays: Businesses and the US Embassy may be closed on the following holidays:

New Year's Day	Jan.
Carnival	Monday and Tuesday before Ash Wednesday
Holy Week	Thursday and Good Friday
Declaration of Independence	April
Labor Day	May
Independence Day	July
Bolivar's Birthday	July
Day of the Public Functionary	September
Columbus Day	October
Christmas Day	December

The enthusiastic voter turnout in the 1983 presidential elections and lively ongoing debate among the political parties are testimony to the strength of democratic institutions in South America's **oldest democracy**. Despite mounting economic and social problems, Venezuelans have continued to seek political change through democratic processes, setting an example for other nations of the region.

ECONOMY

Venezuela is a major producer and exporter of oil. A **founding member** of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (**OPEC**), it plays a key role in the world oil market. Mexico and Venezuela have begun granting loans to Central American and Caribbean Basin nations on the basis of oil purchased from both countries. Venezuela is also an

important member of the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE).

In 1985, oil accounted for about 90% of Venezuela's total merchandise export income, 61% of the government's revenues, and some 22% of the gross domestic product (GDP). The government nationalized the industry on January 1, 1976. Since then, employment has doubled, income has quadrupled, and production of crude oil has declined.

Crude oil and condensate production peaked in 1970 at 3.7 million barrels per day (b/d). Production was 1.7 million b/d in 1985. The initial decline was due to government conservation policies and low investment in exploration and development. In recent years, however, it has been attributable to the weak world oil market. Venezuela has seven on-line refineries. These refineries give the country a capability of exporting about one-third of its production as

refined products, a position unique among OPEC members. In 1985, Venezuela exported about 51% of its production to the United States.

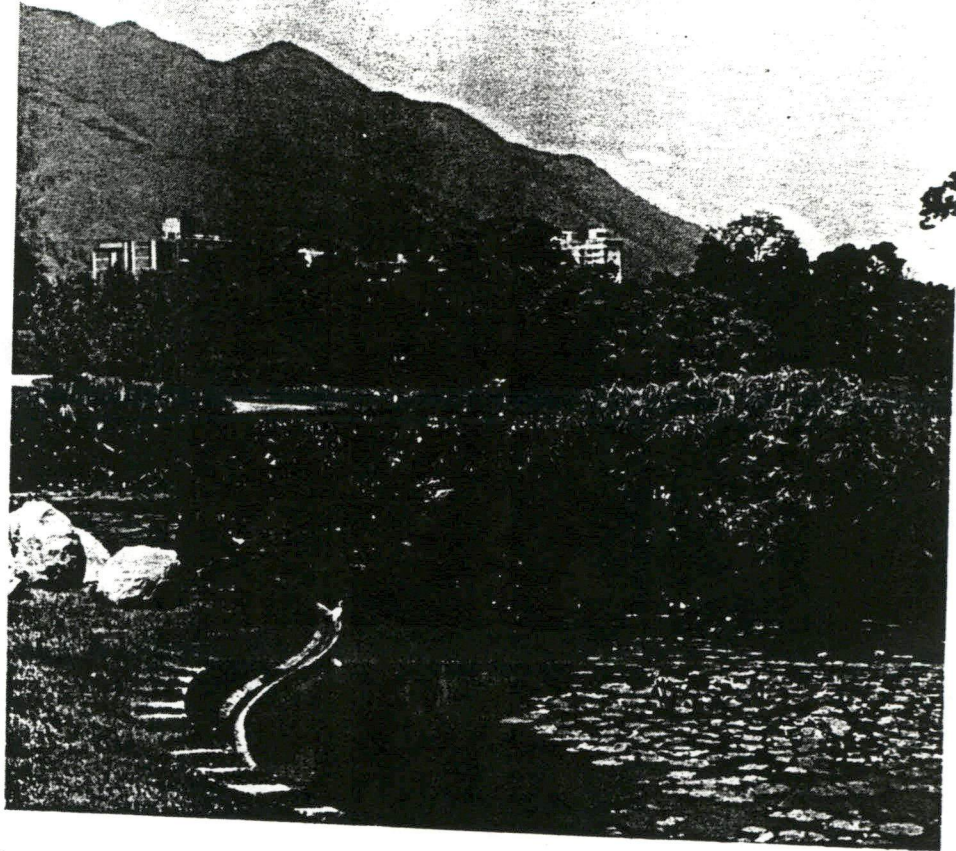
Venezuela produced 14.9 million metric tons (MT) of iron ore in 1985. Exports were 9 million MT; about 2.1 million MT went to the United States. As of December 1985, iron ore reserves were estimated at 2.1 billion MT.

Also in 1985, Venezuela's installed steel production capacity was 4.8 million MT. Production was 3 million MT of ingots and 2.4 million MT of products. Aluminum production was 396,000 MT of primary ingots. Installed aluminum capacity is 400,000.

Agriculture and Industry

Agriculture accounted for 7.4% of GDP in 1985 (compared to 6.9% in 1984 and 6.8% in 1983) and employed about 15% of the labor force. Agricultural production in 1985 experienced a sharp upturn, with a total of 1.83 million hectares devoted to crops as compared to 1.59 million in both 1984 and 1983. Following the currency devaluation in February 1983, the Venezuelan Government initiated **import controls**, restricted agricultural imports to bulk commodities for processing, and prohibited most processed and luxury food items. The United States continues to be the main supplier of agricultural products, despite Venezuela's policy of diversifying sources and seeking trade integration between Latin American countries. During 1985, U.S. food and agricultural products sales were \$650 million (f.o.b.)—accounting for more than 50% of total agricultural imports—compared to \$775 and \$665 million in 1984 and 1983, respectively. Preliminary 1986 estimates call for U.S. agricultural sales to decline by about 10%, since the Venezuelan Government has signaled that it will continue substituting imports by sustaining increases in domestic production.

Venezuela's agricultural policy was substantially modified by the Lusinchi administration, which set out to convert agriculture into an important sector of the economy. The main measures taken to spur production have been increased producer prices, fertilizer subsidy, increased crop and livestock production credit at preferential interest rate, long-term loans to the private sector to expand livestock and crop areas, government financed large-scale irrigation, and drainage and other infrastructure projects.



Parque del Este is a popular park for early morning jogs amid hundreds of tropical birds.

Venezuela is currently self-sufficient in rice, corn, tropical fruits, vegetables, roots, poultry, and pork. Self-sufficiency in sorghum, sugar, and milk could be achieved in the short or medium term. For the foreseeable future, Venezuela will continue importing oilseeds, protein meals, and vegetable oils. **Coffee and cocoa** are the traditional export crops, with **tropical fruits** offering new export opportunities.

Manufacturing grew 3% in 1985 and accounted for 19% of GDP and, like agricultural growth, reflected increased **import substitution**. Triggered by currency exchange incentives, export of some manufactured items has been steadily increasing.

Venezuela is one of the top four hydroelectric power producers in Latin America. The Guri Dam on the Caroni River in eastern Venezuela, with an installed capacity of 525,000 kilowatts of electricity in late 1968, was expanded to 14.5 million kilowatts by 1982.

GNP and Budget

In 1985, GNP totaled about \$50 billion. GNP decreased slightly in real terms in 1985, continuing the pattern of near-

stagnation apparent since 1978. Per capita GNP, also on the decline, was about \$2,600. Central government income in 1985 was \$14.4 billion, while spending was only \$13.1 billion, resulting in a budget surplus of \$1.3 billion.

Investment, Currency, and Trade

About 46% of gross fixed investment came from the private sector in 1984, and 54% from the government. Public and private investment dropped to 15% of GDP in 1984 from about 42% in 1978.

U.S. direct investment in Venezuela was \$1.7 billion at the end of 1984 or 6.1% of the total U.S. investment in Latin America. Venezuela ranks fifth after Brazil, Mexico, Panama, and Argentina in the amount of U.S. investment. The United States accounts for the majority of foreign investment in Venezuela; in 1985, 55% of new investment came from the United States.

External public debt in December 1985 amounted to \$25.5 billion; foreign exchange reserves totaled \$13.8 billion. The consumer price index rose 11.4% on average in 1985. In 1985, about 48% of Venezuela's exports went to the United States, and 47% of its imports came from the United States.

Of the major services, only the telephone, telegraph, and water supply are wholly government owned. The government also owns a steel mill, the iron ore and the petrochemical industries, most of the aluminum industries, one of the two domestic airlines, the international airline, and a chain of hotels.

Venezuela is a member of the Andean Pact and of the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI), which replaced the Latin American Free Trade Association in 1980. Joint Venezuelan Government-foreign company investments are handled on a case-by-case basis and are affected by Andean Pact guidelines.

DEFENSE

The Venezuelan Armed Forces total some 58,000 personnel in four service branches—army, navy (including the marine corps), and air force—and the Armed Forces of Cooperation (*Fuerzas Armadas de Cooperación*—FAC), commonly known as the National Guard, the primary mission of which is enforcing internal security. By the 1970s, the armed forces had developed into one of the most modern and professional among middle-sized Latin American countries. This advance is attributable to many factors, the most important of which is the vast petroleum revenues available to the government. Also by the 1970s, the military officer had attained a generally respected position in society as a well-paid professional and supporter of the democratic process. Since 1959, the armed forces have come to reject a direct role in national politics. In general, civil-military relations in Venezuela are very good, although the military is beginning to feel the impact of reduced budgets.

FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Venezuelan Government traditionally has stated that its international conduct will be governed by the following principles:

- Respect for human rights;
- The right of all peoples to self-determination;
- Nonintervention in the internal affairs of other nations;
- Peaceful settlement of disputes between nations;

- The right of all peoples to peace and security;
- Support for the elimination of colonialism; and
- A call for significantly higher export prices for developing countries' primary products.

Relations with Guyana are complicated by Venezuela's claim to the area up to the Essequibo River, more than half the present size of Guyana. The dispute was under discussion by a Guyana-Venezuela mixed commission established by a 1966 Geneva agreement. In June 1970, both countries agreed to a 12-year moratorium on the issue. Following the expiration of the Geneva agreement in 1982, the dispute was, with the concurrence of both parties, referred to the UN Secretary General for a determination of suitable means for settlement.

Since 1970, Venezuela and Colombia have held sporadic talks about the maritime border in the Gulf of Venezuela. Despite the boundary dispute and the negative effects that the de facto devaluation of the bolivar had on the Colombian economy, relations between the two countries are good and seem to be improving, especially in intergovernmental cooperation in **controlling narcotics trafficking** and guerrilla activities along their common border.

Under the Perez administration, it was widely reported that Venezuela provided materiel support and advice to the *Frente Sandinista de Liberación* (FSLN) during their struggle to oust Nicaraguan President Anastasio Somoza Debayle. Although Herrera Campins' administration led Andean Pact efforts for a peaceful transition of government in Nicaragua, it became increasingly disenchanted with mounting political repression under the Sandinistas. Venezuela joined with Colombia, Mexico, and Panama to seek a regional solution to Central America's problems through the Contadora process. The Lusinchi government has continued this commitment to Contadora, playing an active role in the search for democracy and stability in Central America.

U.S.-VENEZUELAN RELATIONS

The United States and Venezuela share the objectives of strengthening democratic institutions; furthering human rights; accelerating sound economic, social, and cultural development through orderly and progressive

Further Information

These titles are provided as a general indication of material published on this country. The Department of State does not endorse unofficial publications.

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For information on economic trends, commercial development, production, trade regulations, and tariff rates, contact the International Trade Administration, US Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20230.

change within the framework of a free society; and cooperating in the defense and security of the Western Hemisphere against aggression or subversion.

Not only does Venezuela endorse theoretical goals of democracy, but it

worked with the United States vigorously to promote democracy and human rights throughout the hemisphere. Venezuela has adopted the American Convention on Human Rights and supports the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. Along with the United States, Venezuela has worked toward and supported the goals of nuclear non-proliferation in the hemisphere, conventional arms restraint, antiterrorism, and the promotion of hemispheric economic development. Venezuela and the United States have similar views on the importance of democratization as a key element in a solution to the problems of Central America.

Venezuela is one of the United States' most important Latin American trading partners and a major supplier of petroleum and petroleum products to the United States.

Principal U.S. Officials

Ambassador—Otto J. Reich
Deputy Chief of Mission—Jeffrey Davidow
Political Counselor—Claus W. Ruser
Economic Counselor—Pierce K. Bullen
Administrative Counselor—Frank M. Schroeder
Consul General—Don E. Bean
Defense and Air Attache—Col. James Nugent
Public Affairs Counselor—Guy Farmer
Agricultural Counselor—Lloyd Fleck
Labor Attache—Thomas M. Tonkin
Regional Security Officer—Stephen H. Jacobs
Consul, Maracaibo—Michael E. Malinowski

The U.S Embassy in Venezuela is located at Avenida de Miranda and Avenida Principal de la Floresta,

Caracas (tel. 284-6111/284-7111). Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The consulate in Maracaibo is in Edificio Sofimara, Piso 3, Calle 77 con Avenida 13 (tel. 84253/84254/83054/83055). Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to noon and 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. ■

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January 12, 1987, Thursday

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HEADLINE: Latin Debtors Seek New Approaches

BYLINE: JOHN YEMMA, Staff Writer of the Christian Science Monitor

DATELINE: BOSTON

KEYWORD:
STATSHIGHLIGHT:
GLOBAL MARKETS

BODY:

DEBT IS a pain - and Latin nations are saying they have reached their limit of tolerance.

That is why Venezuela plans to suspend principal payments on most of its \$26 billion in foreign bank debt for three months beginning next week. It is why many experts on the debt crisis say 1987 could see major changes. And it is why, despite improving conditions on the part of banks with loans to poor nations, President-elect Bush has indicated he is willing to look at a new approach.

'A major change should occur this year,' says Javier Murcio, a specialist on Latin American economies at Data Resources Inc. of Lexington, Mass. 'It might not be really close to happening, but I think there is something going on behind the scenes.'

The people to watch, besides Mr. Bush, are incoming Secretary of State James Baker III, Secretary of the Treasury Nicholas Brady, and the new leaders of Venezuela and Mexico, Carlos Andres Perez and Carlos Salinas de Gortari, respectively.

Mr. Perez, the Venezuelan president-elect, is most outspoken on the debt issue. He is an economic nationalist, too, having supervised the takeover of the Venezuelan oil industry during his first term as president in the 1970s. Perez told the Monitor last year that the overhang of debt he and other Latin leaders have inherited from their predecessors presents 'intolerable and irrational' repayment conditions and is 'a very direct threat to our democracies.'

Third-world debt is estimated at \$1.34 trillion. Latin nations owe \$420 billion.

Last week Perez paid a visit to Mr. Salinas. Venezuela and Mexico have their oil industries in common and thus have similar interests in seeing higher oil prices. Perez said he and Salinas agreed to continue talks on the debt with other Latin American heads of state. Late last week, Perez visited President

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JOSE SARNEY OF BRAZIL. HE IS DUE TO MEET RAUL ALFONSO OF ARGENTINA AND OTHER LATIN LEADERS NEXT MONTH AT THE TIME OF HIS INAUGURATION.

DESPITE HIS LOBBYING, PEREZ IS NOT CONFRONTATIONAL IN HIS APPROACH. HE DOES NOT TALK ABOUT DEBT REPUDIATION. THAT SHOULD HELP HIM AND OTHER LATIN LEADERS DEAL WITH CREDITORS, SINCE THEY ARE NOT IN A PARTICULARLY STRONG FINANCIAL POSITION. US BANKS HAVE WORKED HARD OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS TO REDUCE THEIR DEBT EXPOSURE AND THUS HAVE THE UPPER HAND IN DEBT NEGOTIATIONS.

WILLIAM SEIDMAN OF THE FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION TOLD THE HOUSE BANKING COMMITTEE LAST WEEK THAT REGIONAL US BANKS HAVE 'PUT THE LDC (LESS-DEVELOPED COUNTRIES) SITUATION BEHIND THEM.' BUT REP. HENRY B. BONZALEZ (D) OF TEXAS, THE COMMITTEE'S CHAIRMAN, HAS CALLED FOR THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION TO DEVELOP A POLICY QUICKLY, AND CHARACTERIZED THE DEBT SITUATION AS 'A GROWING CRISIS.'

WHAT IS NEEDED, SAY MANY SPECIALISTS, IS A NEW APPROACH THAT LIQUIDATES SOME OF THE CHRONIC BURDEN OF DEBT OF DEVELOPING NATIONS. PEREZ SAYS THAT IF THE DEBT PROBLEM IS NOT SETTLED SOON, THE SEVERE ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES OF VENEZUELA, BRAZIL, AND MEXICO COULD EXTEND TO OTHER COUNTRIES.

ECONOMIST MURCIO SAYS ONE OF THE MOST INTERESTING NEW APPROACHES WAS ONE THAT APPEARED IN THE WALL STREET JOURNAL LAST WEEK. WRITTEN BY KUOIGER VORNDOUSCH AND FRANCO MODIGLIANI OF THE MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, THIS IS A PLAN UNDER WHICH DEBTORS WOULD MAKE PAYMENTS TO BANKS IN LOCAL CURRENCY (PESOS, FOR INSTANCE).

BANKS WOULD THEN USE THE MONEY TO BUY LOCAL ENTERPRISES. WHAT THESE PROPERTIES EARNED COULD BE CONVERTED INTO DOLLARS - OR THE PROPERTIES COULD BE SOLD TO NONRESIDENTS. AT ANY RATE, DEBT PAYMENTS WOULD NOT LEAVE THE COUNTRY DIRECTLY.

ALTHOUGH BANKS WOULD OBJECT TO THIS, IT WOULD BE BETTER, THE TWO ECONOMISTS SAY, THAN IF THE DEBTORS HAD TO DEFAULT ON SOME OR ALL OF THEIR PAYMENTS. AND AFTER PERHAPS A DECADE, THE MONEY COULD BE GOTTEN OUT.

DOZENS OF OTHER DEBT-RELIEF PLANS HAVE BEEN PROPOSED IN THE PAST FEW YEARS. ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, SOME GROUP WILL PAY THE FREIGHT - MOST LIKELY, TAXPAYERS OR BANK SHAREHOLDERS. FOR MOST OF THE 1980S, IT HAS BEEN THE DEBTORS. THEY ARE SAYING THEY ARE IN NO CONDITION TO GO ON THIS WAY, ESPECIALLY IF ECONOMIC CONDITIONS TURN GLOOMY THROUGH RISING INTEREST RATES OR A RECESSION.

BIG LATIN NATIONS

WHAT THEY OWE HOW MUCH OF THEIR

(IN BILLIONS OF DOLLARS) EXPORT EARNINGS GO

TO PAYMENTS

ARGENTINA \$57.6 42%

BOLIVIA 5.7 44

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BRAZIL 120.1 28

CHILE 20.8 27

COLOMBIA 17.2 17

ECUADOR 11.0 33

MEXICO 107.4 28

PERU 19.0 27

VENEZUELA 35.0 22

SOURCE: THE WORLD BANK

GRAPHIC: ILLUSTRATION, NO CAPTION, 'BIG LATIN NATIONS' (SEE BELOW), SHIRLEY
MURN - STAFF

TWIL STORY OF LEVEL 1 PRINTED IN FULL FORMAT.

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SUMMARY OF WORLD BROADCASTS/THE MONITORING REPORT

DECEMBER 16, 1988, FRIDAY

SECTION: PART 4 THE MIDDLE EAST AND LATIN AMERICA; 4(D). LATIN AMERICA AND OTHER COUNTRIES

PAGE: ME/U336/ 111

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HEADLINE: VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT-ELECT'S MEETING WITH GEORGE BUSH

BODY:

IN A SPEECH GIVEN FOLLOWING THE OFFICIAL PROCLAMATION OF HIS ELECTION AS PRESIDENT, CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ SAID THAT HE HAD HELD A MEETING ON 13TH DECEMBER WITH US PRESIDENT-ELECT GEORGE BUSH, VENEZOLANA DE TELEVISION(CARACAS) REPORTED. ANDRES PEREZ SAID THAT THEY HAD BEEN ABLE TO 'IDENTIFY COMMON INTERESTS, OVERCOME DIFFICULTIES AND AGREE ON FUTURE EFFORTS FOR THE SAKE OF CO-OPERATION'. HE ADDED 'I MUST STATE FRANKLY THAT I RETURNED TO VENEZUELA SATISFIED AND CONFIDENT WITH THE SPIRIT OF UNDERSTANDING . . . THAT I PERCEIVED FROM THE MAN WHO WILL ASSUME THE US PRESIDENCY IN A FEW DAYS.' PEREZ ADDED THAT VENEZUELA AND LATIN AMERICA WOULD HAVE A FRIEND IN GEORGE BUSH 'WHO WILL TALK WITH A WILLINGNESS TO BECOME CLOSER'.

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BUSH told Vornan and other House Republicans who had been active in his campaign that he would not appoint them to high-level jobs because he does not want to deplete the party's strength in Congress, a transition spokesman said Tuesday.

"Several of the vice president's many friends in Congress have indicated a willingness to serve in his Administration," transition press secretary Sheila Tate said. "However, their appointment would mean the loss of strong supporters on the Hill whose help the President-elect needs in the months ahead."

Bush's surprise announcement not to put members of Congress in his cabinet won praise from several GOP congressmen, including Vornan, who had been reported as one of the leading congressional contenders for an appointment. The decision, said Vornan, makes good sense because Republicans, already in the minority in the House, cannot afford to risk losing any seats. He added that he would be "proud and happy" to remain in Congress and work hard for the new President's legislative agenda.

Says Bush Erred

At least one congressman, however, suggested that Bush had erred. "My own personal feeling was that a former member of Congress could be very helpful to a President in lobbying with the members that they have served with," said Rep. Guy V. Molinari (R-N.Y.), who had been hoping for the transportation department job.

In fact, Bush may have had other motives at least partly in mind, a senior aide said. Despite the professed worry about weakening the party in the House, all but one of the GOP congressmen whose names have been mentioned for cabinet slots are from "safe" Republican districts that could be expected to send up Republican replacements.

What may have been important is that all the GOP congressmen are white and, by definition, Washington insiders. His new blanket decision provides Bush a face-saving way of bypassing them in favor of honoring his pledge to name members of minority groups and people from outside Washington to the cabinet, the aide acknowledged.

Bush discussed the subject of black appointees when he met Tuesday afternoon with King, one of a series of meetings he has been having with black leaders.

"We don't disagree on the goals," King told reporters after the meeting, adding that she plans to "do all I can to help George Bush" fulfill her late husband's dream of eliminating the "three evils of racism, poverty and war." While she and Bush talked about naming a black cabinet member, they did not discuss any names, King said.

One leading black contender for a cabinet post is Dr. Louis Sullivan, president of Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta. He is being actively pushed as a possible secretary of health and human services.

In addition to Vornan and Molinari, members of Congress who had been considered possible cabinet selections included Reps. John Paul Hammerschmidt of Arkansas, widely touted as a candidate for secretary of the new department of Veteran Affairs; Lynn Martin of Illinois, Bill Bradley of Ohio, Tom Klege of

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PENNSYLVANIA AND E. INOMAS LOLEMAN OF MISSOURI.

Vornan, 55, stressed that Bush's action should not be seen as a slap in the face to Republican conservatives, who worked hard for his election and expect to be represented in the new Administration.

'Point man for the President'

"As for me, I will concentrate on being a point man for the President in Congress, on issues like arms control, narcotics policies, AIDS and the deficit."

Vornan also said that he expects to rise in the ranks. He expressed confidence that he will be appointed to a seat on the powerful House Armed Services Committee next month, and recently was elected chairman of the influential Republican Study Conference, a policy arm of House conservatives.

These new leadership responsibilities suggest that Vornan might be evolving into less of an ideological firebrand, a role he previously has played with gusto. However, in a Tuesday interview, he served warning that his credentials as one of Congress' most outspoken conservatives are still intact.

Asked about the AIDS policies he would promote as chairman of the Republican Study Conference, for example, Vornan said: "Just like we have to do something on the demand side of narcotics, we have to do something on the demand side of AIDS. We have to stop glorifying homosexuality as a life style. Unsanitary, dirty sex and unsanitary, dirty needles have created the greatest health crisis of our time."

Vornan was one of the first conservatives to endorse Bush's presidential candidacy, campaigning for him as early as 1985. Eventually, Vornan stumped for Bush in 34 states.

"There were few people who worked as hard for Bush as Bob did," said a transition source. "And in this business, that's not forgotten. He was very loyal to the vice president."

After the election, Vornan made no secret of his ambitions. Unlike most aspirants for presidential appointments, he spoke frankly to the news media.

"The only job I want is drug czar," he said in one interview, referring to the new post of national drug policy director created by Congress. "My main shot is the man (Bush) himself. I'm so much closer to him than I ever got to Reagan."

At one point, Vornan even promoted his candidacy over another rumored -- although unlikely -- contender for drug czar, Los Angeles Police Chief Gary F. Bates. The chief, he said, "is a friend, a quality person, but I don't see it as a law enforcement job."

Yet even before Bush made his decision to exclude Republican members of Congress from high-level appointments, Vornan said he concluded that being drug czar might not be such a good idea. He noted that his wife, Battle, had opposed the move, calling the post "a magnificent opportunity to fall miserably."

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"I've never been comfortable with the word 'czar,' " Dornan added. "It's derived from the word 'Caesar,' and the derivations are 'czar,' 'kaiser' and 'shah.' Caesar was stabbed by a couple of dozen senators. The Kaiser and Czar Nicholas didn't fare too well, and the Shah was kicked around from country to country."

Now that a presidential appointment has been ruled out, Dornan said he asked Bush for his support in gaining a seat on the House Armed Services Committee. During a Monday night conversation with Bush, he said, he asked the president-elect to put in a good word for him with Rep. Robert H. Michel (R-Ill.), the House minority leader. Republicans are expected to decide next month which new members will be appointed to the committee.

"He (Bush) said he would absolutely help. . . . He said, 'I want you to be one of my point speakers,' " Dornan said.

GRAPHIC: PHOTO, CHOICES -- George Bush as he conferred with Coretta Scott King about the appointment of blacks to federal posts. On another front, Bush declined to appoint Rep. Robert Dornan to a job in order to keep the fiery conservative in Congress. BERNIE BUSTON / LOS ANGELES TIMES

SUBJECT: POLITICAL APPOINTMENTS; BUSH, GEORGE; CONGRESS (U.S.); ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME; DORNAN, ROBERT K; UNITED STATES -- GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

Carlos Andres PEREZ
(Phonetic: PEHrehz)

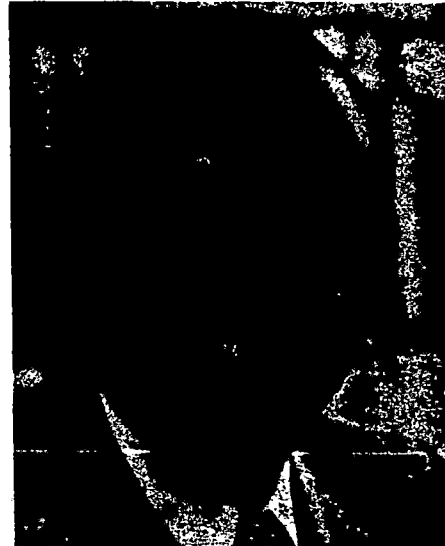
VENEZUELA

President (since February 1989)

Addressed as: Mr. President

A well-known international figure, Carlos Andres Perez is serving his second term as President (the first was during 1974-79). An ardent nationalist and Third World advocate, he is a strong spokesman for Latin American interests. Trying to get his administration off to a fast start, Perez announced a program of economic reforms and austerity measures a few months after taking office. The economic package touched off violent riots and labor strife, however, engendering substantial public criticism of his program. He has defended his measures as necessary and is sticking with them despite mounting political pressure.

Perez has instituted three economic relief programs: unemployment insurance, subsidies to low-income families of schoolchildren, and a major public works package.



Perez continues to pursue a leadership role abroad. His publicized agenda includes reviving OPEC, mediating solutions to Central American crises, and promoting a deal for repayment of Latin American foreign debts. Less than a week after his election, he traveled to the Middle East to promote an OPEC summit and to the United States to meet with then President-elect Bush. He was involved in multilateral efforts to bring democracy to Panama, calling on the Organization of American States to protest the actions of military strongman Manuel Noriega, but has publicly condemned the US action in Panama.

Perez has expressed concern about economic dominance by industrialized nations, and during his first presidency he worked to use Venezuela's oil reserves to increase his country's independence. To that end, he nationalized the oil industry. He has said that the main threat to democracy is poverty, which he has pledged to eliminate by a more equitable distribution of the oil income.

Perez was born on 27 October 1922, the same year that Venezuela's oil boom began. He identifies strongly with his country and perceives a parallel between what he sees as its oil-ordained destiny and his own future. He has been widely described in press articles as a populist who sees himself as the chief defender of the hopes of the Venezuelan people.

From an early age Perez has lived for politics. In 1941, while studying for a degree at the Central University of Venezuela, he helped found the Democratic Action Party (AD), along with fellow political activist Romulo Betancourt. Four years later, Perez ended his studies—a year short of earning a law degree—when Betancourt became President in a coup. Perez served as Betancourt's private secretary and later as secretary of the Council of Ministers. He was also an AD member of Congress. In 1948 the military overthrew Betancourt's democratically elected successor; it remained in power for a decade. During this period, Perez lived in exile in Cuba and Costa Rica. On his return to Venezuela he returned to Congress. In the early 1960s he was also director general in the Interior Ministry and later Minister. He was AD secretary general from 1963 until his election as President in 1974.

Married to the former Blanca Rodriguez, Perez has six children.

7 February 1990

background notes

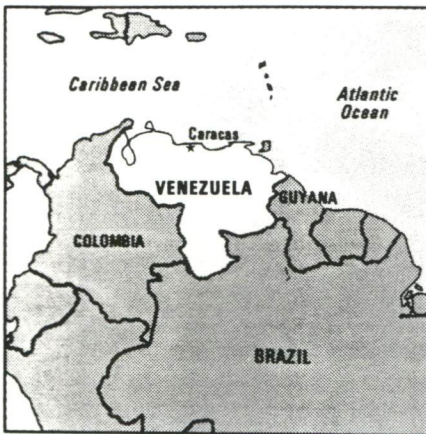
647-3338
Eliz Schuler

Venezuela



United States Department of State
Bureau of Public Affairs

April 1987



Official Name:
Republic of Venezuela

PROFILE

Geography

Area: 912,050 sq. km. (352,143 sq. mi.); about the size of Texas and Oklahoma combined. **Cities:** *Capital*—Caracas (metropolitan area pop. est. 4.0 million). **Terrain:** Varied. **Climate:** Varies from tropical to temperate, depending on elevation.

People

Nationality: *Noun and adjective*—Venezuelan(s). **Population** (1986): 17,791,000. **Annual growth rate:** 2.7%. **Ethnic groups:** Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, Arab, German, Amerindian, African. **Religions:** Roman Catholic 96%, Protestant 2%. **Languages:** Spanish (official), Indian dialects spoken by some of the 200,000 Amerindians in the remote interior. **Education:** *Years compulsory*—9. **Literacy**—88.4%. **Health:**

Infant mortality rate—27.3/1,000. *Life expectancy*—70 yrs. **Work force** (about 6 million): *Agriculture*—15%. *Industry and commerce*—35%. *Services*—26%. *Other*—24%.

Government

Type: Federal republic. **Independence:** July 5, 1821. **Constitution:** January 23, 1961.

Branches: *Executive*—president (head of government and chief of state); 24-member Council of Ministers (Cabinet). *Legislative*—bicameral Congress (200-member Chamber of Deputies, 47-member Senate). *Judicial*—18-member Supreme Court.

Subdivisions: 20 states, 2 federal territories, 1 federal district, and a federal dependence (72 islands).

Political parties: Democratic Action (*Accion Democratica*—AD), Social Christian (*Comite Organizador Politico pro Elecciones Independientes*—COPEI). *Other parties*—minor, which gained representation to the National Congress Dec. 1983: Movement to Socialism (*Movimiento al Socialismo*—MAS); People's Electoral Movement (*Movimiento Electoral del Pueblo*—MEP); Republican Democratic Union (*Union Republicana Democratica*—URD); New Alternative (*Nueva Alternativa*—NA); Movement of the Revolutionary Left (*Movimiento de Izquierda Revolucionaria*—MIR); Movement of National Integrity (*Movimiento de Integridad Nacional*—MIN); National Opinion (*Opinion Nacional*—OPINA); and Venezuelan Communist Party (*Partido Comunista de Venezuela*—PCV). **Suffrage:** Universal and compulsory over 18.

Central government budget (1985): \$13.1 billion.

Flag: Three horizontal bands—yellow, blue, and red, with a crest in a corner of the yellow band and a semicircle of seven stars in the middle of the blue band. The colors come from the banner flown by Simon Bolivar; the stars represent the seven provinces.

Economy

Real GDP (1985): \$50 billion. **Real annual growth rate** (1984–85): –0.4%. **Real per capita income:** \$2,629. **Avg. inflation rate** (1985): 11.4%.

Natural resources: Petroleum, natural gas, coal, iron ore, gold, other minerals, hydroelectric power, bauxite.

Agriculture (7.4% of GDP): *Products*—rice, coffee, corn, sugar, bananas, and dairy, meat, and poultry products. *Land*—4%.

Industry (19% of GDP): *Types*—petrochemicals, oil refining, iron and steel, paper products, aluminum, textiles, transport equipment, consumer products.

Trade (1985): *Exports*—\$14.2 billion: petroleum (\$12.8 billion), iron ore, coffee, steel, aluminum, cocoa. *Major markets*—US, Canada, Italy, Japan, Spain, FRG.

Imports—\$7.3 billion: machinery and transport equipment, manufactured goods, chemicals, foodstuffs. *Major suppliers*—US, Japan, Canada, FRG, France, Italy, Brazil.

Official exchange rate: *Preferential*—14.5 bolivares = US\$1. In February 1983, Venezuela adopted a multitiered exchange rate system. In December 1986, the government decreed an official exchange rate of 14.5 per US\$1 for specified products and transactions.

Fiscal year: Calendar year.

Membership in International Organizations

UN and some of its specialized and related agencies, including membership in the Security Council (1986–87); Organization of American States (OAS); International Coffee Agreement; Latin American Integration Association (ALADI); Andean Pact; Rio Pact; Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC); Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE); Latin American State Reciprocal Petroleum Assistance (ARPEL); Latin American Economic System (SELA); Andres Bello Agreement.



GEOGRAPHY

Venezuela spans the major sea and air routes linking the northern and southern parts of the Western Hemisphere. Its coastline is 2,816 kilometers (1,750 mi.) on the Caribbean Sea and Atlantic Ocean. Venezuela also claims the territory east of the present boundary to the Essequibo River, which was allocated to Guyana by the Arbitral Award of 1899.

Venezuela has four distinct geographic regions:

- The Andes Mountains and adjacent hill country in the northwest;
- The coastal zone north of the mountains bordering Lake Maracaibo and the Caribbean Sea, including the Orinoco Delta;
- The plains or *llanos*, extending from the mountains south and east to the Orinoco River; and
- The Guyana Highlands, a vast area of high plateaus and rolling plains south and east of the Orinoco. **Angel Falls, the world's highest waterfall, is in this area.**

Although the entire country lies in the torrid zone, the temperature varies with the altitude. The lowland coastal area is hot and humid, as are the inland river valleys. The highlands generally are warm during the day and cool at night. For most of the country, the rainy season is from May through November; the rest of the year is dry. Caracas is located in a valley at 900 meters (3,000 ft.) and averages 23 °C (74 °F) year round.

PEOPLE

Most Venezuelans are of European, Amerindian, and/or African descent. The most recent influx of European immigration dates to the early 1950s, when large numbers of Spanish, Italian, and Portuguese immigrants arrived. The 1981 census showed that 94% of the people are native born; of the foreign born, most came from Spain, Italy, Portugal, Africa, and Colombia. As of 1986, about 17,000 U.S. citizens were living in Venezuela. Unlike many of its neighbors, Venezuela does not have a large Amerindian population.

Venezuela is one of the Western Hemisphere's least densely populated countries. Most of the population is concentrated in the Andes and along the coast. Although nearly half of the land

area lies south and east of the Orinoco River, that area contains only 4% of the population.

The annual population increase since 1950 has been about 3.4%. Although it has declined in recent years to 2.7%, it is still one of the world's highest. The population is rapidly changing from rural to urban. In 1936, only 35% of the population lived in cities and towns of more than 1,000 inhabitants; today about 80% do. One out of every five Venezuelans lives in Caracas.

Social and Economic Issues

Venezuela's wealth is distributed unevenly, and a significant percentage of the population has inadequate nutrition, housing, clothing, and education. These problems are complicated by the tremendous pressures created by rapid population growth. Venezuela doubles its population about every 20 years; 40% are under 15 years of age, and 70% are under 30.

The literacy rate among Venezuelans 15 years of age and older was 88.4% in 1985. The government encourages those who can read and write to assist those who cannot by distributing training materials—books and tapes—throughout the country.

The first 9 years of primary education are compulsory. Of children aged 13–18, 45.9% are enrolled in day or special evening classes. In addition, adults are urged to participate in special night classes conducted at all educational levels.

Venezuela has 13 public universities, 7 private universities, and 11 private polytechnic or university institutes. Total enrollment of university-level students in 1985 was 388,886, a 75% increase over 1975.

Until recently, Venezuela's major employment problem was a shortage of skilled workers and managers to operate what had been a burgeoning and increasingly technological economy. To fill the gap, Venezuela recruited many skilled foreign technicians, expanded its technical education facilities, and sent Venezuelans abroad for training. With the economic decline of the past few years, rising unemployment has displaced the lack of technically qualified personnel—though still a significant factor—as the primary manpower concern.

While an official survey in December 1982 put unemployment at only 7%, by 1985 the official estimate was 12.1%. Some private sector and labor organizations put the figure as high as 20%.

Despite the recent contraction of its economy, Venezuela remains a goal for

immigrants, many of them undocumented, from other Latin American and Caribbean countries. Industrial wages, benefits, and working conditions remain relatively high, an achievement of Venezuela's large, disciplined multiparty labor movement.

HISTORY

Venezuela was discovered by Columbus in 1498 on his third voyage. It was one of the first colonies in the New World to revolt against Spain (1810), but independence was not achieved until 1821 under the leadership of Simon Bolivar, Venezuela's native son and continental hero. Venezuela, with what are now Colombia, Panama, and Ecuador, was part of the Republic of Gran Colombia until 1830, when it separated and became a sovereign state.

Venezuela's 19th century history is characterized by frequent periods of political instability, dictatorial rule, and revolutionary turbulence. The 20th century has been marked by long periods of authoritarianism—dictatorships of Gen. Juan Vicente Gomez (1908–35) and Gen. Marcos Perez Jimenez (1950–58)—as well as by a democratic interlude, between 1936 and 1948. Since the overthrow of Perez Jimenez on January 23, 1958, democratic elections have been held in 1958, 1963, 1968, 1973, 1978, and 1983.

Romulo Betancourt (1959–64), of the Democratic Action Party (AD), became the first popularly elected president in Venezuelan history to complete his term in office. His administration, with the cooperation of the Democratic Republic Union (URD) and the country's second largest party, the Social Christian Party (COPEI), embarked upon a path of development and democracy. President Betancourt, surviving extremist threats from rightist military and civilians and from leftist subversives supported by the Castro regime of Cuba, modernized the government and produced numerous social reforms.

His AD successor, Raul Leoni (1964–69), consolidated and continued many of these reforms. However, the AD-COPEI coalition split, and further internal AD divisions led to the narrow victory of Rafael Caldera (1969–74), a COPEI university professor and international labor expert. His March 1969 inauguration marked the country's first peaceful transfer of power to a president from another political party. Among the initiatives of the Caldera government was Venezuela's entrance into the Andean Pact.

President Caldera was succeeded by AD's Carlos Andres Perez, a veteran party politician and former Betancourt interior minister, who won by a landslide in a field of a dozen candidates. The Perez administration initiated a huge government program of industrial expansion and consolidated state ownership of extractive industries, such as petroleum. With this accomplishment, Venezuela became a Third World leader.

President Luis Herrera Campins of the COPEI succeeded Perez in a hotly contested race in December 1978. Herrera ran on a platform of improved social services and more efficient government, winning by about 200,000 votes out of 5 million. AD, however, retained control of the Congress. The country's mounting economic ills, following in the wake of a world recession, posed the greatest problem to the Herrera government. In February 1982, Herrera instituted currency control measures which, in effect, devalued the bolivar. Herrera also led his nation in the search for peace in Central America; Venezuela, in conjunction with Colombia, Mexico, and Panama, formed the "Contadora Group," whose efforts are aimed at avoiding armed conflict in the region.

President Jaime Lusinchi of AD won the 1983 presidential election with the largest majority in Venezuela's 27 years of democratic government. The AD Party retained control of the Congress with increased majorities in both houses. Confronted with falling revenues due to the declining price of petroleum, the Lusinchi administration refinanced \$22.2 billion of Venezuela's \$25.5 billion (end of 1985) external public debt. As a member of the Contadora Group, the Lusinchi government maintains the commitment to peace and democratization in Central America.

GOVERNMENT

The constitution, Venezuela's 26th since independence, guarantees freedom of religion, speech, and assembly and assigns substantial economic development responsibility to the federal government.

National elections are held every 5 years in which the president, members of Congress, and the state legislatures are elected. The president can be elected to only one term and may not be reelected until 10 years after the end of that term. Ex-presidents are life members of the Senate. Voting is mandatory for all Venezuelan citizens who are at least 18 years old and who are not convicts or members of the armed



Aerial view of Caracas.

forces. Generally, more than 80% of those registered vote. Each political party has its own ballot with a distinctive color and symbol. Elections are supervised by an independent, federally appointed electoral commission.

The executive, legislative, and judicial branches are separate. The president has extensive powers, including the power to appoint the Council of Ministers (cabinet) and state and territorial governors by decree, without congressional confirmation. State governors and other officials are considered part of the national government, though their powers are limited by their states' constitutions and elected legislatures.

Legislative responsibility is vested in the bicameral Congress, whose principal powers are the capacity to approve, alter, or reject the budget and to censure acts of the executive branch.

Judicial power is exercised by the Supreme Court of Justice and lower courts. The nine members and nine alternate judges of the Supreme Court are elected by Congress for 9-year terms.

In domestic affairs, the Venezuelan Government's goals are to:

- Preserve and protect free and democratic institutions and to maintain public order;
- Strengthen and modernize the armed forces;
- Eliminate the socioeconomic conditions which foster crime and to upgrade law enforcement resources;
- Enforce legal sanctions in cases of public malfeasance;
- Refinance the external public debt without generating undesirable effects on the living standards;
- Decrease the role of the public sector in the national economy and to impose strict controls on public borrowing;
- Reorient the national industrial base to production of essential goods to meet basic needs, generate jobs, fight inflation, and save foreign exchange; and
- Improve the physical infrastructure necessary to an expanded role for agriculture.

Principal Government Officials

President—Jaime Lusinchi

Ministers

Interior—Jose Angel Ciliberto

Foreign Relations—Simon Alberto

Consalvi

Finance—Manuel Azpurua Arreaza

Defense—Maj. Gen. Jose Rafael Cardozo Grimaldi

Development—Gustavo Mirabal

Bustillos

Education—Luis Manuel Carbonell

Health and Social Welfare—Otto Hernandez Peretti

Agriculture and Livestock—Felipe

Gomez Alvarez

Labor—Simon Antoni Pavan

Transport and Communications—Juan Pedro Del Moral

Justice—Jose Manzo Gonzalez

Energy and Mines—Arturo Hernandez Grisanti

Environment and Natural Resources—Guillermo Colmenares Finol

Urban Development—Cesar Quintana Romero

Youth—Virginia Olivo De Celli

Minister to the Presidency—Carmelo Lauria Lesseur

Ministers of State

Coordination and Planning—Leopoldo Carnevali

President of the Venezuelan Investment Fund—Hector Hurtado

Culture—Paulina Gamus

Science and Technology—Tulio Arends

President of the Venezuelan Corporation of Guayana—Leopoldo Sucre Figarella

Basic Production and Coordination of State Enterprises—Vacant

Governor of the Federal District—Miguel Angel Contreras Laguado

Ambassador to the United Nations—Andres Aguilar

Ambassador to the OAS—Edilberto Moreno Pena

Ambassador to the United States—Valentin Hernandez

Venezuela maintains an embassy in the United States at 2445 Massachusetts Ave. NW., Washington, D.C. 20008 (tel. 202-797-3800). Consulates general are in Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, New Orleans, New York, Philadelphia, Portland, and San Francisco. Visas are issued only by consulates.

POLITICAL CONDITIONS

President Carlos Andres Perez used the country's vast new petroleum revenues to launch an ambitious domestic economic expansion program in metallurgical, agricultural, petrochemical, and other fields and placed more than \$5 billion abroad in short-term investments and development loans and other such assistance for developing countries.

President Herrera Campins of COPEI took office in March 1979 with a Congress in which the opposition AD party had a plurality. Herrera Campins' administration was faced with rising political and social tensions during its tenure, primarily because of a national economic downturn, declining petroleum prices, overseas capital flight, and rising unemployment. Public discontent resulted in a sweeping victory by the opposition party candidate Jaime Lusinchi in December 1983, the largest electoral landslide since that of Romulo Gallegos in 1948.

Although the Lusinchi administration has vigorously attacked the nation's social and economic problems, the continuing deterioration of the world petroleum market and the nation's approximately \$39 billion debt has limited the government's options.

Travel Notes

Customs: US citizens need a tourist card or visa, a US passport, and a travel ticket valid for onward passage. Tourist cards may be obtained from airlines or travel agencies, visas from the Venezuelan Embassy or a consulate. Business visitors who do not enter Venezuela on a tourist card or tourist visa must obtain a *solvencia* (tax release) before leaving Venezuela. For information, call Caracas 35-35-52.

Climate and clothing: Springweight clothing is appropriate in Caracas, which has an altitude of a little over 914 m. (3,000 ft.) and an average temperature of 23 °C (74 °F). The rainy season is from May to November. Elsewhere, temperatures vary with altitude, from a lowland average of 27 °C (80 °F) or more to below freezing at 4,500 m. (15,000 ft.) or higher.

Health: Medical services are good for most purposes. Essential medicines are available locally. Tapwater should be boiled and vegetables carefully prepared. No immunizations are required for travelers arriving from the United States.

Telecommunications: Long-distance telephone and telegraph services are available. Direct-dial service is available to the United States and more than 60 other countries. Venezuela is one standard time zone ahead of eastern standard time. Venezuela does not observe daylight saving time.

Transportation: Principal Venezuelan cities in the interior are connected by air, highway, and rail with Caracas. Venezuela's interna-

tional airline has daily flights to several US cities. Caracas' Maiquetia Airport has become an important international travel center in the Caribbean. An underground metro system serving Caracas is under construction with 14 stations in operation. Completion of the system is scheduled for 1987.

Tourist attractions: Caracas—colonial Caracas, botanical gardens, many museums, tours. Outlying areas—colonial Tovar, a German settlement 48 kilometers (30 mi.) from Caracas; beautiful cataracts at Canaima include Angel Falls, the world's highest; breathtaking Andean scenery at Merida.

There are two world-class hotels in Caracas with a total of 1,505 rooms. Several other hotels are frequently used by international travelers.

Local holidays: Businesses and the US Embassy may be closed on the following holidays:

New Year's Day	Jan. 1
Carnival	Monday and Tuesday before Ash Wednesday
Holy Week	Thursday and Good Friday
Declaration of Independence	April 19
Labor Day	May 1
Independence Day	July 5
Bolivar's Birthday	July 24
Day of the Public Functionary	September 24
Columbus Day	October 12
Christmas Day	December 25

The enthusiastic voter turnout in the 1983 presidential elections and lively ongoing debate among the political parties are testimony to the strength of democratic institutions in South America's oldest democracy. Despite mounting economic and social problems, Venezuelans have continued to seek political change through democratic processes, setting an example for other nations of the region.

ECONOMY

Venezuela is a major producer and exporter of oil. A founding member of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), it plays a key role in the world oil market. Mexico and Venezuela have begun granting loans to Central American and Caribbean Basin nations on the basis of oil purchased from both countries. Venezuela is also an

important member of the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE).

In 1985, oil accounted for about 90% of Venezuela's total merchandise exports income, 61% of the government's revenues, and some 22% of the gross domestic product (GDP). The government nationalized the industry on January 1, 1976. Since then, employment has doubled, income has quadrupled, and production of crude oil has declined.

Crude oil and condensate production peaked in 1970 at 3.7 million barrels per day (b/d). Production was 1.7 million b/d in 1985. The initial decline was due to government conservation policies and low investment in exploration and development. In recent years, however, it has been attributable to the weak world oil market. Venezuela has seven on-line refineries. These refineries give the country a capability of exporting about one-third of its production as

refined products, a position unique among OPEC members. In 1985, Venezuela exported about 51% of its production to the United States.

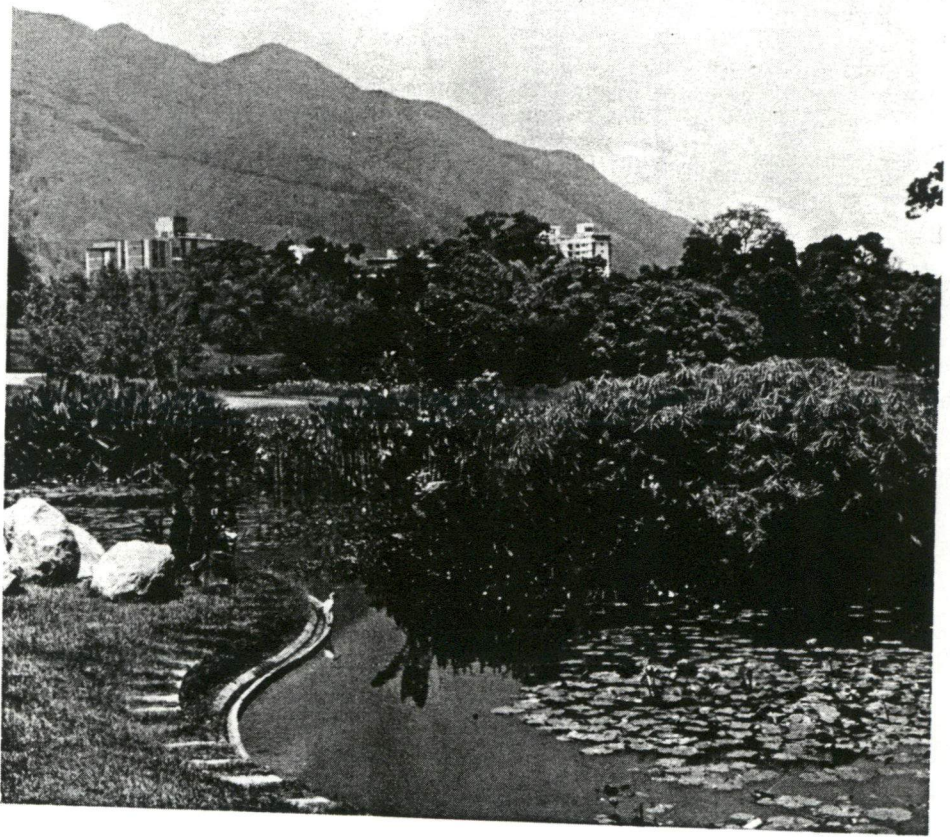
Venezuela produced 14.9 million metric tons (MT) of iron ore in 1985. Exports were 9 million MT; about 2.1 million MT went to the United States. As of December 1985, iron ore reserves were estimated at 2.1 billion MT.

Also in 1985, Venezuela's installed steel production capacity was 4.8 million MT. Production was 3 million MT of ingots and 2.4 million MT of products. Aluminum production was 396,000 MT of primary ingots. Installed aluminum capacity is 400,000.

Agriculture and Industry

Agriculture accounted for 7.4% of GDP in 1985 (compared to 6.9% in 1984 and 6.8% in 1983) and employed about 15% of the labor force. Agricultural production in 1985 experienced a sharp upturn, with a total of 1.83 million hectares devoted to crops as compared to 1.59 million in both 1984 and 1983. Following the currency devaluation in February 1983, the Venezuelan Government initiated import controls, restricted agricultural imports to bulk commodities for processing, and prohibited most processed and luxury food items. The United States continues to be the main supplier of agricultural products, despite Venezuela's policy of diversifying sources and seeking trade integration between Latin American countries. During 1985, U.S. food and agricultural products sales were \$650 million (f.o.b.)—accounting for more than 50% of total agricultural imports—compared to \$775 and \$665 million in 1984 and 1983, respectively. Preliminary 1986 estimates call for U.S. agricultural sales to decline by about 10%, since the Venezuelan Government has signaled that it will continue substituting imports by sustaining increases in domestic production.

Venezuela's agricultural policy was substantially modified by the Lusinchi administration, which set out to convert agriculture into an important sector of the economy. The main measures taken to spur production have been increased producer prices, fertilizer subsidy, increased crop and livestock production credit at preferential interest rate, long-term loans to the private sector to expand livestock and crop areas, government financed large-scale irrigation, and drainage and other infrastructure projects.



Parque del Este is a popular park for early morning jogs amid hundreds of tropical birds.

Venezuela is currently self-sufficient in rice, corn, tropical fruits, vegetables, roots, poultry, and pork. Self-sufficiency in sorghum, sugar, and milk could be achieved in the short or medium term. For the foreseeable future, Venezuela will continue importing oilseeds, protein meals, and vegetable oils. Coffee and cocoa are the traditional export crops, with tropical fruits offering new export opportunities.

Manufacturing grew 3% in 1985 and accounted for 19% of GDP and, like agricultural growth, reflected increased import substitution. Triggered by currency exchange incentives, export of some manufactured items has been steadily increasing.

Venezuela is one of the top four hydroelectric power producers in Latin America. The Guri Dam on the Caroni River in eastern Venezuela, with an installed capacity of 525,000 kilowatts of electricity in late 1968, was expanded to 14.5 million kilowatts by 1982.

GNP and Budget

In 1985, GNP totaled about \$50 billion. GNP decreased slightly in real terms in 1985, continuing the pattern of near-

stagnation apparent since 1978. Per capita GNP, also on the decline, was about \$2,600. Central government income in 1985 was \$14.4 billion, while spending was only \$13.1 billion, resulting in a budget surplus of \$1.3 billion.

Investment, Currency, and Trade

About 46% of gross fixed investment came from the private sector in 1984, and 54% from the government. Public and private investment dropped to 15% of GDP in 1984 from about 42% in 1978.

U.S. direct investment in Venezuela was \$1.7 billion at the end of 1984 or 6.1% of the total U.S. investment in Latin America. Venezuela ranks fifth after Brazil, Mexico, Panama, and Argentina in the amount of U.S. investment. The United States accounts for the majority of foreign investment in Venezuela; in 1985, 55% of new investment came from the United States.

External public debt in December 1985 amounted to \$25.5 billion; foreign exchange reserves totaled \$13.8 billion. The consumer price index rose 11.4% on average in 1985. In 1985, about 48% of Venezuela's exports went to the United States, and 47% of its imports came from the United States.

Of the major services, only the telephone, telegraph, and water supply are wholly government owned. The government also owns a steel mill, the iron ore and the petrochemical industries, most of the aluminum industries, one of the two domestic airlines, the international airline, and a chain of hotels.

Venezuela is a member of the Andean Pact and of the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI), which replaced the Latin American Free Trade Association in 1980. Joint Venezuelan Government-foreign company investments are handled on a case-by-case basis and are affected by Andean Pact guidelines.

DEFENSE

The Venezuelan Armed Forces total some 58,000 personnel in four service branches—army, navy (including the marine corps), and air force—and the Armed Forces of Cooperation (*Fuerzas Armadas de Cooperación*—FAC), commonly known as the National Guard, the primary mission of which is enforcing internal security. By the 1970s, the armed forces had developed into one of the most modern and professional among middle-sized Latin American countries. This advance is attributable to many factors, the most important of which is the vast petroleum revenues available to the government. Also by the 1970s, the military officer had attained a generally respected position in society as a well-paid professional and supporter of the democratic process. Since 1959, the armed forces have come to reject a direct role in national politics. In general, civil-military relations in Venezuela are very good, although the military is beginning to feel the impact of reduced budgets.

FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Venezuelan Government traditionally has stated that its international conduct will be governed by the following principles:

- Respect for human rights;
- The right of all peoples to self-determination;
- Nonintervention in the internal affairs of other nations;
- Peaceful settlement of disputes between nations;

- The right of all peoples to peace and security;
- Support for the elimination of colonialism; and
- A call for significantly higher export prices for developing countries' primary products.

Relations with Guyana are complicated by Venezuela's claim to the area up to the Essequibo River, more than half the present size of Guyana. The dispute was under discussion by a Guyana-Venezuela mixed commission established by a 1966 Geneva agreement. In June 1970, both countries agreed to a 12-year moratorium on the issue. Following the expiration of the Geneva agreement in 1982, the dispute was, with the concurrence of both parties, referred to the UN Secretary General for a determination of suitable means for settlement.

Since 1970, Venezuela and Colombia have held sporadic talks about the maritime border in the Gulf of Venezuela. Despite the boundary dispute and the negative effects that the de facto devaluation of the bolivar had on the Colombian economy, relations between the two countries are good and seem to be improving, especially in intergovernmental cooperation in controlling narcotics trafficking and guerrilla activities along their common border.

Under the Perez administration, it was widely reported that Venezuela provided materiel support and advice to the *Frente Sandinista de Liberación* (FSLN) during their struggle to oust Nicaraguan President Anastasio Somoza Debayle. Although Herrera Campins' administration led Andean Pact efforts for a peaceful transition of government in Nicaragua, it became increasingly disenchanted with mounting political repression under the Sandinistas. Venezuela joined with Colombia, Mexico, and Panama to seek a regional solution to Central America's problems through the Contadora process. The Lusinchi government has continued this commitment to Contadora, playing an active role in the search for democracy and stability in Central America.

U.S.-VENEZUELAN RELATIONS

The United States and Venezuela share the objectives of strengthening democratic institutions; furthering human rights; accelerating sound economic, social, and cultural development through orderly and progressive

Further Information

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- Bond, Robert D., ed. *Contemporary Venezuela and Its Role in International Affairs*. New York: New York University Press, 1977.
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- Tugwell, Franklin. *The Politics of Oil in Venezuela*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1975.

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- "Business Venezuela." English-language magazine. American Chamber of Commerce.
- "Venezuela Up-to-Date," a free quarterly publication, is available from the Embassy of Venezuela, 2445 Massachusetts Ave. NW., Washington, DC 20008.

Available from the Superintendent of Documents, US Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402:

- American University. *Area Handbook for Venezuela*. 1977.
- U.S. Department of State. *Venezuela Post Report*. August 1984.

For information on economic trends, commercial development, production, trade regulations, and tariff rates, contact the International Trade Administration, US Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20230.

change within the framework of a free society; and cooperating in the defense and security of the Western Hemisphere against aggression or subversion.

Not only does Venezuela endorse the theoretical goals of democracy, but it has

worked with the United States vigorously to promote democracy and human rights throughout the hemisphere. Venezuela has adopted the American Convention on Human Rights and supports the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. Along with the United States, Venezuela has worked toward and supported the goals of nuclear non-proliferation in the hemisphere, conventional arms restraint, antiterrorism, and the promotion of hemispheric economic development. Venezuela and the United States have similar views on the importance of democratization as a key element in a solution to the problems of Central America.

Venezuela is one of the United States' most important Latin American trading partners and a major supplier of petroleum and petroleum products to the United States.

Principal U.S. Officials

Ambassador—Otto J. Reich
Deputy Chief of Mission—Jeffrey Davidow
Political Counselor—Claus W. Ruser
Economic Counselor—Pierce K. Bullen
Administrative Counselor—Frank M. Schroeder
Consul General—Don E. Bean
Defense and Air Attache—Col. James Nugent
Public Affairs Counselor—Guy Farmer
Agricultural Counselor—Lloyd Fleck
Labor Attache—Thomas M. Tonkin
Regional Security Officer—Stephen H. Jacobs
Consul, Maracaibo—Michael E. Malinowski

The U.S Embassy in Venezuela is located at Avenida de Miranda and Avenida Principal de la Floresta,

Caracas (tel. 284-6111/284-7111). Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The consulate in Maracaibo is in Edificio Sofimara, Piso 3, Calle 77 con Avenida 13 (tel. 84253/84254/83054/83055). Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to noon and 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. ■

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climate, and mineral and ecological endowment, forms one of the areas most suitable for settlement on the African continent.

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(G.H.T.K.)

Venezuela

Venezuela, known as the "Gateway to South America," is a republic located at the northern extremity of the South American continent. It is bounded by the Caribbean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean to the north, Guyana to the east, Brazil to the south, and Colombia to the southwest and west. Venezuela also possesses some islands in the Caribbean, of which the largest is the offshore Margarita Island, and the most northerly is Aves Island, about 250 miles north of Margarita. Venezuela also claims an additional 58,000 square miles of territory now located in northwestern Guyana.

Venezuela, the sixth largest country in South America, has a population of about 10,800,000. The name Venezuela, or "Little Venice," was given to the country by the first Spanish explorers who, on seeing the native Indian houses built over the water on stilts, were reminded of the Italian city of Venice. Venezuela's north coast on the Caribbean was the first part of South America to be explored and settled by Europeans. The present-day composition of the country's population is the result of many centuries of mixing of whites, blacks, and American Indians. Spanish is the official language and Roman Catholicism the main religion of the country. Venezuela is a federal republic with a democratic and representative form of government. Caracas is the national capital.

Until the 20th century, Venezuela was a poor, backward, and feudal agricultural nation. The discovery of oil in the vicinity of Lago de Maracaibo in 1917, however, transformed the economy and brought prosperity. Venezuela has become the fourth largest oil-producing region, after the United States, the Soviet Union, and the Middle East. Because of the wealth of its oil reserves, it has been able to initiate land reform, to improve its agriculture, and to promote industrial development. Economic advance has been accompanied by careful planning, so that in the early 1970s Venezuela had the highest annual average per capita income of any Latin American country. The death of dictator Juan Vicente Gomez in 1935 signalled a period of political awakening, and since 1958, Venezuela has been regarded as one of the few true democracies of South America. (For associated physical features, see ANDES MOUNTAIN RANGES; LLANOS; and ORINOCO RIVER. See also the city article CARACAS. For historical aspects, see VENEZUELA, HISTORY OF.)

THE LANDSCAPE

The natural environment. *Relief.* The physical relief of Venezuela varies from the level topography of the

plains to the peaks of the Andes heights, and the rugged mass of the Guiana Highlands. Three broad geographical divisions may be observed—the coastal mountain region (which reaches heights of about 16,500 feet above sea level); the plains (about 1,000 feet above sea level); and the forest region (about 8,200 feet above sea level).

Within these three broad divisions, seven physiographical provinces can be distinguished—the islands and coastal plains; the Lago de Maracaibo Basin; the coastal mountain system; the valleys and hills of the states of Falcón, Lara, and Yaracuy within the northwestern part of the country; the Andes mountain range (Cordillera of the Andes); the Llanos; and the Guiana (Guayana, Guayana) continental block (in Spanish, Macizo de Guayana).

The islands and the coastal plains (covering 18 percent of Venezuela) are located in the north and northeast of the country, from the Caribbean Sea to the northern mountain range (Cordillera de la Costa). Within this region are two important basins—the Unare Basin and the Orinoco Delta—and the main ports of La Guaira, Puerto Cabello, and Puerto la Cruz. Of the chain of islands, the principal one is Margarita Island.

The Maracaibo Basin, which contains a shallow, freshwater lake with an area of about 5,000 square miles, consists of sedimentary rocks. It contains the most important oil wells in Venezuela and the port of Maracaibo.

The coastal mountain system is located between the narrow coastal belt to the north and the plains of the interior to the south; though it represents only 3 percent of the national territory, it contains the greatest concentration of population. It is formed by two parallel mountain ranges—the coastal range and the interior range. The highest points are the peak of Naiguatá (9,069 feet [2,765 metres]) in the central sector of the coastal range and the Turimiquire (8,104 feet [2,470 metres]) in the eastern sector of the coastal range. The interior range reaches its maximum height at Platillón (6,323 feet [1,931 metres]). Three important cities are located in the valleys of this region—Caracas, the capital; Valencia; and Maracay.

The valleys and hills of the states of Falcón, Lara, and Yaracuy have altitudes of from 1,600 to 5,500 feet. This region forms a transitional zone between the coastal mountain range and the Andes mountains and comprises about 3 percent of the country's territory. The only desert of Venezuela—the city of Coro's sand dunes—is found in this region.

The Andes range, the highest mountain system in the country, forms the northernmost prolongation of the South American Andes. In Colombia, immediately to the west of Venezuela, it divides into two branches. One—the Sierra de Perijá—runs roughly south to north along the Colombia-Venezuela border; the other—the Cordillera de Mérida—runs generally northeastward toward the Caribbean Sea. The two branches enclose the Lago de Maracaibo Basin. The highest point is Pico Bolívar (16,423 feet [5,007 metres]). The Andes ranges comprise approximately 6 percent of the national territory and form another of the more densely populated regions, containing such important cities as Mérida, San Cristóbal, Valera, La Grita, and Tovar.

The Llanos (*q.v.*), or plains, is a region with an almost level relief, occupying approximately a third of the country's territory. From the Atlantic Ocean at the mouths of the Orinoco River, the plains extend for about 800 miles up to the Andean foothills, varying in width from 60 miles in the east to 250 miles in the west.

South of the Orinoco and bordering Brazil and Colombia is the Guiana Highlands, a mountainous mass that is one of the largest granite blocks in the world. It is the most extensive natural region of Venezuela and occupies about 45 percent of its total area. It is also the least known and the most sparsely inhabited. Its granitic base is covered with stratified alluvium, in which erosion has carved different types of relief. In places are found gigantic mounds or masses, known as *tepuis*—some as high as 6,000 feet—which have resisted erosion. To the southeast of the Guiana Highlands and encircled by *tepuis* lies a

The
Venezu-
elan
Andes

region known as La Gran Sabana (the Great Plain). Located in this area is the Auyan-Tepui mound, 8,400 feet high, as well as Angel Falls, the highest waterfall in the world—3,296 feet (1,005 metres) high. The Guiana Highlands is an excellent mining region, abounding in deposits of iron ore, gold, and diamonds; it also possesses a considerable hydroelectric potential, as well as vast forest resources.

Atlantic
and
Carib-
bean
watersheds

Drainage. The Venezuelan drainage network consists almost entirely of two great watersheds—one emptying into the Atlantic Ocean (82 percent), the other into the Caribbean Sea (17.5 percent). The remaining 0.5 percent constitutes the small endoreic basin (a drainage basin having no outlet) of Lake Valencia, located in the central section of the coastal range.

The great Orinoco River (*q.v.*) drains a 366,000-square-mile basin and runs 1,336 miles from its source close to the Brazilian border until it empties into the Atlantic Ocean through a number of distributaries, or *caños*, which form a delta. In the upper Orinoco region the waters are tumultuous and rapid and flow in an east-west direction as far as the village of San Fernando de Atabapo; some of the river waters are diverted to the Amazon River (*q.v.*) through the Casiquiare channel and the Río Guainía. In its middle course the Orinoco runs slowly and follows a northern direction, until it is joined on the left bank by the waters of the Río Apure. The lower Orinoco flows due east.

Among the main tributaries of the Orinoco River is the Río Caroní, which flows at a rate of 200,000 cubic feet per second. It has great hydroelectrical potential because of its numerous falls; in the Necuima area, the Guri Dam forms a lake with an area eight times greater than that of Lake Valencia. Other tributary rivers are the Caura, Aro, Ventuari, and Meta.

The rivers of the Caribbean watershed flow from the northern slopes of the Andean and coastal ranges. In it is found the basin of Lago de Maracaibo (18,000 square miles), which receives the waters of the Cordillera de Mérida and Sierra de Perijá ranges. Also into the Caribbean watershed flow the waters of minor coastal basins, the rivers of which have dry beds during the several low-rainfall winter months of the year.

The Lake Valencia basin, only about 140 square miles in extent, is steadily shrinking as the result of a continuing combined process of sedimentation and evaporation. Scientific farming and ever growing industry have given the basin great economic value.

Soils. Venezuelan soils are mainly laterites (red soils with a high content of iron oxides and aluminum hydroxide). The most valuable for cultivation are in the valleys of the state of Aragua, in the cocoa-growing area of the Río Tuy basin, and in the sugarcane-growing area of the Turbio, Tucuyo, Aroa, and Yaracuy river basins. Of lesser value but also of agricultural importance are the soils found in the lowlands of the western plains and south of Lago de Maracaibo. Other soils are typical of the vast flooded plains of the lowlands. Limestone soils are found in the mountains of the state of Falcón and in the Andes. Swampy plains are found around Lake Valencia and in the Orinoco Delta. (I.S.de S.)

Climate. The climate throughout Venezuela is tropical, with the seasons marked more by differences in rainfall than in temperature. The year is divided into two seasons, the rainy and the dry (locally known as winter and summer), the rains occurring mostly from April to October or November, and the dry season most marked from November through March or April. The wet and dry seasons regulate agricultural activities, affect travel and transportation, and determine vacation periods.

Rainfall varies much from district to district. The north-east trade winds blow across the coastal areas without leaving much precipitation, in places less than 20 inches per year. La Guaira, for example, receives an average of only 11 inches. Areas lying behind topographic barriers also get little rain, while windward slopes are generally well watered. In some areas enough rain falls to support lush jungle growth, in others true selva (rain forest). The Llanos suffer severely from drought from about January

to April and then suffer equally from an overabundance of precipitation, with the flooding of whole countrysides from June to October.

Temperature differences, on the other hand, are slight throughout the year. The average annual temperature at Caracas, for example, is 70° F (21° C), and no month averages more than 72° F (22° C) or less than 64° F (18° C). Altitude, however, affects temperatures in marked fashion. For example, Maracaibo, at sea level, averages just above 82° F (28° C) for the year, while Mérida at 5,383 feet (1,641 metres) averages just above 64° F (18° C). On some of the higher mountain peaks, temperatures are low enough to maintain permanent snow. Whatever the average temperature, there is little difference from month to month; the day-to-night variation is markedly greater, however.

Vegetation. About half of Venezuela is covered with forests of some kind. A little less than half is still in wild grass, though much of this is used for at least occasional grazing. Only about 6 percent, most in the valleys of the Andes and of the coastal ranges, is under permanent cultivation. The vast Llanos, most of the lofty tablelands of the Guiana Highlands, and numerous smaller areas in the Andean *páramos* (high, bleak plateaus) have little in the way of trees. In the better watered places, the grass is compact and tall; in drier areas, such as high Andean districts and parts of the Guiana tablelands, it is sparse and hard. Rain forest covers an area found in the lower Orinoco Basin and Delta, in the far southern Orinoco drainage basin bordering on Colombia and Brazil, and in smaller extensions about the windward lower and middle slopes of the northern highlands.

Most of the plant life of Venezuela is tropical and non-deciduous, retaining its foliage throughout the year, or shedding it little by little, never becoming entirely leafless. Even in the arid regions where the vegetation is sparse and the foliage scant, there is little change from season to season.

Both indigenous and introduced plants cover a wide range because of the differences in altitude. The true tropical vegetation, whether moist or dry, extends to an altitude of about 1,500 feet, above which it gives way (except in the moister districts) to semitropical growth. This zone, marked by tree ferns and orchids, reaches up to about 5,000 feet. From this point to about 7,000 to 8,000 feet, there is a transition into a mountain type; above 8,000 or 9,000 feet, the characteristic *páramo* vegetation begins, with plants of an alpine character dominating.

The principal plants of economic value are coffee, cacao, sisal, and bananas. Maize (corn), beans, rice, potatoes, sugarcane, cotton, tobacco, sweet potatoes, oranges, lemons, coconut palms, papayas, avocados, mangos, guavas, and cassava are commonly grown for local consumption.

Animal life. The animal life of Venezuela is similar to that of the neighbouring regions of Colombia, Brazil, and the Guianas. The open Llanos of the Orinoco form something of a neutral district between the great forested regions on the east, south, and west. Among the indigenous animals are seven species of the cat family, including the puma, the jaguar, and the ocelot; the wild dog; representatives of the marten family, including two species of otter and one of the skunk; and two species of bear. There are six species of monkeys corresponding to those of the Guiana Highlands and the Amazon Valley; the sloth and anteater; and more than ten known genera of rodents. The tapir (a large, hooped quadruped resembling a swine) is found in the forests of the Orinoco. There are two species of the peccary (resembling the pig); two species of deer; and three species of opossum. On the coast and in the Orinoco are found aquatic mammals, such as the manatee (which is herbivorous and gregarious and has two flippers and a spoon-shaped tail) and the dolphin.

Among reptiles there are crocodiles; lizards; caymans (crocodilians related to alligators); several species of turtles; and many snakes, including the striped rattlesnake and the bushmaster. Nonvenomous snakes include the

Forests
and
grasslands

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boa constrictor and the anaconda. Amphibians include tree frogs, toads, and salamanders.

Bird life is represented chiefly by migratory species. In the *garzeros* ("heron rendezvous") are to be found nearly every kind of crane, heron, stork, and ibis. Ducks, including a small one called the *güiriri* in imitation of its cry, and birds of prey are numerous. The *guácharos*, or oilbirds, live in caves, especially in Caripe, and are caught for the oil extracted from them. The bellbird is common in the forests of the Orinoco.

There are almost 100 families of insects. Locusts are common in the interior, though seldom constituting a plague. Mollusks, including the pearl oyster, are common on the coasts and in the freshwater streams and lakes.

Domestic animals include about 8,500,000 cattle, mostly in the great herds that pasture on the Llanos. There are about 1,500,000 goats, 100,000 sheep, and 1,670,000 swine. Oxen and horses and a few mules are used as draft animals on some farms, and farmyard poultry is common. (R.E.Cr./E.P.Ha.)

Traditional regions. The six traditional regions of Venezuela can be clearly differentiated, even though the development of communications has tended to reduce differences; they are the central, western, Zulian, Andean, plains, and eastern regions.

The central region is composed of the Federal District and of the states of Miranda, Aragua, and Carabobo, situated along the northern Atlantic coast. A high proportion of the population of the region is urban; the principal urban concentration occurs around Caracas. The region contains the greater part of the nation's industry and commerce and its principal ports and airports.

The states of Falcón, Lara, and Yaracuy comprise the western region. Its population is about equally divided between urban and rural inhabitants. Agriculture is the principal economic activity, although industrialization is becoming important.

The Zulian region, including Lago de Maracaibo, is a major oil-producing area. Commercial and agricultural activities are stimulated by industrial development.

The Andean region consists of the mountainous states of Táchira, Mérida, and Trujillo. It is predominantly rural, and its economy is based on the cultivation of small farms and on some industrial and commercial activity.

The plains region occupies the states of Cojedes, Guárico, Portuguesa, Barinas, and Apure. Its people are largely engaged in agriculture and cattle raising. The plainsman ("llanero") is reputedly frank yet shrewd, with a sense of humour. This region has a folklore of its own.

The eastern region consists of the states of Anzoátegui, Sucre, Nueva Esparta, Monagas, and Bolívar, as well as the Delta Amacuro and the Amazonas territories. Its population is about equally divided between urban and rural elements. Agriculture and fishing engage the greatest part of the active population, although the petroleum industry and mining are also important.

The landscape under human settlement. Settlement patterns have remained essentially the same since the time of Spanish colonization. The main nucleus of population is located in the mountainous areas of the north and west, which constitute less than 9 percent of the national area but contain 50 percent of the population. Low population densities occur in the central plains and in the dense forest region of the Guiana Highlands. The only modification of existing patterns resulted from the development of the oil industry in the 1920s, which led to internal migrations and to the urbanization of new areas.

The rural landscape is characterized by the division of land into small farms (*minifundios*) and large estates (*latifundios*). The estates are mainly engaged in extensive cattle raising and the commercial cultivation of such crops as sugarcane and sesame. The small farms are predominantly subsistence units on which corn and legumes are cultivated. A mixture of Spanish, African, and Indian traditions is conserved, so that the rural areas form a repository of national folklore. Diet is directly related to local agricultural products; there is a preference for cereals and legumes. The characteristic house, called a *rancho*, has adobe (sun-dried brick) or mud walls, a

Rural settlement patterns

thatched or sheet-metal roof, dirt floors, and minimum hygienic and service facilities. The type of clothing worn is related to environmental conditions; the cool *liquiliqui* (cotton or linen man's suit) is worn by plainsmen and the thick *ruana* (woolen poncho, or cape) by inhabitants of the Andes.

Cities are often specialized in function. Ciudad Guayana, for example, is industrial; Barquisimeto is commercial; and Mérida is a university town. Caracas, as the capital city, is cosmopolitan and more diversified. The daily rhythm of life in the cities is based on a five-day work week and an eight-hour work day. In housing, a contrast exists between Spanish traditional architecture and the boldest lines of modern design. Styles of dress are largely Western, and diet is related to level of income. In the low-income group the diet is based on beans, corn, rice and plantain, while in the medium- and high-income groups it contains a higher nutritional value, including animal proteins and vitamins from vegetables and fruit.

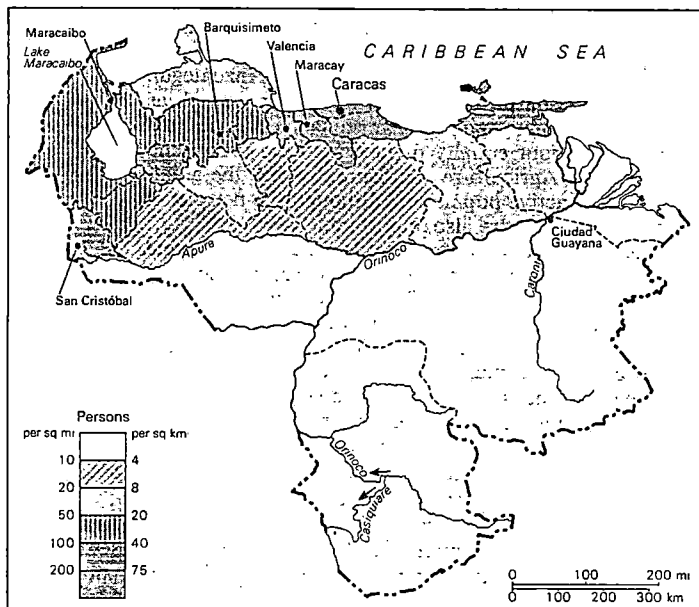
PEOPLE AND POPULATION

Population groups. The official language of the country is Spanish; it is enriched by numerous local idioms and colloquialisms. English is used in business, and Italian is spoken by most immigrants. In the Indian regions of the east, south, and west, more than 25 different languages are spoken, most of which belong to the three linguistic families, Cariban, Arawak, and Chibcha. There are also some Indian languages of unknown origin spoken by isolated groups.

Composi-
tion
of the
population

For the past four centuries, Venezuela has acted as an ethnic melting pot. The dominant ethnic type is the mestizo (a person of mixed white, black, and Indian ancestry). The white population results from immigration from Europe during the 20th century, largely from Italy and Spain. One percent are unassimilated Indians. The various Indian tribes live in isolated regions of the Lago de Maracaibo Basin, in the Orinoco River Basin, and in the delta of Amacuro.

The overwhelming majority of the population is Roman Catholic. The largest minority religion is Protestantism; and Judaism, Islām, and Orthodox Christianity are also practiced. Indigenous Indian religions are characterized by a prevailing fear of evil spirits. The national constitution guarantees freedom of religion.



Population density of Venezuela.

Demography. Venezuela possesses one of the greatest rates of population growth in Latin America, amounting to over 3 percent a year. The population increase has resulted from the improvement of medical services, the eradication of epidemics, and rising economic standards. By 1971, there was an estimated population of 10,

800,000. But overall population density continues to be low, averaging only about 30 inhabitants per square mile.

The greater part of the population is young; in 1961 more than 50 percent of the population were below 20 years of age. In the early 1970s it was estimated that about 75 percent were under 30.

In contrast with such countries as Argentina, Brazil, and Chile, Venezuela did not receive an appreciable influx of immigrants during the 19th century or the first half of the 20th century. Between 1950 and 1971, however, almost 1,000,000 Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, or other European immigrants arrived, settling in the major cities. For the most part, Venezuelans do not emigrate to other countries but have increasingly moved about within the country. From the 1930s to 1961, 24 percent of the population had relocated within the country's borders.

Venezuela, Area and Population

	area		population	
	sq mi	sq km	1961 census	1970 estimate
Federal dependencies*				
Dependencias Federales	46	120	1,000	...
Federal district				
Distrito Federal	745	1,930	1,258,000	2,010,000
States (estados)				
Anzoátegui	16,718	43,300	382,000	501,000
Apure	29,537	76,500	118,000	158,000
Aragua	2,708	7,014	313,000	429,000
Barinas	13,591	35,200	139,000	194,000
Bolívar	91,892	238,000	214,000	383,000
Carabobo	1,795	4,650	382,000	512,000
Cojedes	5,714	14,800	73,000	95,000
Falcón	9,575	24,800	340,000	408,000
Guárico	25,091	64,986	245,000	330,000
Lara	7,645	19,800	489,000	611,000
Mérida	4,363	11,300	271,000	335,000
Miranda	3,069	7,950	492,000	703,000
Monagas	11,158	28,900	246,000	317,000
Nueva Esparta	444	1,150	89,000	113,000
Portuguesa	5,869	15,200	204,000	285,000
Sucre	4,556	11,800	402,000	494,000
Táchira	4,286	11,100	399,000	526,000
Trujillo	2,857	7,400	327,000	382,000
Yaracuy	2,741	7,100	175,000	222,000
Zulia	24,363	63,100	920,000	1,343,000
Territories (territorios)				
Amazonas	67,857	175,750	12,000	13,000
Delta Amacuro	15,521	40,200	34,000	34,000
Total Venezuela	355,759†	921,417‡	7,524,000‡§	10,399,000‡

*Comprises the following major and other islands in the Caribbean: Las Aves, La Blanquilla, Coche, Cubagua, Los Hermanos, Los Monjes, La Orchila, Los Roques, Los Testigos, and La Tortuga. †Includes 3,616 sq mi (9,367 sq km) of water area. ‡Excluding Indian population in the forests estimated at 32,000 at 1961 census: Apure 4,000, Bolívar 4,000, Sucre 300, Zulia 4,000, Amazonas 20,000. §Figures do not add to total given because of rounding.
Source: Official government figures.

Venezuela is predominantly an urban country. In 1961 over 62 percent of the population lived in cities, and 47 percent lived in cities of more than 20,000 inhabitants. By the early 1970s the urban population had grown to nearly 75 percent. The rural exodus has led to a reduction in agricultural activity and the appearance of slums, or *barrios de ranchos* ("neighbourhoods of huts"), on the outskirts of large cities. The principal urban centres are Caracas (1970 population about 2,175,000), Maracaibo (655,000), Barquisimeto (291,000), Valencia (232,000), Maracay (193,000), and San Cristóbal (157,000). It is foreseeable that, if present population trends continue, by 1981 the total population will be 15,000,000, 83 percent of which will be urban and 17 percent rural.

The
principal
urban
centres

THE NATIONAL ECONOMY

The increasing participation of Venezuela in the world economy since the 1920s has been directly related to the production of petroleum. Its exports of petroleum have penetrated the United States, European, and Latin American markets; increased imports, on the other hand, have included agricultural equipment, industrial machinery, and consumer goods. During the 1960s Venezuela began to reduce dependence on imported goods by encouraging local manufactures, in addition to further expanding its

petrochemical and steel industries and developing its hydroelectric potential.

Venezuela is a member of the Latin American Free Trade Association (LAFTA) and is ready to participate in the Andean Subregional Agreement (Andean Pact), whose purpose is to economically integrate the Andean countries as a step toward integration of Latin America as a whole.

The extent and distribution of resources. The country's most important mineral resource is petroleum. The largest and richest deposit is in the Lago de Maracaibo Basin. The two other main deposits of oil and natural gas are located north of the Orinoco River in the states of Monagas, Guárico, and Anzoátegui and in the western Llanos in the states of Portuguesa and Barinas. The Orinoco belt has no less than 700,000,000,000 barrels of oil reserves, but total proven reserves for the country are about 15,000,000,000 barrels.

Iron ore, which is 60 percent pure, is found in the Guiana region. Deposits at Cerro Bolívar, El Pao, and other mountain areas comprise a total proven reserve of 1,800,000,000 tons. Gold, as well as both industrial and gem diamonds, are also mined in the Guiana area. Low-grade bituminous and lignite coal is found in the Andean foothills, and salt deposits are located in the Araya Peninsula. There are also scattered deposits of limestone.

Various minerals exist in less extensive deposits. These include manganese, nickel, vanadium (a metallic element found combined in minerals and used to form alloys), chrome, lead, zinc, copper, bauxite, phosphate, and asbestos.

The grasslands of the extensive plains provide grazing for cattle. Of the 28,928,000 acres of total forest reserves, about 85 percent is in Guiana; the greater part of the remaining 10 percent is in the western plains. The commercial timber includes cabinet woods such as mahogany. Fish are found in abundance in the country's rivers and lakes, as well as in the coastal waters.

Apart from oil, the nation's rivers constitute the most important power resource. The greatest hydroelectric potential is held by the Orinoco River and its tributary, the Caroní. The Río Santo Domingo, which flows through the states of Mérida and Barinas, is the second most important power resource. There are also hydroelectric potentialities in the Uribante and Caparo rivers in the Andes.

Sources of national income. *Agriculture.* In 1970, agriculture contributed about 9 percent of the gross national product (GNP) and provided work for 25 percent of the economically active population. The principal agricultural products are meat (beef, pork, fowl, goat, mutton), milk, corn, plantain and bananas, eggs, coffee, sugarcane, rice, and sesame.

About 80 percent of agricultural output is produced on large landholdings with the remaining 20 percent on small farms. Agrarian legislation, adopted in 1960, assures the small farmer of his property rights and guarantees him technical assistance, credit, and a market for his produce. In addition, under the land-reform measures, more than 100,000 rural families had been settled in rural communities, or *asentamientos*, by the early 1970s. The *asentamientos* are agricultural units of houses equipped with basic services; the units are grouped on seven to 25 acres of land given to peasant families.

The national government owns 80 percent of the nation's forests; the rest is held privately. The forestry industry is, however, little developed. Despite its potential, fishing is also an undeveloped, mostly local, activity. A small portion of the annual catch, mainly sardines and shellfish, is canned for export.

Petroleum. The exploitation of Venezuela's vast oil reserves is the principal source of the nation's income. Oil production—which reached 3,700,000 barrels a day in 1970—has permitted the increase of public spending, the strengthening of the country's import capacity, the creation of basic industries, and the development of agriculture. Almost 80 percent of the gross foreign investment in Venezuela is concentrated in the oil industry; most of this investment is made by United States, British,

and Dutch interests. Oil contributes almost 90 percent of the revenues received by the Central Bank of Venezuela, or 70 percent of the country's total revenues.

The Venezuelan Petroleum Corporation is a state-owned organization that produces, refines, and distributes petroleum products in competition with Venezuelan and foreign private industry. Before the 1960s, all oil was refined outside the country; natural gas, obtained in the process of oil exploitation, was wasted. By 1971, however, domestic oil refineries had been established. Natural gas became subject to a law that limits its exploitation and gave Venezuela the rights for its industrialization. The gas is now distributed by pipeline to be used as fuel, as a raw material in the new petrochemical industry, and for the manufacture of liquid gas.

Metals and mining. Venezuela is the world's tenth largest producer of iron ore, which accounts for about 97 percent of the country's total metal production. Reserves at Cerro Bolívar and El Pao are mined by United States companies under government concessions. The Venezuelan government also operates iron mines in the Guiana Highlands.

Prospects for mining bauxite, copper, zinc, and lead are being explored in the early 1970s. Limestone is quarried extensively to provide the raw material for the domestic cement industry. The government entered the coal-mining industry in the late 1960s through controlling shares in private companies. Exploitation of salt is a government monopoly. Most gold is mined by the government; output has, however, decreased since the 1950s, and in the early 1970s most gold was imported for jewelry, coinage, and use in dentistry.

Manufacturing. Manufacturing industries were originally concentrated in the Caracas area. Since the 1960s, however, the government has striven to promote the establishment of industrial centres in several different locations. Ciudad Guayana, on the lower Orinoco River, is the major centre for processing the mineral wealth of the Guiana region. Developed by the autonomous government body Corporación Venezolana de Guayana (Venezuelan Guiana Corporation), it contains a steel mill and an aluminum plant; a paper factory was under construction in the late 1960s. There are also plans for the production of lumber.

Morón, on the coast 106 miles west of Caracas, is the centre of the petrochemical industry; among its manufactures are fertilizers, caustic soda, explosives, insecticides, and organic chemicals. Manufacturing in Maracaibo is concerned with the processing of foodstuffs, the remodelling and rebuilding of heavy machinery, and the production of paper articles, pharmaceuticals, and electrical equipment.

The largest source of hydroelectric energy in South America is located in Venezuela on the lower Río Caroní where it flows down from the Guiana Highlands to join the Orinoco. The lower river has a total estimated potential of 10,500,000 kilowatts. The scheme includes two dams—the Macagua, which went into operation in 1961, and the Guri, still under construction in the early 1970s. The project, which will have a total capacity of about 6,000,000 kilowatts, is expected to produce electricity for Venezuela, Trinidad, Guyana, Brazil, and Colombia. In addition, the projected hydroelectric scheme on the Río Santo Domingo will supply electricity to western Venezuela, as also will the planned scheme on the Uribante and Caparo rivers.

Financial services. Financial services are provided by the Central Bank, which issues the national currency, as well as by a number of private banks. There are also banks with mixed capital, such as the Workers' Bank (Banco de Los Trabajadores); and state banks such as the Labourer's Bank (Banco Obrero). The construction of housing for the middle- and lower-income groups is financed by the Labourer's Bank. The Agriculture and Livestock Bank (Banco Agrícola y Pecuario) and the Agriculture and Livestock Development Bank (Banco de Desarrollo Agropecuario) deal with agricultural loans. Mortgage banks make long-term loans on urban real estate. The Venezuelan Development Corporation

Dispersal of industrial centres

Petroleum resources

Hydroelectric resources

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(Corporación Venezolana de Fomento), a government institution, promotes industrial development by means of long-term loans.

Insurance companies occupy a secondary position in the financing of economic activities. Venezuela has two stock exchanges, but the volume of their transactions is moderate. The financial market, favoured by a marked stability of its prices and by the absence of obstacles to money exchange, is mainly supplied by internal savings.

Foreign trade. Venezuela maintains a favourable balance of trade. In 1970, 90 percent of total exports was represented by oil and its derivatives; iron ore accounted for another 6 percent. Coffee and cocoa together with processed agricultural products and manufactures represented 4 percent. Major export destinations are the United States, the Netherlands Antilles, Canada, the United Kingdom, and Trinidad and Tobago.

About half of all imports come from the United States. Other major import sources include West Germany, Japan, the United Kingdom, Italy, and Canada. Among the chief imports are industrial machinery, transport equipment, and cereals.

Management of the economy. The public sector plays a major role because of governmental participation in the oil and iron-ore industries. Revenues from those industries finance other economic or social activities of the government. The building industry, for example, depends largely on public works including the construction of highways, roads, airports, and buildings. More than 60 percent of the fiscal income is derived from taxes on the oil industry. Oil revenues take the form of taxes on oil production, and a 60 percent tax on profits. Other governmental revenue is obtained from a graduated income tax and from other sources such as Customs.

Organized labour includes individual trade unions, as well as the powerful Confederation of Venezuelan Workers (Confederación de Trabajadores de Venezuela). Employers' organizations are grouped together in the Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Production.

Foreign capital and technology have played an important role in promoting the expansion of manufacturing. To a lesser extent, joint participation by foreign and Venezuelan capital has been used to develop certain enterprises such as the manufacture of stoves and the assembly of automobiles.

In the early 1970s one of the main economic problems confronting the country was the question of participation in LAFTA and the Andean Pact. The degree of development reached by Venezuelan industry and agriculture obliged the country to seek markets that would permit it to maintain the rhythm of expansion necessitated by its social needs. While the hemispheric blocs favour the country's expanding steel and petrochemical industries, they present hard competition for Venezuela's relatively expensive manufactures and agricultural produce. Another problem will face the government at the end of the decade of the 1970s, since in 1983 about three-quarters of the oil concessions held by foreign companies will expire.

Venezuela has passed through the preliminary stages of its economic development. It now needs to consolidate its gains by developing secondary industries that will reduce its need to import manufactured goods, as well as by securing stable markets abroad for its ever-growing production.

Transportation. The nation's transportation system is well developed, especially in the northern and northwestern regions. Domestic travel depends largely on the road network. Industrial transportation needs are served by coastal shipping routes as well as by inland waterways. Air services provide access to regions without other means of communication.

There are almost 35,000 miles of roads, of which about 70 percent are all-weather roads and 30 percent are dirt roads passable only during the dry season. There are three trunk roads—the 600-mile section of the Pan-American Highway that runs southwestward from Caracas to Cúcuta, Colombia; the 500-mile Western Highway that runs along the Andes foothills from Valencia to San Cristóbal; and the 800-mile Llanos Highway that extends

eastward from Caracas to San Tomé. There are several branch and feeder roads.

Railways, both for passenger and freight transport, are relatively unimportant. One public line built as part of a previous nation-wide railway plan runs northeastward from Barquisimeto in Lara state to Puerto Cabello on the coast and to Caracas. Private railways serve the iron and steel industry, running from mines in the Guiana region to Ciudad Guayana on the Orinoco River.

More than 98 percent of the nation's foreign commerce is carried by sea. There are a number of ports, of which several are used by international shipping; many small ports serve fishing or coastal trade purposes. General cargo is handled at eight ports run by the government—La Guaira, Maracaibo, Puerto Cabello, Guanta, Puerto Sucre, Carúpano, Las Piedras, and Ciudad Bolívar.

Inland waterways are in use principally around Lago de Maracaibo or the Orinoco River. A dredged channel between the Golfo de Venezuela and Lago de Maracaibo allows sea-going vessels to dock at the ports of Maracaibo, Bobures, and La Salina. A dredged channel through the Orinoco Delta permits sea-going vessels also to sail upriver to Ciudad Guayana. The upper Orinoco and the Apure rivers are used as waterways because of a lack of connecting roads.

Transoceanic air routes use Venezuelan international airports as a stopover, as do flights between North and South America. There are three national airline companies, one of which operates international air services. Venezuela has almost 500 airports, of which six are international. More than 400 airports are privately operated; the others are operated either by the government or by municipalities.

ADMINISTRATION AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Government. The Venezuelan constitution is based on principles of republican, democratic, and representative government. Its federal form of government is exercised through its executive, legislative, and judicial branches, none of which may prevail over the others.

Executive power is exercised by a directly elected president who is the head of state and of the armed forces. A council of ministers, whose members individually act as secretaries of state, constitutes the principal auxiliary for carrying out executive functions. Legislative power is invested in a two-chamber congress consisting of the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies. The Senate is composed of two elected representatives from each of the 20 states and from the Federal District. The number of deputies is in proportion to the number of inhabitants in each state.

In addition to the 20 states and the Federal District, there are two federal territories, and ten islands in the Caribbean are organized as federal dependencies. The states are officially autonomous units, each headed by a governor who is appointed by the president. The state legislative assemblies are composed of two elected representatives from each administrative district and are empowered to approve or reject the governor's annual report. The basic political-administrative unit of the Venezuelan state is the municipality, which is composed of a municipal council that functions in the capital of each district. They are locally autonomous units that operate within the state and national framework.

Elections are held at five-year intervals. The president of the republic and the senators, deputies, and state and municipal councils are elected for five-year terms by universal suffrage, with direct and secret voting. The elections are contested by political parties, the existence of which is guaranteed by the constitution. In the early 1970s there were 11 national parties, the strongest of which were the Acción Democrática (AD) and the Partido Social Cristiano (COPEI).

Every citizen over 18 years of age, man or woman, literate or illiterate, has the right to vote. Voting is either through political parties or through so-called groups of electors (organizations other than political parties that are authorized to run presidential candidates), the number of which is prescribed by law.

The administration of justice is national in character;

The role of government

The executive and legislative powers

The road system

there are no state courts. The highest judicial body is the Supreme Court of Justice, the members of which are appointed by the Congress. It hears cases of a civil, criminal, or political-administrative nature. The judges and members of the lower courts of ordinary or special jurisdiction are appointed by the Judiciary Council, which is composed of seven members, five of whom are appointed by the Congress and two by the president. All decisions in first-instance courts may be appealed to a higher court, but there is no appeal from decisions of the Supreme Court. Each municipality has its own police force. The Ministry of Justice is responsible for the prison system as well as for the auxiliary police.

The armed forces are headed by the president, who is assisted by the secretary of defense. The defense system is composed of a 15,000-man army, a 10,000-man national guard, a 9,000-man navy, and a 9,000-man air force. All services have officer-training schools. All males over 18 years of age must serve in the armed forces for two years.

Education and welfare. During the 1960s, educational services were greatly expanded throughout the nation. In the early 1970s government policy was aimed at qualitative improvement to better meet the needs of the developing economy. Primary education is free and compulsory; there are more than 10,000 primary schools. On the secondary level, there are about 670 high schools, 330 technical schools, and 50 teacher-training schools. Private schools play a significant role at the primary and secondary levels. Higher education, free to competent students, is provided by eight public and three private universities, two teachers' colleges, and one polytechnic institute. About 24 percent of the population is enrolled in schools. As a result of adult education, the illiteracy rate was lowered to 16 percent in 1970.

The government is engaged in expanding health and welfare services. To improve health conditions, sanitary facilities are being constructed, hospitals and rural medical centres are being built, and more doctors and nurses are being trained. Medical assistance is both public (free) and private. Public medical assistance is given by the Ministry of Health in public hospitals and other centres. The Instituto Venezolano de los Seguros Sociales offers medical and economic assistance to urban workers and employees. The aged and the physically handicapped are aided by the Patronato Nacional de Ancianos e Inválidos.

Only about 60 percent of the population has satisfactory housing. Hundreds of thousands of people live in shacks on the periphery of urban areas, principally around Caracas. Conditions in rural areas are often worse. The high rate of population growth increases the problem. Both public and private sectors are attempting to alleviate the situation. The Ministry of Housing and the Workers' Bank is responsible for providing additional housing for the lower- and middle-income groups. Private building firms and mortgage banks also provide financing for housing of middle-income groups.

Social conditions. Sanitary conditions are relatively good. Epidemic or endemic diseases, such as yellow fever and malaria, which previously decimated the population, have been virtually eradicated. The most prevalent diseases are heart disease and intestinal disorders. Average life expectancy is 65 years.

A well-organized trade-union movement has successfully promoted legislation affecting working conditions. In consequence, almost all management and labour relationships are governed by collective wage contracts; periodically renewed, they provide for adjustments to maintain a balance between wages and the cost of living. Venezuela is one of the few countries in the world to have kept inflation under control. Such inflationary tendencies as do exist spring from conditions abroad, particularly in the United States, with which Venezuela maintains close relations.

Social divisions depend upon the different levels of personal income. The broad social base is composed of the majority of Venezuelan families who live in an environment of poverty and social hardship. The low-income group (about 57 percent of the population) includes the unemployed and the poorly employed—the majority of

the rural population and those who inhabit the city slums. The middle-income group (almost 40 percent) is composed of professionals, technicians, and other persons with jobs that are moderately remunerated. The small upper-income group (less than 4 percent) includes administrators, executives, and highly qualified professionals.

CULTURAL LIFE AND INSTITUTIONS

The fine arts in Venezuela have been influenced by the most recent trends in Europe, the United States, Mexico, and Brazil. At the same time, Venezuelans have themselves made important contributions to the plastic arts, and exhibitions by Venezuelan artists are shown in Europe and the United States. Jesús Soto is an outstanding producer of "kinetic art," which contains moving parts. Some Venezuelan authors have also achieved international fame. The most outstanding writers are the novelist Rómulo Gallegos (1884-1969) and the novelist and essayist Arturo Uslar Pietri (1906-).

Venezuelans are traditionally known for their musical abilities. Different regions of the country each produce distinctive musical expressions. Since the 1920s the government has sponsored one of the most outstanding symphony orchestras in Latin America. The government also sponsors an Institute of Culture and Fine Arts (INCIBA), which promotes the publication of books and arranges for the free distribution of some of them, directly or indirectly subsidizes magazines of cultural value, sponsors exhibitions, and maintains various museums, academies, and cultural centres, as well as the Biblioteca Nacional (National Library) in Caracas.

Among the numerous artistic or learned societies are the Asociación Venezolana Amigos del Arte Colonial (Venezuelan Association of the Friends of Colonial Art), the Sociedad Amigos del Museo de Bellas Artes (Society of the Friends of the Museum of Fine Arts), and the Asociación Nacional de Escritores Venezolanos (Venezuelan Writers' Association). International cultural institutes include the British Council and the Centro Venezolano-Americano (Venezuelan-American Centre). There are numerous specialized, university, and government libraries throughout the country.

The museums in Caracas include the Museo de Bellas Artes de Caracas (Fine Arts Museum), the Museo Bolivariano (Bolivar Museum), the Museo Arte Colonial (Museum of Colonial Art), and the Museo de Ciencias Naturales (Natural Science Museum). The Museo "Tallavera" in Ciudad Bolívar contains exhibits of pre-Columbian and colonial artifacts. The Museo "Urdaneta" Histórico Militar (Museum of Military History) is located in Maracaibo.

Freedom of the press prevails in Venezuela. There are several important Caracas daily newspapers. *El Nacional* and *El Universal* provide both domestic and international news coverage. *Ultimas Noticias* and *El Mundo* are owned by the same organization, which also publishes the magazines *Elite*, *Páginas*, and *Venezuela Gráfica*. *La Religión*, a Catholic publication, was founded in 1889 and is the nation's oldest newspaper. The *Daily Journal* is an English-language paper. Important newspapers outside Caracas include *El Impulso* of Barquisimeto and *Panorama* of Maracaibo.

All radio and television broadcasting is controlled by the ministry of communications. The government station is the Radio Nacional. There is also one educational station and more than 200 commercial stations. There are four television stations; one of them, Televisora Nacional, is state-owned.

PROSPECTS FOR THE FUTURE

Venezuela is experiencing rapid changes in its traditional structure. During the past few decades the proportion of the population living in rural areas (about 70 percent in the 1930s) has diminished, while that living in the urban concentrations (about 75 percent in 1970) has increased. This change has been reflected in occupational changes. Whereas previously agriculture was the primary activity, today commerce and public services together employ the

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greater part of the working population, with agriculture and mining in second place and industry in third.

Economic growth resulting from the exploitation of the country's mineral wealth has made possible a great expansion in education; this is of particular importance in view of the fact that in the early 1970s about 66 percent of the population was under 24 years old.

Prospects for Venezuela's future are directly related to the success of the programs for economic development, particularly those that seek to integrate the poorer section of the population into the consumer society toward which the remainder of the population is oriented.

Continued economic and social advance, however, is primarily dependent upon the maintenance of the demand for and prices of petroleum and petroleum products.

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(I.S.de S.)

Venezuela, History of

The oldest inhabitants of Venezuela were primitive food-gathering Indians who arrived in the Late Paleolithic Era. There followed, successively, invasions by other food-gathering groups, by community-dwelling Arawaks, and by warlike, cannibalistic Caribs. The most advanced Venezuelan Indians were the farming tribes of the Andes; nomadic hunting and fishing groups roamed Lake Maracaibo, the Llanos, and the coast.

Christopher Columbus discovered what is now Venezuela in 1498, during his third voyage to the New World. The following year, Spanish explorers at Lago de Maracaibo observed Indian villagers living in huts built on piles over the shallow water, and they therefore christened the region "Venezuela" (little Venice).

The first quarter-century of European contact was limited to the northeast coast and confined to slave hunting and pearl fishing; the first permanent Spanish settlement, Cumaná, was not made until 1523. In the second quarter of the 16th century, the centre of activity shifted to the northwest region, where the Welser banking house of Augsburg purchased exploration and colonization rights; German attempts to find precious metals and to occupy the area failed, however, and Spain repossessed the area in 1546.

In the latter half of the 16th century, Spanish agriculturalists, using Indian slave labour, began effective colonization. Caracas was founded in 1567, and by 1600 more than 20 settlements dotted the Venezuelan Andes and the Caribbean coast. During the 17th and 18th centuries, the llanos and Maracaibo regions were gradually taken over by various Roman Catholic missionary orders.

The colonial economy was based on agriculture and stock raising. Maize, beans, and beef were the domestic

consumption staples; sugar, cacao, tobacco, and hides were the principal exports. Spain's European rivals, the French and English in the 16th century and the Dutch in the 17th century, succeeded in taking over most of Venezuela's commerce until the early 18th century, when Spain established a monopoly trading company. The interests of the latter, however, proved contrary to those of Venezuelan producers, who forced dissolution of the company during the 1780s.

Venezuelan society during the colonial era was headed by agents of the Spanish crown. Royal bureaucrats monopolized the top governing posts, and Spanish clergymen dominated the high church offices. Creoles (native-born whites), however, owned the colony's wealth, principally land, and used it to hold the coloured races in bondage: mestizos (persons of mixed European and Indian ancestry) were generally without property, social status, or political influence; Indians performed forced labour on interior farms or were segregated on marginal lands; Negroes were slaves on the coastal plantations. In theory, Venezuela was governed by the Spanish crown through the Audiencia of Santo Domingo in the 16th and 17th centuries and through the Viceroy of New Granada (at Bogotá) during the 18th century. In practice, however, the Venezuelans exercised a great deal of local autonomy throughout the colonial era.

Venezuela's Creoles readily spearheaded the South American movement for independence in the early 19th century. On April 19, 1810, taking advantage of Napoleon's conquest of Spain, Caracas Creoles deposed the King's agents and set up a local governing junta. This body, joined by Creole representatives from other parts of Venezuela, declared independence on July 5, 1811. Subsequently, royalist forces contested for a full decade with the Creole rebels; the latter, under the leadership of Simón Bolívar, finally succeeded in casting off the Spanish yoke in June 1821. Venezuelans thereupon combined with victorious Creoles of neighbouring Colombia and Ecuador to form the new Republic of Gran Colombia, but the long-time partisans of an autonomous Venezuelan nation, led by Gen. José Antonio Páez, ultimately prevailed in 1830 (see also LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN, COLONIAL).

Venezuela, 1830-1935. Páez headed Venezuela's first national government. He dominated Venezuelan politics throughout the period 1830-48; he was president from 1831 to 1835 and was elected to another four-year term in 1839. He established law and order by subduing ambitious provincial caudillos (military leaders). Páez ruled in cooperation with the large landholders and leading merchants of the Conservative Party. They enacted a constitution at Valencia in 1830 that reflected their social and political philosophy—a centralist state, property qualifications for voting, death penalty for political crimes, freedom of contracts, and continuance of slavery. The church lost its tax immunity and its educational monopoly, and the army was shorn of its autonomy; thus, state supremacy was achieved. Stability thus assured, reconstruction of the war-torn economy began. Government finances were put in order, the nation's credit was firmly established abroad, and amortization of the national debt was begun. Construction of new roads promoted interior commerce and the export of coffee and cacao.

In contrast to the troubled times that preceded and followed it, the 1830-48 period of Conservative Party domination was an era of political stability, economic progress, and responsible administration. An opposition movement began to develop in 1840, however, when Antonio Leocadio Guzmán, the leading spokesman for dissident merchants and professional men, founded the Liberal Party. Guzmán's new liberal newspaper, *El Venezolano*, demanded abolition of slavery, extension of voting rights, and protection for the debtor classes. Declining demands in the world market for Venezuela's agricultural commodities during the 1840s produced economic difficulties, which in turn contributed to the increasing opposition to the Conservative oligarchy.

The growing political crisis was brought to a head in 1848 by Gen. José Tadeo Monagas. Although elected

The Conservative oligarchy, 1830-48

Colonial Venezuela

president as a Conservative in 1846, he soon gravitated toward the Liberals. He intimidated the Conservative congress and appointed Liberal Party ministers. When Páez rebelled in 1848, Monagas defeated him and forced him into exile.

The decade 1848–58 was one of dictatorial rule by José Tadeo Monagas and his brother, Gen. José Gregorio Monagas, who alternated as president during the period. Liberal Party laws were passed abolishing slavery, extending suffrage, outlawing capital punishment, and limiting interest rates, but they were not implemented. Integrity in government waned; heavy deficit financing ruined the nation's credit; the economy began to stagnate and decay. In 1857 the Monagas brothers attempted to impose a new constitution extending the presidential term from four years to six and removing all restrictions on re-election. The Liberal leaders thereupon joined the Conservative opposition, and in March 1858 they brought the Monagas dynasty to an end. This first successful rebellion in Venezuela's national history set off five years of revolutionary turmoil between the Liberals and Conservatives. The issues in these so-called Federalist Wars were, on the Liberal side, federalism, democracy, and social reform and, on the Conservative side, centralism and preservation of the political and social status quo. The conflicts were extremely bloody, and control of the central government changed hands several times. General Páez returned in 1861 to restore Conservative hegemony for two years, but in 1863 final victory went to the Liberals, led by Generals Juan Falcón and Antonio Guzmán Blanco.

A new constitution enacted in 1864 incorporated the federalist principles of the victors. Local freedoms quickly disappeared, however, at the hands of provincial caudillos. As president in 1864–68, Falcón appeared content to allow subordinates, many of them irresponsible, to rule at both the state and national levels. Liberal mismanagement and increasing political chaos provided an opportunity for the Conservatives, now led by José Tadeo Monagas, to return to power in 1868. But this merely opened the floodgates of civil war. General Guzmán Blanco rallied the Liberals to his cause, overthrew the Conservatives, and assumed power in 1870.

Guzmán Blanco's triumphal entry into Caracas in April 1870 halted the political chaos and economic stagnation that had plagued the nation since 1858. The new president took the field himself and pacified the country in less than two years; he thereupon launched a broad program of reform and development.

A new constitution in 1872 proclaimed representative government, universal suffrage, and direct election of the president. Economic reforms, such as restoration of the nation's credit by means of new bond issues, liberal concessions to foreign investors, and an ambitious communications and transportation development program, gave further evidence of Guzmán Blanco's apparent devotion to Liberal Party principles. He ordered establishment of a nationwide system of public primary education and liberal state support for secondary and higher education. He not only abolished ecclesiastical privileges, cut off state subsidies to the Roman Catholic Church, proclaimed religious liberty, and legalized civil marriage but he also confiscated church properties, exiled the archbishop, and closed the convents.

Guzmán Blanco was the popular choice for president in the 1873 election. He departed for Europe in 1877, leaving a puppet successor in charge; but when the opposition rebelled, he returned to crush it and resumed the presidency in 1878. The following year he left Gen. Joaquín Crespo in charge. Guzmán Blanco returned from Europe in 1886 to serve a final two years in the face of growing popular opposition to his policies.

Unquestionably, Guzmán Blanco's regime had both positive and negative results for the nation. His admirers point to his political and military genius and to his administrative, economic, educational, and religious reforms. His detractors emphasize his tyrannical ruling methods, his financial chicanery, his monumental vanity, his superficial educational reforms, and his unwarranted attacks upon the church. For four years after the end of his

regime, Venezuela floundered in new political chaos as various civilian political groups tried unsuccessfully to establish responsible representative government. In October 1892 Crespo seized power. His six-year rule was troubled by continued political turmoil, growing economic difficulties, and the nation's first serious diplomatic problem—concerning a dispute with Great Britain over the boundary between eastern Venezuela and western British Guiana. This jungled "no man's land," in which gold was discovered in 1877, had been the object of alternating claims and counterclaims between Venezuela and Great Britain for more than half a century. Great Britain repeatedly refused Venezuela's requests to refer the matter to arbitration, and in 1887 Venezuela suspended diplomatic relations. President Crespo appealed to the United States, and, in 1895, U.S. president Grover Cleveland pressured Britain to arbitrate. An international tribunal handed down a decision in 1899 that failed to satisfy Venezuela's demands.

The turn of the century was a turning point in Venezuelan history. In 1899 Gen. Cipriano Castro, a caudillo from the Andean state of Táchira, descended with his provincial army upon Caracas and seized the presidency. For the next 59 years, except for an interlude in 1945–48, five successive military strongmen from Táchira controlled the nation. Castro ruled from 1899 to 1909. His regime was characterized by administrative tyranny, financial irresponsibility, almost constant domestic revolt, and frequent foreign intervention. The most serious internal uprising occurred in eastern Venezuela in 1902–03. This and subsequent revolts were put down by Gen. Juan Vicente Gómez. Castro's cavalier treatment of foreign businessmen and diplomats and his refusal to pay for foreign properties damaged in domestic insurrections resulted in a British–German–Italian blockade of the Venezuelan coast in 1902–03 and a Dutch attack upon Venezuela's navy in 1908. Ill health forced Castro's departure for Europe for medical attention in 1908, whereupon Gómez usurped the presidential powers and did not relinquish them until his death 27 years later.

Gómez was an effective dictator. By manipulating elections, abolishing all organized political activity, and monopolizing appointive powers, he was able to establish a completely subservient legislative and judicial structure. He muzzled the press and stifled the opposition with an elaborate spy service, and he used arbitrary arrests, exiles, long imprisonments, and assassinations to insure his control. Efficient police and army organizations, modernized and professionalized by Gómez, maintained his power through unrestricted use of force.

Political order and liberal concessions attracted foreign petroleum investors. Dutch and British petroleum interests—the Royal Dutch–Shell combine—entered Venezuela just before World War I; immediately after the war, Standard Oil interests from the United States arrived to compete with the British and Dutch. By 1928 Venezuela had become the world's leading exporter of oil and was second only to the United States in oil production. The oil industry brought the nation such benefits as high-paying jobs, subsidies to agriculture, expanded government revenues, and increased domestic and foreign trade. Continued high levels of petroleum exports in the 1930s saved the economy from collapse during the world depression.

The extraordinary income from oil provided the wherewithal for economic progress. Networks of roads, railroads, and port facilities were constructed; many new public buildings were erected; the entire foreign debt was paid off; the large domestic debt was drastically reduced. Yet the oil prosperity was unevenly distributed; most Venezuelans continued to live in abject poverty, and their health, housing, and education needs were ignored by the state. Meanwhile, Gómez and the top bureaucrats and army officers enriched themselves; the dictator became the nation's largest landholder, biggest stock raiser, and wealthiest citizen; and he remained master of the political and economic system until his death, from natural causes, in 1935.

Venezuela since 1935. Eleazar López Contreras, who had been war minister under Gómez, succeeded him and

Castro and
Gomez,
1899–1935

Liberalism
and
federalism,
1848–70

Guzmán
Blanco
and
Crespo,
1870–98

conservative
garchy,
1870–48

Prosperity, reform, and military rule, 1935-58

served as president until 1941. López restored civil liberties, sanctioned political activity, and permitted labour to organize during 1936; but he restored the dictatorship in 1937, when the opposition became too threatening. In 1938 he inaugurated a three-year development plan that included construction of public schools and hospitals and support for agriculture and private industry.

Isaias Medina Angarita, a fellow Táchira general, was president in 1941-45; he continued this development program and also restored political liberties. A World War II transportation squeeze resulted in a sharp decline in petroleum revenues during 1941 and 1942, and President Medina revised upward—under a 1943 oil law—the nation's share in the profits of the petroleum industry. As the transportation shortage eased and new concessions were granted, a petroleum boom stimulated an upsurge in the whole economy during 1944 and 1945.

In October 1945, at the height of the wartime prosperity, the Medina administration was suddenly overthrown. This revolution was the most fundamental in the nation's history; it marked the assumption of power, for the first time, by a political party (Acción Democrática) that had the support of a majority of the Venezuelan people. Party leader Rómulo Betancourt headed a civilian-military junta that ruled the nation for 28 months. On July 5, 1947, a new constitution reflecting the labour-leftist philosophy of the party was adopted, and in December 1947 novelist Rómulo Gallegos was elected to the presidency.

Acción Democrática promptly launched a sweeping program of reform: a fifty-fifty tax decree assured the nation of at least half the profits of the petroleum industry; labour was encouraged to organize and to bargain hard for its rights; broad government support was granted for health, housing, and education and for agricultural and industrial development. These democratic reforms provoked strong opposition from conservative forces that culminated in a November 1948 military coup. The new ruling junta was headed by Lt. Col. Carlos Delgado Chalbaud and Maj. Marcos Pérez Jiménez; two years later the former was assassinated, and the latter became Venezuela's new strongman.

Thus, from 1951 to 1957 the nation was again controlled by a Táchira military dictator. Pérez Jiménez outlawed political activity, crushed the labour movement, closed down the universities, and muzzled the press. Acción Democrática's nationwide reform programs were abandoned in favour of modernizing Caracas and enriching the dictator and his army associates. Finally, popular opposition grew so great that the navy and air force joined to overthrow Pérez Jiménez in January 1958. A civilian-military junta ran the country for one year, after which Rómulo Betancourt was elected president.

The second Betancourt administration (1959-64) was considerably more moderate than the first. This time, Acción Democrática, in contrast to its earlier exclusivism, cooperated with the next largest party, the middle-of-the-road Christian Democrats, and set up a coalition government. This government launched programs designed to modernize agriculture, develop domestic industry, improve the nation's health, and eliminate illiteracy. In 1960 it passed an agrarian reform law intended to provide farms for all rural families. In 1962 it inaugurated a national steel industry, the Siderúrgica del Orinoco, to process part of the vast iron-ore deposits exploited by U.S. companies under concessions granted in 1950.

Despite broad developmental progress, the Betancourt administration was troubled by political unrest and economic crisis. The armed forces launched several unsuccessful coups, and civilian elements both on the right and left resisted the moderate reform programs. To complicate matters, a sharp depression occurred in 1960-63. In foreign affairs, Venezuela severed diplomatic relations with the Dominican Republic in 1960 (after Dominican agents attempted to assassinate Betancourt) and broke relations with Cuba in 1961 (following repeated Cuban attempts to aid the Venezuelan Communists).

The 1963 presidential elections, held in an atmosphere of great political tension, were narrowly won by the Acción Democrática candidate Raúl Leoni. The Christian Demo-

crats thereupon withdrew from the governing coalition, but they were replaced by the labour-leftist Unión Republicana Democrática. The oil and iron-ore industries began to boom once more, and a new petrochemical industry was launched. Although the return of prosperity accelerated the development and reform programs begun in the early 1960s, growing popular impatience and dissatisfaction strengthened the opposition Christian Democrats, whose presidential candidate, Rafael Caldera, won the 1968 elections.

Caldera's inauguration in 1969 marked the first time in Venezuela's history that an incumbent government peacefully surrendered power to an opposition electoral victor. The political ideology and domestic programs of the Christian Democrats were scarcely distinguishable from those of Acción Democrática, but Caldera was more flexible in his foreign policy. He improved relations with Cuba, the Soviet Union, and the Latin-American military dictatorships. In the early 1970s, rising economic nationalism resulted in Venezuelan majority ownership of foreign banks, state control of the natural-gas industry, and a moratorium on the granting of oil concessions.

Pres. Carlos Andrés Pérez Rodríguez, the Acción Democrática victor in the 1973 elections, nationalized the iron-ore industry in 1975 and the petroleum industry in 1976. Following the Arab-Israeli War of 1973, Venezuela, as a founding member of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), more than quadrupled the price of its oil. The result was a spending orgy that attracted a wave of South American immigrants, increased food and luxury imports, produced growing waste and corruption, and created a privileged economic elite while doing little to alleviate the poverty of the masses. In an attempt to reduce the domestic inflationary effects of increased oil revenues, Venezuela set up a Latin-American development fund to assist the country's less fortunate neighbours. Popular dissatisfaction with government management of the new oil wealth resulted in another Christian Democratic presidential victory in 1978 by Luis Herrera Campins.

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(E.Li.)

Venice

A city that is uniquely wedded to the sea, Venice is a major seaport of northern Italy, capital of the province of Venezia and the region of Veneto, and former centre of a maritime republic whose economic and political power was felt throughout the Mediterranean world for more than 1,000 years. Although other cities are built on islands, are also laced with canals, and are rich in art and architecture, although other cities have been world powers, there is only one Venice. Perhaps no other city of the West has so long and so strongly appealed to the roman-

Oil wealth of the 1970s

Democracy and economic nationalism, 1959 to the present